

# The Miglia Firewire Drive an... REVIEW

The sale of Miglia Firewire drives at NWofUs is now completed and I thought I would share with the membership my initial impressions of the hardware. If you did not have an opportunity to purchase, perhaps my perspective (and there will be others) will convince you that you missed out on a very good purchase. I am also sure that there will be future opportunities to acquire Firewire drive hardware through the NWofUs.

I picked up my drive (along with a considerable number of other members) on

Saturday (June 3) at the NWofUs office and when I got home immediately "pounced" on my newest purchase. I found that the drive (I purchased the 320 MB unit) to be very easy to interface to my G4 Powerbook.

The components of the purchased Miglia product consisted of the drive unit (duh!), an electrical power unit for the drive, a Firewire cable (3-4ft long), a USB 2.0 cable (3-4 ft long), and a CD containing detailed instructions (in 4 languages) for hooking up



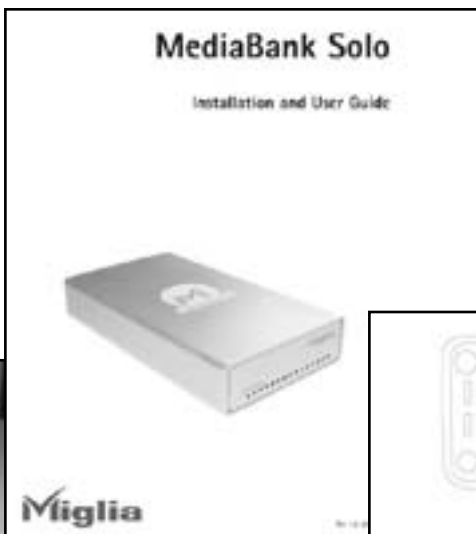
the unit to a computer (Mac) and for formatting the unit. I loaded the CD that came with the unit which is basically contains 4 PDF files called "MediaBank - User Guide" which describe the installation and usage of the Firewire unit. The instructions

are very easy to follow and are very clearly written. Remember, if all else fails, READ THE MANUAL!

You can wire the drive unit to the computer using either the Firewire cable or the USB 2.0. Using the Firewire approach, more than one drive unit or other Firewire accessories can be "daisy-chained" together (remember SCSI?). If you have purchased more than one drive, the "daisy-chain" approach is a way to go.

You can never have enough disk space! There are detailed instructions for partitioning the drive unit, which is an optional fea-

source to the drive unit, wire up either the Firewire cable or the USB 2.0 cable to your computer, turn on the power switch on the drive (the computer should have already been turned on) and the icon for the drive appears on the desktop. I was up and running in a matter of a couple of minutes. I observed that the transfer of files (e.g., PDFs) from the computer to the drive (drag-and-drop) is very fast, almost instantaneous. Thus backup of files should be fairly rapid. The unit is compatible with Mac OS X.x (I am running OS X.4) but can also be used with OS 9.x as well.

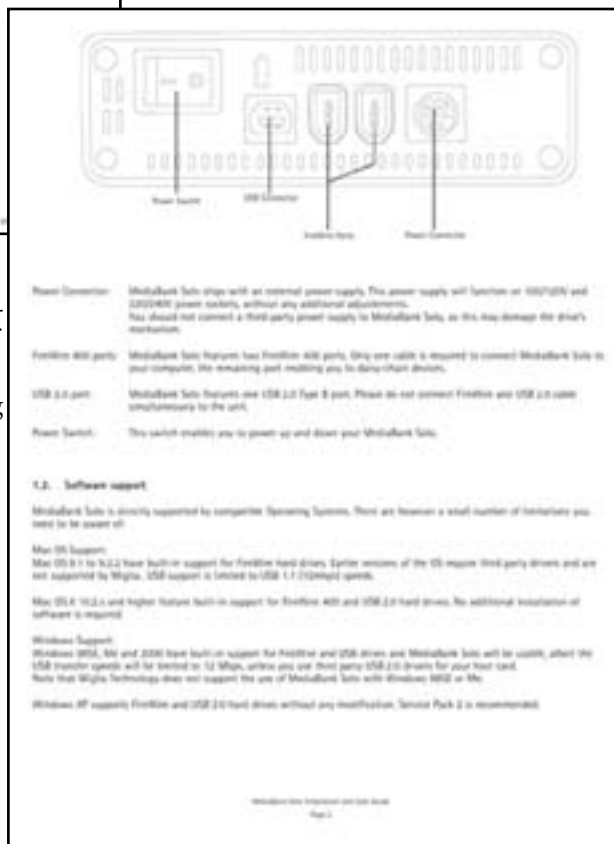


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ture. The drive, as received, is formatted for the Mac. If you want to use it with a PC running Windows 2000 or Windows XP, it is necessary to reformat

the drive or a particular partition if that is your desire.

The Miglia drives do require a power supply and a drive power unit is provided with each drive. To hook the unit to your computer, you wire up the power



# ...Initial Impression

# REVIEW

by Dave Lankin



Since the drive is contained in a very nice aluminum case, the heat generated from the drive operation is transferred to the case, which will appear very slightly warm to the touch.

All-in-all, I feel that the purchase was a good one, well worth the money (and a good deal to boot!), and I was able to invest in what I consider to be a quality product, certainly worthy of the quality of the computer to which it is attached. I would encourage those members who did not participate this time in the Firewire drive purchase but are considering such a purchase for their work, be it for work or home use, should consider our next drive offering.

