iDOT.computers

V-Series
User's Handbook

FCC Declaration of Conformity

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

For questions related to the EMC performance of this product, contact:

iDOT.com
Building 6, Suite 100
9715 Burnet Road
Austin, Texas USA 78758 USA

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit other than the one to which the receiver is connected.

Part Number	Edition	Date
DOC1026	First	May 1999

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Welcome

Package checklist

In addition to this book, your iDOT.com™ V-Series system package should include the items listed below. If any item is damaged or missing, contact the iDOT.com Customer Service Department at 888-315-9563.

- V-Series computer
- mouse
- keyboard
- power cable
- speaker cable (if you ordered speakers)
- modem cable (if you ordered a modem)
- monitor (if you ordered a monitor)
- Recovery CD
- Microsoft® Windows® 98 documentation, and *Certificate of Authenticity.*

Note

Be sure to keep your *Certificate of Authenticity* in a safe place. It includes the Product ID number, which you'll need when you set up your system and if you ever need to reinstall Windows.

Ordering options and replacement parts

For complete information about options and components available for your V-Series system, see the iDOT.com Web site: **www.idot.com**.

Contacting iDOT.com

For the most up-to-date information about your V-Series system and for sales or technical support, go to the iDOT.com Web site at www.idot.com. You can also contact iDOT.com at these numbers:

Customer Service	888-315-9563
Sales	888-388-4368
Technical Support	800-838-5265

Setting Up Your V-Series System

1 Plug the **power cable** into the back of the computer. Make sure the plug is firmly connected.

2 Plug in the **keyboard**.

3 Plug in the **mouse**. Remove the protective shield from the ball on the bottom of the mouse.

4 Connect one end of the **monitor** cable to the video port and the other end to the monitor. Plug the monitor into a power outlet.

5 If your system includes speakers, plug the **speaker** cable into the top speaker jack. If your speakers include a power adapter, plug the adapter into a power outlet.

10 Follow the instructions on the next page to **finish** setting up your V-Series computer.

9 If you have a **USB device**, connect it.

8 If you have a **serial device**, connect it to the COM1 port.

7 If your system includes a **printer**, plug one end of the printer cable into the computer's printer port; plug the other end into the printer. Then plug the printer's power cable into a power outlet.

6 If your system includes a **modem**:

If a phone is connected to the telephone wall jack, unplug the phone from the wall jack and plug it into the modem TELEPHONE jack.

Connect the modem cable to the PHONE LINE jack. Connect the other end to the telephone wall jack.

Completing V-Series system setup

Follow these steps to finish setting up your computer:

1. Make sure all power cables are plugged into power outlets (computer, monitor, printer, modem, etc.).

Notes

In order for the computer to be properly grounded, its power cord must be plugged into a grounded outlet, power strip, surge suppressor, or UPS (uninterruptible power supply).

Although not a requirement, iDOT.com recommends that you plug your equipment into a surge protector or UPS to protect your system from electrical surges. Damage caused by surges or electrical line problems are not covered by your iDOT.com warranty.

2. If your system includes a printer, turn on the printer.

3. Turn on the monitor.

4. If your system includes speakers, turn on the speakers. (The speaker power switch is either on the front or the back of one of the speakers, depending on the type of speakers you have.)

5. Turn on the computer as follows:
   a. Make sure no diskettes or CDs are in the computer.
   b. Turn on the system's master power switch on the back of the computer (if it is not already on).

To turn the master power switch ON, press down the side with the — .

c. Press the power on/off button on the front of the computer.

When the computer starts up, the green power indicator light comes on and the computer beeps. After a few moments, a message appears on the monitor asking you to enter your name and company name (if applicable).

6. Type your name (and company name), then press the **Enter** key on your keyboard.

   The software license agreement screen opens.

7. Read the agreement, then use the mouse to click the **I accept** button.

   A message appears that asks you to enter the Windows 98 software Product ID (registration) number, which is located on the Microsoft *Software Certificate of Authenticity* attached to the Microsoft Windows 98 setup and installation manual.

8. Type the Product ID number, then use the mouse to click the **OK** button.

   Note

   You only need to enter the Product ID number the first time you run Windows 98 or after re-installing Windows 98.

Troubleshooting setup problems

When I turned on the computer, nothing happened even after I waited a couple of minutes.

Make sure the power cable is securely plugged into the back of the computer and into a live AC power source such as a live AC wall outlet, power strip, or surge suppressor.

When I started the computer, I heard the startup beep, but nothing appears on my screen.

Make sure the monitor's power cable is securely plugged into a live AC power source such as a live AC wall outlet, power strip, or surge suppressor.

Make sure the monitor is turned on. (Most monitors include a small light on the front of the monitor that indicates when the monitor is on.)

Check to be sure the video cable is plugged securely into the video port on the back of the computer. (See page 7.)

Adjust the monitor's Brightness and Contrast by using the controls located on the front of the monitor.

My mouse and/or keyboard aren't working.

Check to be sure the mouse and/or keyboard are securely plugged into their respective ports. (See page 7.)

Note:
Speakers are optional. Your system may not include speakers.

No sound is coming from my speakers.

Make sure that the speakers' audio cable is securely plugged into the **top** speaker jack on the back of the computer (page 7) and into the back of the main speaker (the speaker with the controls).

Verify that the power adapter is plugged into a live AC source such as an AC wall outlet, power strip, or surge suppressor, and that the adapter's cable is plugged securely into the back of the main speaker.

Confirm that the speakers are turned on by pressing the power button on the master speaker. (Your speakers may include an LED light that comes on when the speakers are on.)

Turn the volume control up on the speakers. Check the volume level settings of the Windows **Multimedia Control Panel**. (Refer to the Microsoft Windows 98 setup and installation manual for information about the Multimedia Control Panel.)

Note:
Modems are optional. Your system may not include a modem.

My modem won't dial.

Make sure the telephone wall jack you are using is live by plugging a regular telephone into it and listening for a dial tone.

If you hear a dial tone, disconnect the telephone from the wall jack and reconnect the modem cable to the telephone wall jack and to the modem's **Phone Line** jack (see page 7), making sure the cable is securely plugged into both jacks.

If this still doesn't work, try using a different phone cable.

Windows 98 won't load.

Refer to the Microsoft Windows 98 setup and installation manual and the CD that accompanied your computer.

I have a hardware or Windows 98 problem that hasn't been addressed by any of these troubleshooting techniques.

For iDOT.com hardware or Windows 98 setup questions or problems, call iDOT.com Technical Support at **800-838-5265**.

Note

The technical support number is for original (iDOT.com) equipment support only. For help installing other hardware or software, contact the manufacturer or vendor of that product.

Turning on the computer

After you set up your computer, you can use the following procedure from now on each time you turn on the computer:

1. Turn on the printer (if your system includes a printer).
2. Turn on the monitor.
3. Turn on the computer as follows:
   a. Make sure no diskettes or CDs are in the computer.
   b. Turn on the system's master power switch on the back of the computer (if it is not already on).

To turn the master power switch ON, press down the side with the — .

   c. Press the power on/off button on the front of the computer.

When the computer starts up, the green power indicator light comes on and the computer beeps.

Turning off the computer

It is important to follow these steps whenever you turn off the computer:

1. Click the Windows **Start** button (located in the lower left corner of the screen, on the Windows taskbar).

2. Place the cursor over the **Shut Down** option to select it, then click the left mouse button.

   The following dialog box opens:

3. With the **Shut down the computer** option selected (as shown in the illustration above), click the **Yes** button to continue the shutdown process.

Note

See your Windows documentation for information about the other options that may appear in the Shut Down Windows dialog box.

The computer closes each application you have open. Before it closes each application, it gives you the opportunity to save any of that application's files you haven't yet saved.

The computer then shuts down, and the green power indicator light goes out.

Notes

You do not need to turn off the system's master power switch on the back of the computer.

If the computer does not shut down after you've performed steps 1 – 3 on page 14, press the computer **power on/off button** on the front of the computer to turn off the computer (see page 8).

Installing and Upgrading V-Series Hardware

This chapter provides instructions for changing or upgrading V-Series system hardware.

Warning

Static electricity can damage integrated circuits. Before handling any computer component outside its protective packaging, use one of these methods to discharge static electricity in your body:

- *After you turn off the master switch on the back of the computer and remove the chassis cover, touch a metal computer component (such as the power supply).*

  or

- *Wear a static wrist strap that is connected to a natural earth ground.*

Do not handle add-on cards by their "gold finger" connectors. Fingers have oils and other contaminants that can prevent connectors from making an electrical connection, which may cause errors or other malfunctions. Handle all system components by their mounting brackets or other edges.

Removing the chassis cover

1. Turn off all peripheral devices connected to the system.
2. Turn off the master power switch on the back of the system.

To turn the master power switch OFF, press down the side with the **O** .

3. Unplug the system's power cord from the back of the computer. (Leave the other end of the power cord plugged into the power outlet.)

4. On the back panel, press the pressure-release tabs.
5. Pull the back panel out, away from the system.

6. Remove the screw from the side panel.

7. Press the pressure-release tabs.

Slide the panel toward you about an inch. Tilt the top side of the panel out, to the right, away from the computer, then remove the panel from the computer.

8. Plug the power cord back into the rear of the computer.

Installing expansion cards

Caution

Turn off the primary system power switch on the back of the computer before installing or removing any device.

Observe static electricity precautions. *See the warnings on page 17.*

1. Remove the chassis cover as described in "Removing the chassis cover" on page 18.
2. Select an empty expansion slot.
3. Remove the retaining bracket on the back of the computer:

Remove the two screws from the retaining bracket, then pull the bracket out and off the computer.

4. Remove the expansion slot cover:

Place the head of a screwdriver on the small indented square of the expansion slot cover. Firmly tap the base of the screwdriver with your fist until the slot cover loosens. Reach inside and gently move the slot cover back and forth until it breaks free.

5. Holding the edge of the expansion card, carefully align the edge connector with the expansion slot.

6. Push the card firmly into the slot by pushing down on one end of the card, then the other. Use this rocking motion until the card is firmly seated in the slot.
7. Secure the board by replacing the retaining bracket you removed in step 3.
8. Make sure the card has been placed evenly and completely into the expansion slot.

Installing and removing RAM

The V-Series mainboard features three DIMM banks for 8 to 256 MB SDRAM modules, for a total memory of up to 768 MB. You can install SDRAM modules in any DIMM bank, in any combination — no memory configuration table is necessary.

For 66 MHz host bus CPUs, use 12 ns or faster SDRAM modules. For 83 MHz or faster host bus CPUs, use 8 ns modules.

Installing DIMMs

1. Locate the DIMM slots on the mainboard. (See page 23.)

2. Use both hands to press the DIMM straight down into the DIMM socket.

3. When the DIMM is properly seated, the clips of the socket snap in place to hold the DIMM on either side.

Removing DIMMs

1. Gently press down both clips on each side of the DIMM to release the DIMM.

2. Pull the DIMM upward to remove it from the socket.

Using the Restore CD

The Restore CD contains all the software (Microsoft Windows 98, drivers, and applications) that was originally installed on your V-Series computer by iDOT.com. You can use this CD to reinstall the operating system and all the original software (the applications and drivers that came pre-installed) in case the copies on your hard drive become lost or damaged.

Note

The Restore CD contains only the operating system and software that was pre-installed on your computer. If you have installed any additional applications (such as word processors, games, or drivers for equipment such as scanners or printers), you must reinstall them individually, from their own CDs or diskettes.

Warning

Using the Restore CD will reformat the hard drive. Any files you have created or applications you have installed will be lost. Before using the Restore CD, save copies of your important files onto diskettes or other storage media (such as ZIP disks or tape cartridges).

After using the Restore CD, you'll need to reinstall all third-party software (applications and drivers) that weren't pre-installed on your computer and then copy the files you saved (on diskettes, etc.) back onto your hard drive. See the ***Note*** *above on this page.*

Reformatting the hard drive and reinstalling software

To reformat your hard drive and reinstall all the software that was originally pre-installed on your computer, follow these steps:

1. With the computer turned on, press the **Eject** button on the CD-ROM drive.

   The CD-ROM tray opens.

2. Place the Restore CD in the CD-ROM tray.

3. Press and hold the **power on/off button** on the front of the computer (page 8) until the system turns off. Release the button.

4. Restart the computer by pressing the **power on/off button** on the front of the computer.

   The CD-ROM drawer closes and the computer boots up from the Restore CD.

   EasyRestore loads and its license agreement appears in three parts.

5. At the end of each part, press the spacebar on the keyboard to proceed to the next section.

   The EasyRestore window opens.

6. Click **Continue** to proceed.

   A Warning screen opens, stating that proceeding will destroy all data on the drive, and asks you if you want to proceed.

7. ***To stop the installation process***, click **No**.

   To proceed with formatting the drive and reinstalling Windows 98 and the original software, click **Yes**.

EasyRestore formats the hard drive, verifies the hard drive format, copies Windows 98 and the original applications back onto the hard drive, and verifies the integrity of the restored image.

Depending on the size of the hard drive, typical restore times are between 10 and 20 minutes. ***Do not interrupt the transfer process or you will have to start over from the beginning.***

When the restoration is complete, the program prompts you to reboot the system.

8. Press the CD-ROM drive's **Eject** button and remove the Restore CD.

9. Click the **Reboot** button on the screen.

   As the system reboots, Windows 98 automatically detects the drivers for the original iDOT.com hardware.

   Windows 98 prompts you to install drivers for any third-party hardware you may have added to the system. If you've installed any third-party hardware, you'll need to provide the appropriate drivers when Windows 98 prompts you for them. You'll find these drivers on the diskettes or CDs that came with the third-party hardware.

10. After Windows 98 finishes installing drivers, it prompts you to restart the computer. Click **Yes**.

    The computer restarts.

11. When the computer prompts you to re-enter your user name, company name, and Windows 98 software Product ID, enter that information as you did when you originally set up your computer (see page 10).

12. After you finish setting up Windows 98, re-install any third-party software applications you may have previously installed on your system's hard drive.

13. Copy the important files you previously saved back onto your hard drive. (See the **Warning** on page 25).