FingerGear™ Bio Computer-On-a-Stick™

Secure USB Flash Drive featuring Onboard Fingerprint Authentication plus a Complete Operating System including a Microsoft-Compatible Office Suite

The **Bio Computer-On-a-Stick™** combines the Computer-On-a-Stick™ and the Bio USB Flash Drive into a single device. The Bio COS boasts the ultra fast computing environment of the standard Computer-On-a-Stick™ with an onboard fingerprint engine for secure yet convenient one-swipe access. Plug the **Bio Computer-On-a-Stick™** into your PC or Laptop and instantly transform your old environment into a new and powerful secure new workstation – without software installation!

- ✓ Protect your device using a unique onboard fingerprint engine that is completely self-contained.
- ✓ Use the Bio COS when your PC or Laptop's existing OS slows to a crawl or simply fails.
- ✓ Use the Bio COS to create and edit Windows-compatible files & documents. Works with Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Paint, and more…
- ✓ View and create PDF files from within every application.
- ✓ Retains your own customized desktop settings, address book, or bookmarks each time you plug into a different host PC.
- ✓ Significantly reduce exposure to viruses, worms and spyware using a own standalone system.
- ✓ Connect to remote PCs or servers with secure connectivity tools, including VNC, SSH and RDP.

Features

- High Speed Access (USB 2.0)
- Simple LCD Setup & Operation
- Fingerprint Authentication in < 2 Seconds
- Up to 1:10000 False Acceptance Rate
- One Admin and up to 5 additional users per device
- One-Time Passcode (OTP) Generator
- Startup complete typically < 40 seconds of Power On
- Shutdown in seconds
- Configure to boot direct from USB drive without CD on many newer systems
- Non-volatile Flash memory with write-protected OS
- Compressed utility optimizes space & data protection
- Share files easily using a 'Public' folder
- No hard disk needed
- 1 Year Product Replacement Warranty

Minimum System Requirements

- One USB port (USB 2.0 recommended)
- A BIOS supporting CD-ROM or direct USB boot option
- Any x86 CPU, keyboard and mouse
- 128Mb of RAM or more
- A monitor supporting 1024x768 pixel resolution

Assembled in Each Package

- Bio COS Flash Drive
- Mini Boot CD
- 3' USB 2.0 Extension Cable
- Neck Lanyard with Detachable Clip
- User Guide

Operation

1. Insert the mini CD into your PC or Laptop's CD-ROM drive.
2. Insert the Bio COS into any available USB Port.
3. Restart your Computer. When your system starts, set your password (optional).
4. Follow the instructions on the Bio COS' mini display screen to enroll your finger. (Refer to Setup Instruction Guide.)
5. Happy Computing!

Software Specifications

- FingerGear Fingerprint Matching Engine
- Linux 2.6.x Series Kernel
- Gnome Graphical User Interface Desktop
- Mozilla Firefox Web Browser
  - ✓ OpenOffice Productivity Suite, including
  - ✓ OpenOffice Writer for Word Processing
  - ✓ OpenOffice Calc for Spreadsheets
  - ✓ OpenOffice Draw for Vector Drawings
  - ✓ OpenOffice Impress for Slideshow Presentations
- Evolution Email

- GAIM Instant Messaging Client - compatible with MSN Messenger, Yahoo IM, AIM, ICQ, and more.
- Remote SSH Access Applications (SSHFS, VNC, RDP)
- PDF Creator & Viewer
- Automatic Network Configuration - DHCP
- PPP Stack enabling Dial-out Option

Operating System - Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Bio COS portable from one PC to another PC with a different Operating System?
YES, as long as the PC's operating system supports FAT or FAT32 formatting (most do), and the PC has the proper USB drivers installed. The Bio COS is designed as a standalone device with its own Operating System and does not use or change the host PC's native software. The Bio COS will run on any Intel x86 processor, which includes all Pentium processors. Since the Macintosh processor does not currently use the x86 architecture, the Bio COS is not bootable from a Macintosh. However, the Bio COS can be used as a standard USB Flash Drive for transferring files between a Macintosh and other PCs using the "Public" folder.

How do I set up the device to always act as my default drive without using the boot CD?
Restart your computer, when prompted, hit the ESC key. On some machines, it may be the F2, F9, or F12 key, so pay close attention to what the startup screen says. Using the arrow keys, navigate to the Boot Order screen and move the FingerGear device to the top of the list as the default device. Don't worry, if it is not plugged in, your PC will boot from the next device on the list automatically. Save and exit (F10). If you computer does not list the FingerGear device as an option, then you will need to use the boot CD to use the Bio COS on that machine.

I lost my original boot CD-ROM. Can I burn a new one?
Yes. If you have lost or misplaced the original boot CD-ROM that was included with the product, you can download the boot software from the FingerGear website and create a new bootable CD. Using your CD ROM software, be sure to select "Burn Image" using the downloaded *.iso CD image file. Nero, MagicISO and Roxio all offer software programs that provide *.iso file burning capabilities.

Can I use the Bio COS as a regular Flash Drive without booting from it?
Of course. The Bio COS contains a folder called "Public" which is accessible by any other Windows, Macintosh, and Linux machine (any machine which supports FAT and FAT32 formatted devices). You can access the "Public" folder even if you do not boot from the device. When saving data to this folder, keep in mind that files in this folder are accessible to anyone who plugs in the device. If you want to keep files private you can do so from within the Bio COS environment by saving your files to a directory at the same level or above the Public directory. Only the Public directory will be visible on other PCs when using the device as a standard USB flash drive (i.e., when you are not booting from the device.)

Can I unplug the Bio COS and plug it in again during a session?
No. If you unplug the device while the OS is running from it, you will receive some strange error messages when you try to continue working on it. Also, if you haven't saved your files, you will lose any changes to them. Do not remove the device until after you have powered down.

What happens if I reformat my Bio COS?
You cannot reformat your Bio COS without reformatting the entire drive. If you reformat the device, you will erase the entire FingerGear Operating System along with the fingerprint security features. Currently, FingerGear does not offer the Operating System as a download to restore the OS. The device, if reformatted, will behave as any standard USB 2.0 flash storage device.

Does the Bio COS leave cookies, bookmarks, email, or any other traces on the host PC?
No. There is no trace left on the host machine by the Bio COS. All of your personal settings are stored directly to the USB device for optimal security and portability.

Fingerprint Access - Frequently Asked Questions

How many users can be enrolled on each Bio COS drive?
The Bio COS drive supports one Admin and up to 5 additional users or fingers. Once the Admin sets up an additional user on the device, the user may use the device independently, without Admin permissions, but may not add or delete users from the device.

Can the Admin enroll more than one finger?
Yes. In fact, it is recommended that the Admin enroll at least two fingers in case one finger is non-usable for any reason, such as a finger cut or the finger being covered by a bandage.

Do I need to format the Bio COS drive the first time I use it?
No. Unlike the *FingerGear Bio USB Flash Drive* that typically ships unformatted, the Bio COS comes equipped with its own Onboard Operating System and is therefore preformatted. Do not attempt to reformat the device or you will lose your system files and will not be able to boot from the device. Also, you will not be able to use the fingerprint authentication because the OS is required for this purpose. If you want a USB Flash Drive with fingerprint authentication protection without the OS, then the *FingerGear Bio USB Flash Drive* is the product you are looking for. Otherwise, if you reformat the Bio COS, you be left with a simple USB Flash Drive without the security features.

Are there public and private partitions on the Bio COS drive?
Yes. The Bio COS drive is partitioned into public and private partitions. The Operating System is protected in the private partition of the device, while the device features a 'Public' folder that enables the user to plug the device into other PCs and easily share files in this folder without having to boot from the device or authenticate a fingerprint. Files that have been saved to other locations on the device are not viewable and cannot be shared in this manner.

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The Bio COS drive sometimes has difficulty recognizing my fingerprint. What can I do?
If your fingerprint sometimes has trouble obtaining a match, it is recommended that you re-enroll your finger. Also, it is recommended to enroll an alternate "backup" finger. Hint: the fingerprint sensor is sometimes non-responsive to dry fingers. Moisten your fingertip slightly and try again. Also, you may be swiping your finger too fast or too slow. Finally, be sure to apply some pressure when swiping your finger.

How can I safely remove my Bio COS drive?
It is important that you shut down the Bio COS before removing it by clicking the exit icon with the red arrow in the lower right of your screen. If you remove the Bio COS before doing this, you may need to perform a hard reboot.

If I plug my Bio COS into another PC to share files, the PC does not detect the drive on my USB port?
Verify that the Yellow LED on the Bio COS flashes momentarily when you insert the device into the USB port. In Windows, you can check in the Device Manager to see if the Bio COS drive is recognized. If it is not recognized, make sure that the USB port is enabled in the BIOS. Sometimes the computer needs to be rebooted when the Bio COS is connected for the first time. Reboot your computer and try again.