

Glyph Production Technologies Triplicator

Make three simultaneous copies of large volumes of video to multiple external drives in a single, time-saving pass

By David Willis

Cutting down on workflow has been one of the overriding themes of the video industry for the last few years, and with good reason. Extra ingest time of large video files translates into lost productivity and a slow-down to your operating system, not to mention the entire editing process. Ideal for on-site backups and transfer of large video files to easily portable solutions, the Glyph Production Technologies Triplicator is able to cut that time into a potential third by producing three simultaneous copies through only a single action at relatively the same writing speed as copying to a lone external drive.

Compatible with both Mac and Windows, the Triplicator supports any eSATA-connectible drives of any size. (It's possible to use the Triplicator with multiple capacities; however, Glyph recommends using drives that have the same capacity because the Triplicator will recognize the smallest capacity and treat the other disks as the same capacity.) Glyph also updated the Triplicator with a new remount function this last March, allowing the unit and attached set of drives to be turned on and off and then used again without having to erase them and reinitialize each time. The front-panel initialization switch also is designed to guard against accidental reformatting of drives after the first initialization.

The Triplicator is designed to be exceedingly simple to use, with an uncluttered interface and a rear I/O panel. Clearly marked as eSATA drive 1, 2 and 3, the Triplicator copies identical data to all three target drives via rear eSATA ports. The Triplicator then connects to the computer through your choice of two FireWire 800 ports,



The Glyph Triplicator streamlines your workflow, and it's simple to use. The Triplicator is compatible with Mac and Windows systems and eSATA drives.

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a USB 2.0 connection or another eSATA port. Once powered, an LED on the front of the Triplicator tells you that drives are attached, and then copying data is as simple as dragging and dropping files just as you would with any other external drive. It's important to note that while data can be changed on the external drives through the Triplicator, synchronization of files across the drives isn't supported if changes are made through the computer rather than through the Triplicator device.

The multipurpose LED on the front panel flashes blue on power-up to show that the Triplicator is ready to initialize. Once the INIT drives switch has been pressed, the LED lights as solid blue to show that initialization was successful. The Triplicator then appears on your computer as a single

volume for formatting through your computer's formatting utility. The Triplicator looks like any other drive to your computer, but it's acting as a single hub for the disk volumes that have been attached to it, so formatting is performed to all attached drives. The LED blinks red once for each of these attached drives, showing solid red if none is successfully attached. The LED also warns that a drive has disappeared from the copying process by turning to solid red during operation.

Excepting external drives, the Triplicator comes with everything you need for basic operation. Three 1.5-foot eSATA cables are included for connection to the external drives, plus a 3-foot eSATA cable for connecting to the host computer. A 9-pin FireWire 800 cable and an industry-standard IEC power cable round out tethering. The Triplicator's low profile features a weight of only three pounds and dimensions of 1.7x8.6x9.5 inches; an internal fan is built to be as quiet as possible. Glyph Single Rack Kits and Double Rack Kits are optional for mounting the unit to 1U rack appliances. Estimated Street Price: \$399.

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