

## CRU 31350-1976-0000

# CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker User Manual

Model: 31350-1976-0000

Brand: CRU

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The CRU WiebeTech USB 3.1 WriteBlocker is an essential tool for digital forensics investigators, legal professionals, and corporate IT personnel. This device ensures the integrity of data by providing read-only access to storage drives, preventing any accidental or intentional alteration of source data during examination or imaging processes.

Its compact, handheld design and bus-powered operation make it highly portable and convenient for on-site investigations or laboratory use. The WriteBlocker connects seamlessly via a USB 3.1 interface to a Windows operating system host, allowing for quick and secure inspection of drive contents.



Figure 1: The CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker, a compact white device with blue accents, featuring a status LED and various USB ports.

## 2. SETUP GUIDE

Follow these steps to set up your CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker:

1. **Connect to Host System:** Use the included USB 3.1 cable to connect the WriteBlocker to a USB 3.1 port on your Windows operating system host computer. The device is bus-powered, meaning it draws power directly from the USB connection and does not require an external power adapter.
2. **Driver Installation:** For optimal performance and functionality, ensure that the necessary USB drivers are installed on your Windows host system. Refer to the official CRU website for the latest driver downloads if needed.
3. **Observe Status LED:** Once connected, the status LED on the WriteBlocker will illuminate, indicating that the device is powered on and ready for use. A green light typically signifies proper operation.
4. **Connect Target Drive:** Connect the drive you wish to inspect (e.g., USB flash drive, external hard drive) to the appropriate USB port on the WriteBlocker. Ensure a secure connection.

## 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker is designed for straightforward operation, ensuring data integrity during forensic analysis:

- **Read-Only Access:** The primary function of the WriteBlocker is to provide read-only access to connected storage devices. This means that any data on the connected drive cannot be accidentally or intentionally modified, deleted, or overwritten while it is connected through the WriteBlocker.
- **Data Examination:** Once a target drive is connected to the WriteBlocker and the WriteBlocker is connected to your host computer, you can use your preferred forensic software or operating system tools to view, examine, and image the contents of the drive.
- **Imaging Drives:** When creating a forensic image of a drive, the WriteBlocker ensures that the imaging process is non-invasive and that the source data remains unaltered, preserving the chain of custody.
- **Status LED Interpretation:** Pay attention to the status LED. A steady green light indicates that the device is functioning correctly and the connected drive is safe to inspect in read-only mode. Refer to the troubleshooting section if the LED indicates an error.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Gently wipe the exterior of the device with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Avoid using liquid cleaners, aerosols, or solvents, as these can damage the device.
- **Storage:** Store the WriteBlocker in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. When not in use, consider storing it in its original packaging or a protective case to prevent dust accumulation and physical damage.
- **Cable Care:** Handle USB cables with care. Avoid bending them sharply or pulling them by the cable itself when disconnecting. Damaged cables can impair performance or prevent the device from functioning.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the official CRU website for any available firmware updates for your WriteBlocker model. Keeping the firmware updated can improve compatibility and performance.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **Device Not Recognized by Host:**
  - Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the WriteBlocker and the host computer.
  - Try connecting to a different USB port on your host computer.
  - Verify that your host operating system is Windows, as the device is primarily designed for Windows environments and may require specific drivers.
  - Check Device Manager in Windows to see if the device is listed and if there are any driver-related issues. Reinstall drivers if necessary.
- **Status LED Not Illuminating:**
  - Confirm that the WriteBlocker is properly connected to a powered USB port on your host computer. The

device is bus-powered.

- Try a different USB cable.
- Connect the WriteBlocker to another computer to rule out issues with the host system's USB ports.

- **Connected Drive Not Accessible (Read-Only):**

- Ensure the target drive is properly connected to the WriteBlocker's input port.
- Verify the target drive itself is functional when connected directly to a computer (without the WriteBlocker).
- Confirm that the WriteBlocker's status LED indicates normal operation.

If these steps do not resolve your issue, please contact CRU customer support for further assistance.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	USB 3.1 WriteBlocker
Item Model Number	31350-1976-0000
Brand	CRU
Hardware Interface	USB 3.0, USB Type C
Write Speed	10240 MB/s
Item Weight	1.05 pounds
Product Dimensions	9.4 x 5.6 x 2.1 inches
Special Feature	Lightweight
Warranty Type	Limited
UPC	810873019586
Manufacturer	CRU Acquisitions Group, LLC

## 7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

The CRU USB 3.1 WriteBlocker comes with an industry-leading **3-year limited warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For detailed terms and conditions, including limitations and exclusions, please refer to the official CRU warranty policy available on their website or contact customer support.

## 8. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

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CRU is committed to providing excellent customer service. If you have any questions, require technical assistance, or need to initiate a warranty claim, please utilize our free, US-based customer support.

**Contact Information:**

- **Website:** Visit the official CRU website for support resources, FAQs, driver downloads, and contact forms.
- **Phone:** Refer to the CRU website for the most current customer support phone numbers.
- **Email:** General inquiries and support requests can often be submitted via email through the CRU website.

When contacting support, please have your product model number (31350-1976-0000) and any relevant purchase information ready to expedite the process.