



Updating Your Firmware

WARNING:

This firmware update is only valid for OCZ VERTEX Solid State Drives

Flashing your Vertex will result in complete data loss. Please back up your drive before proceeding

Tip:

Testing any SSD under the current Windows operating systems will leave data blocks behind that are no longer valid but have to be erased before the blocks can be re-used. If you want to test your SSD, we advise to do this *before* installing an operating system and then to recondition the drive by running the flash utility to erase all invalid data on the drive. This will restore maximum performance.

VERTEX SERIES

Thank you for purchasing an OCZ Vertex SSD. Our firmware updates are designed to enhance the performance of your Vertex . If you would like to update the firmware on your drive to our latest officially released version, this guide tells you how to do it. You can check the firmware version number in the device manager or BIOS.

Before you begin:

- Make sure you have a jumper handy
- If you have data on your Vertex that you do not want to lose, don't forget to back it up before updating the firmware
- The Vertex you are updating will have to be connected as a spare drive to a notebook or desktop with a functioning OS
- Confirm the capacity of your drive (it is listed on the back of the drive)
- Make sure your system is stable. Just like flashing a BIOS, it is best to do so at stock CPU/RAM/GPU speeds

You are now ready to begin:

1. Boot your computer with your old Hard Disk Drive (HDD)
2. Download the latest firmware for VERTEX SSD from www.ocztechnology.com
3. Extract (unzip) the downloaded file and remember the location of extracted files and folders.
4. Turn off the computer.
5. Install the jumper to set the drive to factory mode (Appendix I, II)
6. The drive needs to be connected to any SATA ports 0~3 on Intel SATA controllers (Appendix III)
7. Turn on the computer, enter the CMOS setup and change the SATA controller to IDE mode.
8. Save the CMOS settings and exit the BIOS setup to reboot the computer.

Flashing the Firmware:

(The following example is for 120GB VERTEX SSD)

1. Turn on the computer and follow the instructions below. **If you are using Windows VISTA, you will need to turn off UAC (User Account Control).**

2. Double click the unzipped folder:



FW-v1.10



FW-v1.10

3. You will see the following folders; in the case of the 120GB drive, please double click the 120GB folder.



30GB



60GB



120GB



250GB

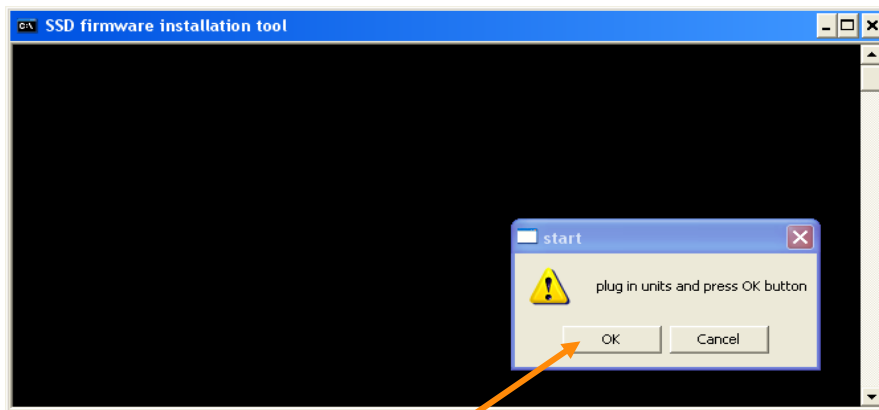


VERTEX SERIES

- The folder should contain the following files:



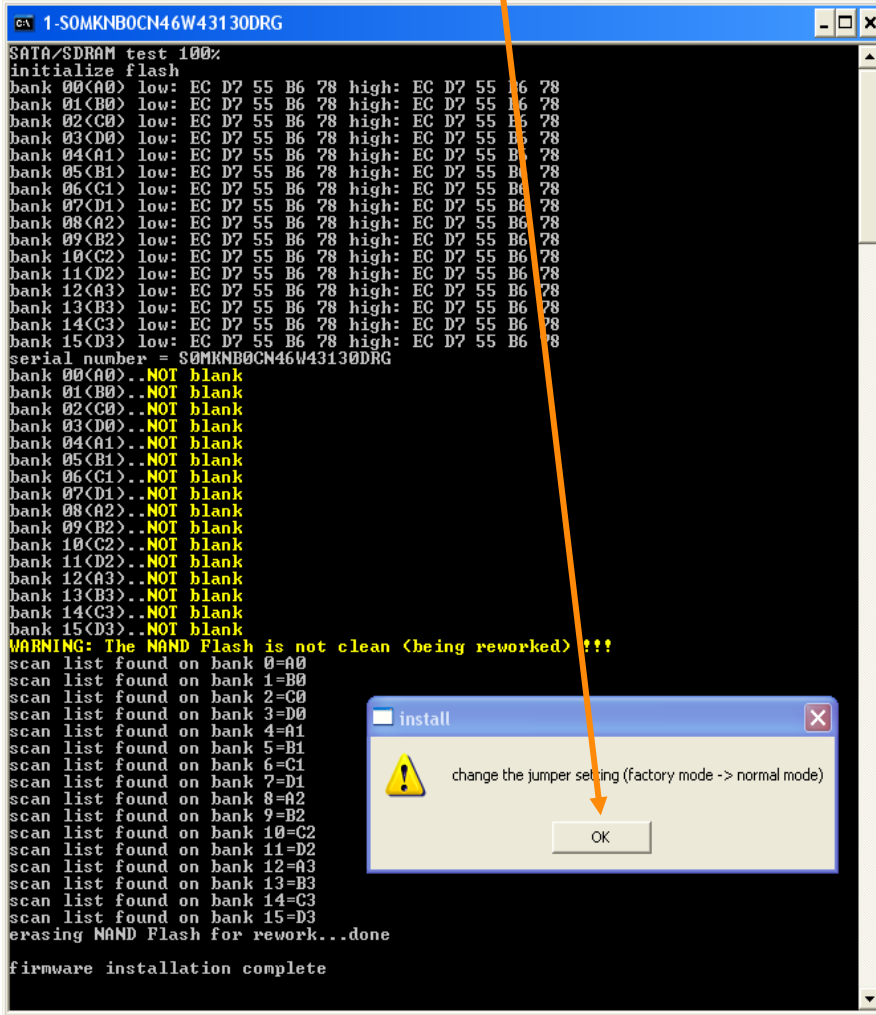
- Double-click on the “start” file to run the firmware update program – the following screen will appear:



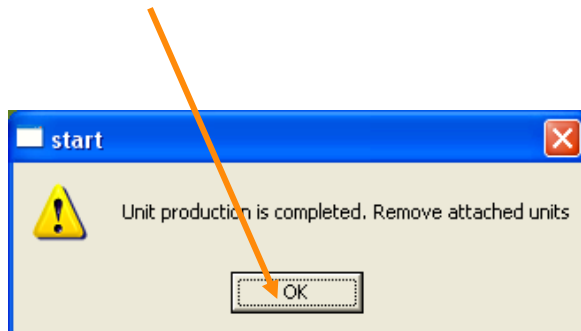
- Click on the OK button to start the program. The drive will now address all data blocks to re-flash them.
- In the unlikely event that you encounter any hanging or freezing during the flashing or the VERTEX, please repeat the flashing process.



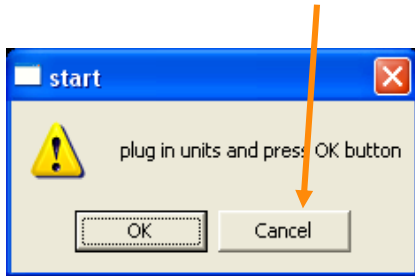
8. Remove the jumper from the VERTEX and click on the OK button to confirm normal mode of the VERTEX.



9. Next, simply click on the OK button. Congratulations, you have completed the flashing process.



10. To exit the program, press "Cancel." Shut down your computer.



(If you want to flash multiple VERTEX SSDs, follow step 1~10 again.)

Verification of Successful Firmware Update:

- a. Turn off your computer
- b. Verify that the jumper has been removed from the VERTEX SSD.
- c. Restart the computer and enter the CMOS setup to restore the original SATA settings.

On the Fly Verification of Firmware Update:

(Successful flashing of the firmware can be verified without disconnecting or rebooting)

- a. After completing the flash procedure, simply remove the jumper and click OK at the prompt.
- b. Open the control panel/system/hardware/device manager
- c. Right click on disk drive / scan for hardware changes 2 times (Windows XP). The firmware version number should now appear next to the drive in the device manager. In the example version the number should be "v1.10"

Your drive is now ready for the installation of the OS.



Hot Plugging Method

- This method is useful only when steps 1-10 are not working.
This method is also useful when your computer does not recognize the SSD or hangs on boot.

How to Flash the VERTEX SSD

- Follow steps 1~5 except for the SSD connection.
- Connect the SSD (jumpered) as shown in Appendix III.
- Then, press the OK button as shown in step 6.
- Program starts automatically.
- Remove the jumper from the SSD when "Change the jumper setting" screen pops up.
- Press the OK button as shown in step 8.
- Press the OK button as shown in step 9.
- Press "Cancel" button as shown in step 10.
- Disconnect the SSD from your computer.
- You have completed the flashing process of the Vertex.
- Close all programs, shut down the computer, and restart.
- Please verify correct execution of the flashing.



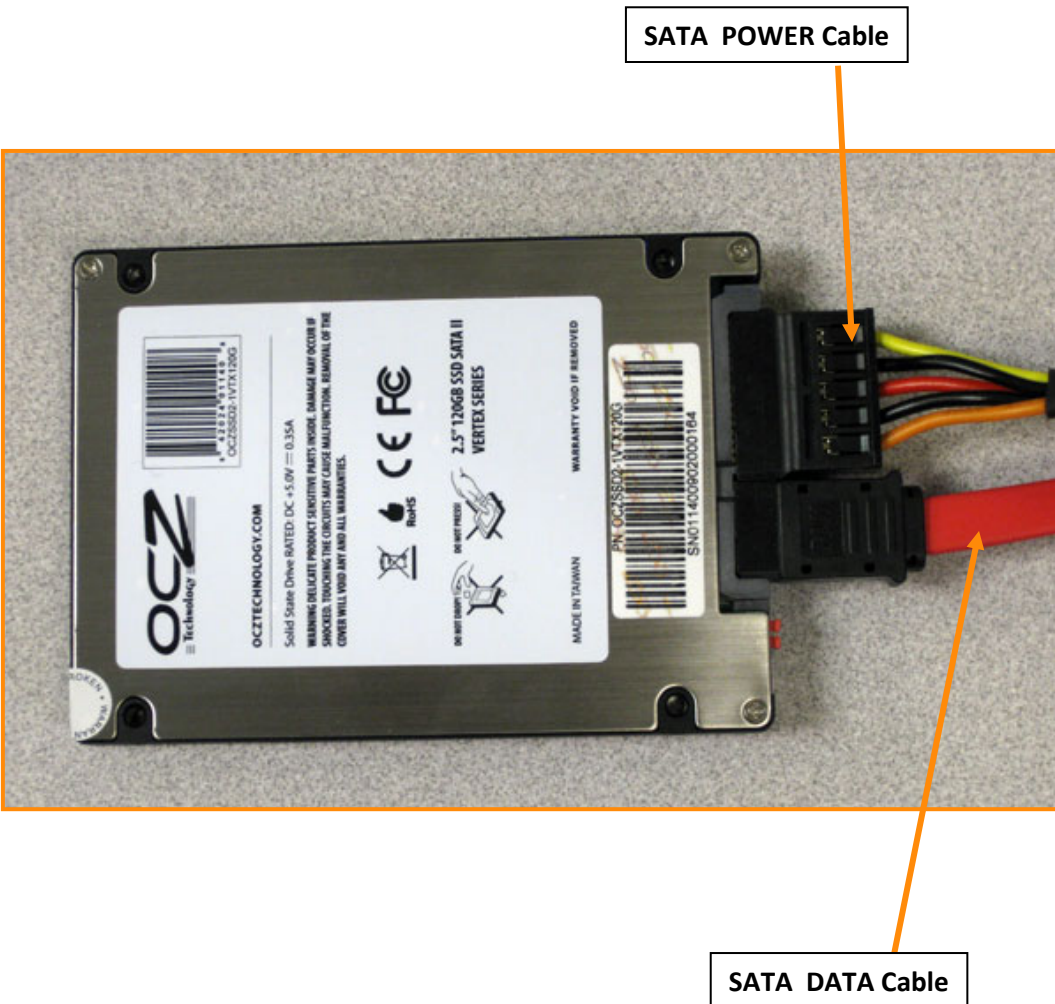
VERTEX SERIES

APPENDIX I (top), II (bottom)



VERTEX SERIES

APPENDIX III. SATA Power and data cable connection (Notebook is different)



*For Notebook users, please refer to the manufacturer's notebook manual for the disk drive location.



Firmware Version History

- **Version 0112 (Feb. 2009) (Description: Basic I/O optimized drive with SMART error logging)**
- **Version 1199 (Feb. 2009) (Description: Enhanced performance I/O optimized drive)**
 - Internal "write join" was implemented for better performance
 - SMART basic features can be performed without error log monitoring (to reduce overhead of log data collection)
 - ATA power management commands (IDLE, STANDBY, SLEEP) are enabled for compatibility (Actually these are dummy, while SATA based Power Management is fully supported)
 - Supports runtime bad block handling
 - Improved power management
 - Improved NAND handling
 - Enabled PIO mode data transfer
- **Version 1275 (March, 2009) (Description: Improved raid 0 mode performance)**
 - Performance is improved when drive is installed on RAID0 mode host
 - Maximum LBA number is modified according to the JEDEC standard
 - Modifications of internal data structure used by FW (stamp)
 - Improved write joining
 - Improved FPDMA transfer mode
- **Version 1.10 (April 7, 2009)**
 - Feature Add : TRIM support is added
 - Apple Mac Pro sleep/wake up support added
 - Updater improved
 - Bad block management function improved

