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› Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 8-Bay External Hard Drive Enclosure User Manual

Mediasonic H8R2-SU3S2

Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 8-Bay External Hard Drive Enclosure User Manual

Model: H8R2-SU3S2 | Brand: Mediasonic

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 8-Bay External Hard Drive Enclosure. This device is designed to house up to eight 3.5-inch SATA I/II/III hard disk drives, supporting capacities up to 16TB per drive. It features hardware RAID capabilities and offers both USB 3.0 and eSATA connectivity for high-speed data transfer.

Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product to ensure proper setup and to maximize its performance and longevity.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items listed below are included in your package:

- Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 Enclosure
- USB 3.0 Cable
- eSATA Cable
- Power Adapter
- Accessory Kit (including drive mounting screws, drive handles, and screwdriver)
- Quick Setup Guide



Image: The Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 enclosure shown with its included accessories, including cables, screws, and a quick setup guide.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Front View



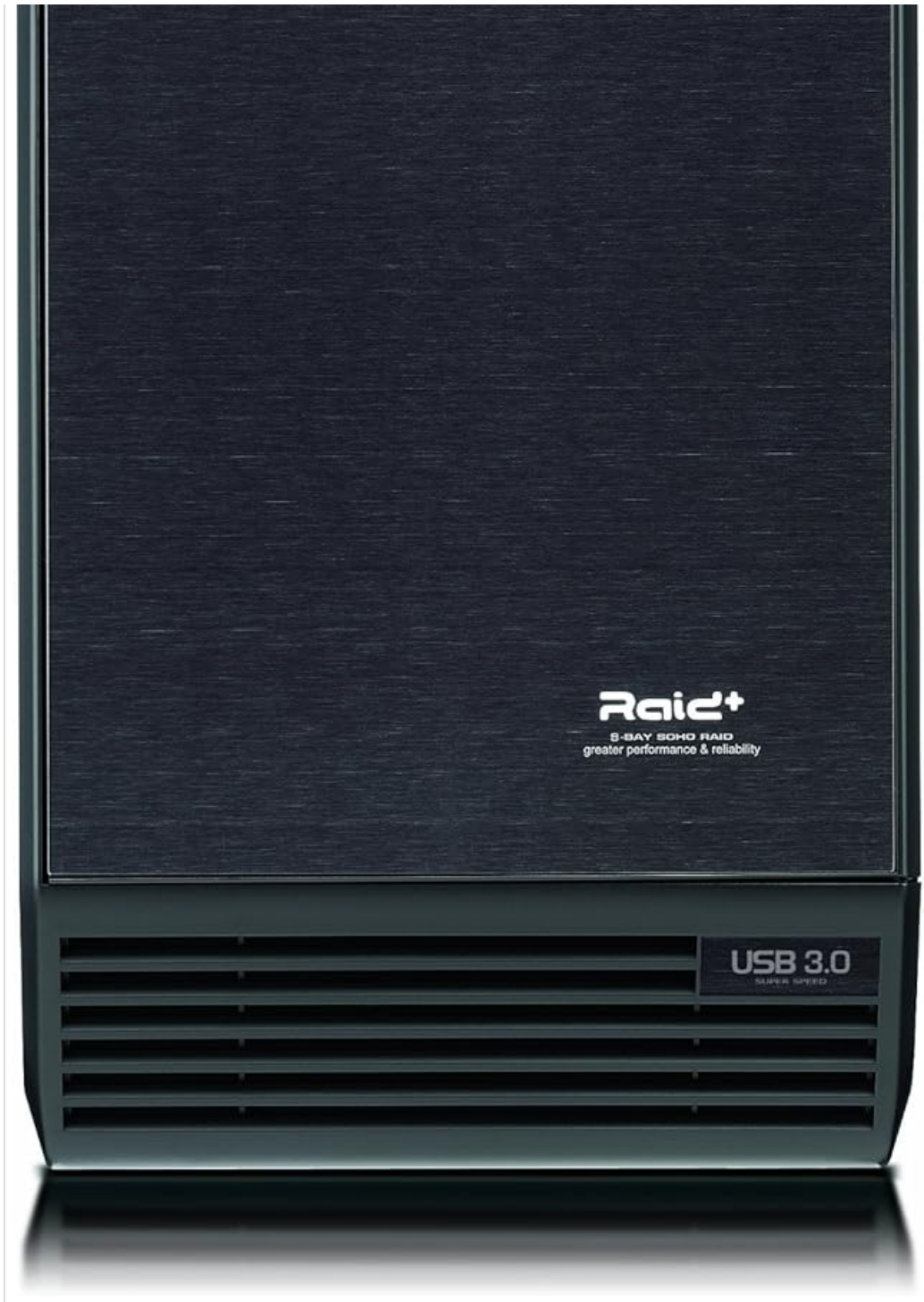


Image: Front view of the Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2, displaying the power button, LED indicators for each drive bay, and the front access door.

The front panel features the power button, LED indicators for each of the eight hard drive bays, and a lockable access door for drive installation and removal. The LEDs provide status updates for each installed drive.

Internal View (Door Open)





Image: Internal view of the Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 with its front door open, revealing eight empty hard drive bays ready for 3.5-

inch SATA drives.

With the front door open, the eight individual drive bays are accessible. Each bay is designed for easy installation and removal of 3.5-inch SATA hard drives.

Rear View and Ports





Image: Rear view of the Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2, showing the dual cooling fans, power input, eSATA port, and USB 3.0 port.

The rear panel houses the power input, eSATA port, USB 3.0 port, and two smart cooling fans. These fans are crucial for maintaining optimal operating temperatures for the hard drives.

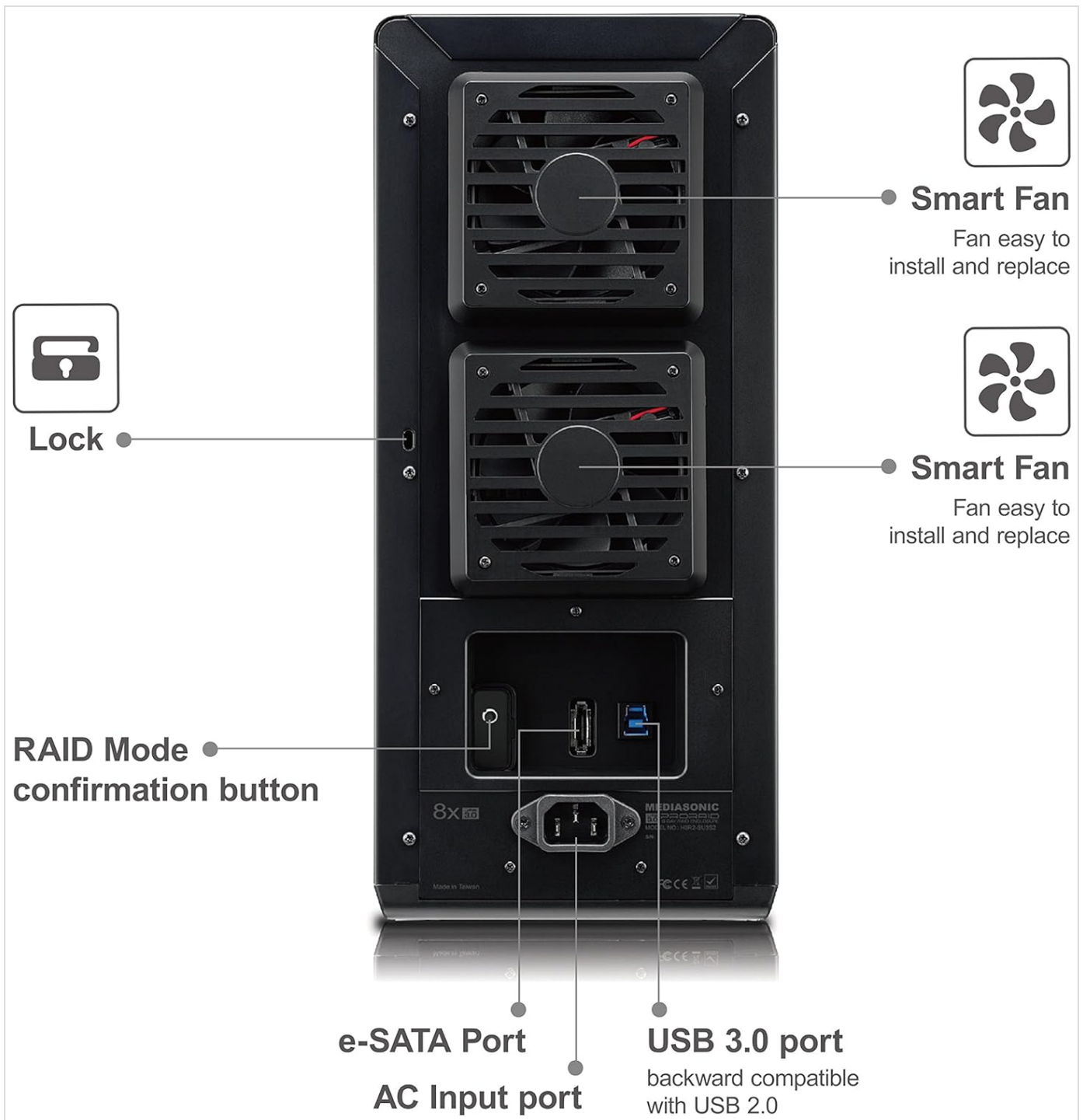


Image: Detailed rear view of the Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 with labels pointing to the Smart Fans, Lock, RAID Mode confirmation button, eSATA Port, AC Input port, and USB 3.0 port.

Key components on the rear include:

- **Smart Fans:** Two fans for cooling, with auto and manual speed control.
- **Lock:** Secures the enclosure.
- **RAID Mode Confirmation Button:** Used for setting RAID configurations.
- **eSATA Port:** For eSATA connectivity, supporting up to 3.0Gbps. Requires Port Multiplier w/FIS-based switching for multiple HDDs.
- **AC Input Port:** For connecting the power adapter.
- **USB 3.0 Port:** For USB 3.0 connectivity, supporting up to 5.0Gbps. Backward compatible with USB 2.0.

1. Hard Drive Installation

1. Unlock and open the front door of the enclosure.
2. Attach the provided drive handles to your 3.5-inch SATA hard drives using the included screws.
3. Slide each prepared hard drive into an empty bay until it clicks into place, ensuring a secure connection to the backplane.
4. Close and lock the front door.

Note: The enclosure supports all brands of 3.5" SATA I/II/III hard disk drives up to 16TB per drive, for a total of 8 drives.

2. RAID Configuration

The Mediasonic ProRaid H8R2-SU3S2 features hardware RAID. **It is crucial to configure RAID settings BEFORE initializing the drives or storing any data, as changing RAID modes will erase all data on the drives.**

Supported RAID modes include:

- **RAID 0 (Spanning) JBOD:** Combines drives into a single large volume without redundancy.
- **RAID 0:** Stripes data across drives for increased performance, no redundancy.
- **RAID 50:** Combines RAID 0 and RAID 5 for performance and redundancy.
- **2 x RAID 0 (Spanning) JBOD:** Two separate JBOD volumes.
- **2 x RAID 5 (Striped set with distributed parity):** Two separate RAID 5 volumes for data protection.
- **2 x RAID 10 (Mirroring + Striping):** Two separate RAID 10 volumes for performance and redundancy.

Refer to the Quick Setup Guide for detailed steps on how to set your desired RAID mode using the RAID Mode Confirmation Button on the rear panel. This typically involves holding the button during power-on and selecting the mode via a series of button presses or switches.

Warning: Incorrect RAID configuration can lead to data loss. Ensure you understand the implications of each RAID level before proceeding. It is recommended to have all drives installed before configuring RAID.

3. Connecting to Your Computer

Choose your preferred connection method:

- **USB 3.0:** Connect one end of the USB 3.0 cable to the USB 3.0 port on the enclosure and the other end to an available USB 3.0 port on your computer.
- **eSATA:** Connect one end of the eSATA cable to the eSATA port on the enclosure and the other end to an available eSATA port on your computer. Ensure your computer's eSATA controller supports Port Multiplier w/FIS-based switching to access all drives in a RAID configuration.

Note: You can switch between USB 3.0 and eSATA interfaces by pressing a button on the enclosure (refer to the Quick Setup Guide for exact location and procedure).

4. Powering On

1. Connect the power adapter to the AC Input Port on the enclosure and then to a power outlet.
2. Press the power button on the front of the enclosure. The power LED and individual drive LEDs should illuminate.
3. Your operating system should detect the new storage device. You may need to initialize and format the drives through your operating system's disk management utility before use.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Interface Switching

The enclosure allows you to switch between USB 3.0 and eSATA connectivity. Consult the Quick Setup Guide for the specific button or switch location and procedure to change the active interface. Only one interface can be active at a time.

Smart Fan Operation

The integrated Smart Fans help maintain optimal operating temperatures for your hard drives. They offer both automatic and manual modes with three levels of speed control. This ensures efficient cooling while minimizing noise.

- **Auto Mode:** The fan speed adjusts automatically based on the internal temperature.
- **Manual Mode:** Allows you to manually select one of three fan speed levels.

Refer to the Quick Setup Guide for instructions on how to switch between fan modes and adjust speeds.

Power Synchronization with PC

The enclosure is designed to power off in synchronization with your connected computer, providing convenience and energy saving. Ensure this feature is enabled in the enclosure's settings or through the Quick Setup Guide instructions.

MAINTENANCE

Fan Cleaning

Periodically inspect the cooling fans on the rear of the enclosure for dust accumulation. Dust can impede airflow and reduce cooling efficiency. Gently clean the fan blades and grilles using compressed air or a soft brush. The fans are designed for easy installation and replacement if needed.

Hard Drive Replacement

To replace a hard drive:

1. Safely eject or unmount the drive from your operating system.
2. Power off the enclosure.
3. Unlock and open the front door.
4. Carefully pull out the drive handle to remove the old hard drive from its bay.
5. Install the new hard drive as described in the "Hard Drive Installation" section.
6. Close and lock the front door.
7. Power on the enclosure. If replacing a drive in a RAID array, consult the Quick Setup Guide for specific rebuild procedures.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Drives Not Detected or Enclosure Not Powering On

- Ensure all power cables are securely connected to the enclosure and a working power outlet.
- Verify that the power button on the front panel is pressed.
- Check that the USB 3.0 or eSATA cable is firmly connected to both the enclosure and your computer.
- If using eSATA, confirm your computer's eSATA port supports Port Multiplier w/FIS-based switching.
- Ensure hard drives are properly seated in their bays.
- Try connecting the enclosure to a different USB or eSATA port on your computer.
- If a single drive is faulty, it might prevent the entire enclosure from being recognized or powering on correctly. Try testing drives individually if possible.

Slow Data Transfer Speeds

- Ensure you are using a USB 3.0 port on your computer for optimal USB speeds. USB 2.0 ports will result in significantly lower speeds.
- For eSATA, verify that your eSATA controller and drivers are up to date.
- Check the health of your hard drives. Failing drives can severely impact performance.
- Consider updating the enclosure's firmware if available from the manufacturer's website, as this can sometimes resolve performance issues.
- Ensure your operating system's disk settings for the enclosure are optimized for "better performance" rather than "quick removal" if applicable (Windows).

RAID Configuration Issues or Data Loss

- **Always back up your data before making any changes to RAID configurations.** Changing RAID modes will erase all data.
- If you encounter issues after changing RAID modes, re-read the Quick Setup Guide carefully to ensure all steps were followed correctly.
- If a drive fails in a redundant RAID array (e.g., RAID 5, RAID 10), replace the faulty drive and follow the array rebuild procedure outlined in the Quick Setup Guide.
- If the enclosure unexpectedly shuts off, check power connections and ensure adequate ventilation to prevent overheating.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	H8R2-SU3S2
Brand	Mediasonic
Hard Disk Form Factor	3.5 Inches
Max Number of Supported Devices	8
Memory Storage Capacity (per drive)	Up to 16TB
Hardware Interface	SATA 6.0 Gb/s (SATA I/II/III compatible)
Data Transfer Rate (USB 3.0)	Up to 5.0 Gbps
Data Transfer Rate (eSATA)	Up to 3.0 Gbps
RAID Support	RAID 0 (Spanning) JBOD, RAID 0, RAID 50, 2 x RAID 0 (Spanning) JBOD, 2 x RAID 5, 2 x RAID 10
Compatible Devices	3.5" SATA Hard Drives
Hardware Platform	PC, Mac
Product Dimensions	10 x 6.5 x 14 inches
Item Weight	11 pounds
Color	Black

Manufacturer	RJ Tech (for Mediasonic)
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WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Mediasonic website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For the most up-to-date support resources, including FAQs, driver downloads, and contact information, please visit the Mediasonic support page.