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Handling New Media  
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## DIGITAL STORAGE DEVICES

Device Name: Zip Drive

Date Introduced: (year): March 1995

Dates in Use: (years): 1995 - present (although by 2000 usage began to wane)

Dimensions: 1) Iomega 250 MB USB External Zip Drive: (WxDxH) 4.6" x 6.7" x 1";  
2) Iomega 750 MB USB 2.0 External Zip Drive (LxWxH) 7" x 4.4" x 0.8" (175mm x 110mm x 21 mm)

Variations and/or Identifying Features: Iomega ZipPlus 100, Iomega REV, Iomega Floppy (read from or write to data from your existing floppies, transport and share small files), Iomega iStorage Online, Iomega Whailemail.

Common Manufacturers/Brands: Iomega Corporation, Epson (the trademarked zip drive was developed and sold by Iomega). SyQuest also manufactured removable zip disk drives.

Associated Hardware: Zip disk

Associated Software: IomegaWare 4.0.2, Iomega HotBurn, Iomega Sync, File Exchange 3.0

Associated Media: ?

Interface: Internal and External. USB (Universal Serial Bus), FireWire, ATAPI (Attachment Packet Interface), SCSI (Small Computer Standard Interface), Parallel, IDE (Integrated Drive Electronics)

Primary Usage: Storage device media used for backing up hard disks, transporting and archiving large computer files.

Risks: "COD (Click of Death) Syndrome - Zip drives no longer read disks and instead produce a loud clicking sound, from which the problem gets its name." There are also cross platform challenges. Mac and Windows use different disk formats. A zip drive does not convert file formats. Would need to use a conversion utility such as File Exchange 3.0. Additionally, CD-RWs are becoming a preferred storage format that

could potentially replace the zip drive. Would need to observe the market and be prepared for the eventual obsolescence of this media.

Condition Assessment: TBD

Conservation Actions: TBD

Resources:

Auster, Ian. "Big-Byte Options for Storage." *New York Times*, May 28, 1998; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times, pg. G7

Computer Hope website. "Computer Hardware: Information about Iomega Zip Drives." <http://www.computerhope.com/help/zipdrive.htm#01>

Festa, Paul. "'Click of Death' strikes Iomega," CNET News.com. Story last modified January 30, 1998, 5:15 PM PST. [http://news.com.com/Click+of+death+strikes+Iomega/2100-1001\\_3-207628.html](http://news.com.com/Click+of+death+strikes+Iomega/2100-1001_3-207628.html)

Flynn, Laurie. "Zip Drive Revives a Maker of Storage Devices." *New York Times*, Sep. 18, 1995; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times, pg. D5

Heid, Jim. *Macworld*, "Alternative Mass Storage." San Francisco: Feb 1992, Vol 9, Iss. 2; pg. 323, 4 pgs.

Townsend, Emru. *The Critical Eye*, "The Iomega ZipPlus 100: For when you need a little more zip in your computing life." <http://www.5x5media.com/eye/tech/zipplus.shtml>

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia website. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zip\\_drive](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zip_drive)