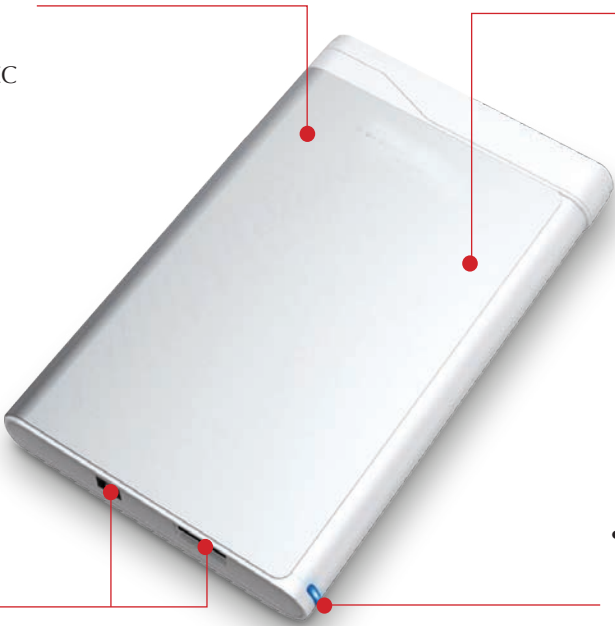# USB 3.0 models dominate production

Typical features

- **IC:** The key component is the bridge controller IC. China makers source this mainly from JMicron. Genesys, ASMedia and NEC are the other providers.

- **Connectivity:** Internal connection is via SATA, and externally by USB. The main options for the latter are USB 2.0 and USB 3.0, although requests for eSATA and 1394 ports are also accepted. Models with Mini-USB are also available. A DC-in jack is popular across types.

- **Housing:** The main materials used are ABS and aluminum alloy. The latter is more widely adopted because of its better heat dissipation properties. Some upscale variants have a built-in fan as additional safeguard against overheating.

- **Status indicators:** Hard drive enclosures usually come with LED indicators for power and access modes.

Price range (per unit)	Basic features
$2.50 to $8	For 2.5 or 3.5in HDDs; SATA, USB 2.0, optional eSATA ports; one-touch backup; power, access LED indicators; ABS or aluminum alloy shell
$10 to $18	For 2.5 or 3.5in HDDs; SATA, USB 3.0, optional eSATA ports; one-touch backup; power, access LED indicators; ABS or aluminum alloy shell
Above $18	For dual or multiple HDDs; docking station; SATA, USB 3.0, optional eSATA ports; offline duplicate, RAID functions; one-touch backup; power, access LED indicators; ABS or aluminum alloy shell

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Top trends

- **SuperSpeed takeover:** USB 3.0 enclosures have replaced USB 2.0 to keep up with the release of high-capacity hard drives and compliant motherboards. SATA is the standard internal connection. Companies keep eSATA varieties to cater to other requirements.

- **Target HDD market:** The available models suit 1.8, 2.5, 3.5 and 5.25in hard drives, with the second climbing steadily to match the global application trend.

- **Value additions:** Docking units provide differentiation with a card reader and USB hub, while enclosures that can support dual or multiple HDDs enable offline duplicate and RAID functions. Screwless and tool-free use is highlighted. Some models have an anti-skid lock.

- **Price & sales projections:** Despite climbing labor costs, makers are planning no price increases in the next six months to attract more orders. Declining chip outlay is offsetting the appreciating yuan. Companies foresee a 5 to 10 percent higher output, with some even expecting to surpass 20 percent, thanks to the upswing in HDD shipments.

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E-Sun Group Technology Co. Ltd
★★★★☆
Model: ES-25Z30
Description: For up to 1TB 2.5in SATA HDD; USB 3.0; aluminum alloy

INQUIRE NOW

Mintotor (Dongguan) Ltd
★★☆☆☆
Model: LH-HD007
Description: For up to 2TB 3.5in SATA HDD; USB 3.0; aluminum alloy; 193.5x112x32mm; CE, RoHS

INQUIRE NOW

Orico Technologies Co. Ltd
★★★★☆
Model: Orico 7629RUS3
Description: For two 3.5in SATA HDDs; USB 3.0+eSATA; RAID; 60mm fan; aluminum alloy; tool-free; CE, FCC

INQUIRE NOW

Shengzhen Maya Electronics Creation Co. Ltd
★★☆☆☆
Model: MYS331
Description: For 2.5in SATA HDD; USB 2.0; one-touch backup; ABS

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USB Online Intl Electronics Ltd
★★★★☆
Model: WSS-DS06
Description: For up to 750GB 2.5in HDD; USB 3.0; LED status indicator; aluminum

INQUIRE NOW

Winstars Technology Ltd
★★★★★
Model: WS-ST330U
Description: Dock; two 2TB 2.5 or 3.5in SATA HDD; USB 3.0; offline duplicate function; simultaneous read, write

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