Adaptec 1838600-R

Adaptec 4M External SCSI Cable User Manual

Model: 1838600-R

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your **Adaptec 4M External SCSI Cable**, Model **1838600-R**. This high-quality cable is designed for reliable data transfer in server and storage systems, connecting computers and related SCSI devices.

The cable features **VHDCI68M** connectors on both ends, supporting **Ultra2 (U2)**, **Ultra160 (U160)**, and **Ultra320 (U320) Low Voltage Differential (LVD)** SCSI standards. It is **RoHS compliant**, ensuring environmental responsibility.



Image 1.1: The Adaptec 4M External SCSI Cable, Model 1838600-R. This image displays the coiled black cable with its two VHDCI68M connectors visible at each end. A green circular "RoHS compliant" logo is prominently featured on the cable, indicating its adherence to environmental standards.

2. Safety Information

- This cable is designed for **indoor use only**. Avoid exposure to moisture, extreme temperatures, or direct sunlight.
- Do not attempt to modify or repair the cable. Unauthorized modifications can void the warranty and pose safety risks.
- Ensure that all devices are powered off before connecting or disconnecting the SCSI cable to prevent damage to equipment or data loss.
- Handle connectors carefully. Do not force connections, as this can bend pins or damage ports.

3. Setup and Installation

Follow these steps to properly connect your Adaptec SCSI cable:

1. **Identify Connectors:** Ensure both the cable ends and the ports on your SCSI devices are **VHDCI68M** compatible. The VHDCI68M connector is a very high-density connector with 68 pins.
2. **Power Off Devices:** Before making any connections, power off all SCSI devices (e.g., host adapter, storage array) and the

computer system.

3. **Connect First End:** Carefully align one end of the **VHDCI68M** cable with the corresponding port on your first SCSI device (e.g., SCSI host adapter). Gently push the connector in until it is fully seated.
4. **Connect Second End:** Connect the other end of the cable to the **VHDCI68M** port on your second SCSI device (e.g., external hard drive enclosure, tape drive). Ensure it is also fully seated.
5. **Secure Connections:** Some VHDCI68M connectors may have screws or clips for securing the connection. If present, tighten them gently to ensure a stable and reliable connection.
6. **Power On Devices:** Once both ends are securely connected, power on your SCSI devices and computer system in the recommended order (typically, external devices first, then the host computer).

Note: Proper termination and SCSI ID settings are crucial for a functional SCSI chain. Refer to your SCSI device manuals for specific instructions on these settings. This cable is a passive component and does not manage termination or IDs.

4. Operating Principles

The Adaptec 4M External SCSI Cable facilitates high-speed data transfer between compatible SCSI devices. Once properly connected and recognized by your system, the cable acts as the physical medium for SCSI commands and data to travel between the host adapter and peripheral devices.

- **Data Transfer:** Supports Ultra2, Ultra160, and Ultra320 LVD SCSI standards, enabling fast and efficient data exchange.
- **Plug-and-Play:** Once physically connected and devices are powered on, the cable allows the operating system to detect and communicate with the SCSI devices, provided the necessary drivers are installed.
- **Reliability:** The braided jacket and robust connectors contribute to a stable and reliable connection, minimizing signal loss and interference.

5. Care and Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your SCSI cable, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Storage:** When not in use, coil the cable loosely and store it in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Avoid sharp bends or kinks.
- **Cleaning:** If necessary, gently wipe the cable jacket with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents on the connectors or cable.
- **Connector Care:** Keep the connectors free from dust and debris. Avoid touching the metal pins directly. If dust accumulates, use compressed air to gently clear it.
- **Physical Stress:** Do not pull on the cable itself to disconnect it. Always grasp the connector housing firmly when connecting or disconnecting. Avoid placing heavy objects on the cable.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your SCSI connection, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Device Detected:**
  - Ensure both ends of the cable are securely connected to the correct VHDCI68M ports.
  - Verify that all SCSI devices in the chain are powered on.
  - Check the SCSI ID settings and termination for all devices in the chain, as per their respective manuals. Incorrect settings are a common cause of detection issues.
  - Try using a different, known-good SCSI cable if available, to rule out a cable fault.
- **Slow Data Transfer:**

- Confirm that all devices in the SCSI chain support the desired speed (e.g., U160 or U320). The chain will operate at the speed of the slowest device.
- Ensure the cable length is appropriate for the SCSI standard being used. While this cable is 4 meters, very long SCSI chains can sometimes experience signal degradation.
- Check for any loose connections or damaged cable sections.

- **Intermittent Connection:**
  - Inspect the cable and connectors for any visible damage, bent pins, or corrosion.
  - Ensure the cable is not under physical stress or being sharply bent.
  - Verify that the connectors are fully seated and, if applicable, secured with screws.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, consult the documentation for your SCSI host adapter and peripheral devices, or contact Adaptec customer support.

7. Product Specifications

Brand	Adaptec
Model Number	1838600-R
Product Type	Electronic Cable
Cable Type	SCSI
Length	4 Meters (approximately 13.1 feet)
Connector Type	VHDCI68M (Very High Density Cable Interconnect 68-pin Male)
Connector Gender	Male-to-Male
Number of Pins	68
Supported Standards	Ultra2 (U2), Ultra160 (U160), Ultra320 (U320) LVD SCSI
Compatible Devices	Computer Storage Devices (SCSI), Server and storage systems
Special Feature	Braided Jacket (FLX JKT)
Environmental Compliance	RoHS Compliant
Indoor/Outdoor Usage	Indoor
Item Weight	1.1 pounds (approximately 0.5 kg)
Package Dimensions	9.1 x 6.8 x 1.7 inches (23.1 x 17.3 x 4.3 cm)
UPC	760884152843

8. Warranty Information

Specific warranty terms for the Adaptec 4M External SCSI Cable (Model 1838600-R) may vary by region and retailer. Please retain your proof of purchase. For detailed warranty information, it is recommended to:

- Consult the documentation included with your product packaging.
- Visit the official Adaptec website for their current warranty policy.
- Contact the retailer from whom you purchased the cable.

9. Customer Support

For technical assistance, product inquiries, or further support regarding your Adaptec SCSI cable, please refer to the following resources:

- **Adaptec Official Website:** Visit the Adaptec support section for FAQs, drivers, and contact information.
- **Retailer Support:** Your point of purchase may offer direct support or facilitate contact with the manufacturer.

When contacting support, please have your product model number (**1838600-R**) and any relevant purchase information readily available.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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