Q & A FOR DIRECTCD

Here are some answers to the more commonly asked DirectCD questions

Just a reminder

CD-ReWritable (CD-RW) discs are not readable or playable in regular CD-ROM drives or CD players. CD-RW discs are fully compatible for reading/playing in Multi-Read compatible CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drives and players, or any drive that claims to support reading CD-RW discs. CD-Recordable (CD-R) discs are fully compatible will regular CD-ROM drives and CD players.

Q: Can I use CD-ReWritable and CD-Recordable discs with my MP6200 recorder and DirectCD?
A: Yes, both types of discs can be recorded by the recorder and DirectCD. The CD-R disc however, cannot be erased and reused. Use CD-R discs when you want to permanently archive files, or if you think you may need to send the files to someone (you'll need to close the disc to ISO in this case). Use CD-RW discs if you just want to temporarily store or back up files.

Q: DirectCD won't erase a CD-RW disc, what could be wrong?
A: If the CD-RW disc was "locked" or "finalized" using DirectCD or other pre-mastering software such as Easy CD Pro 95, the DirectCD erase software won't erase the disc. This is design parameter of DirectCD. To erase a disc that has been locked or finalized, place the CD-RW disc into the MP6200 and use the "full erase" option in Easy CD Pro 95 or other pre-mastering software. This will fully blank the disc and make it useable again.

Q: When I erase a CD-RW disc using DirectCD, my computer's screen freezes but the drive still seems to be active. Is this normal?
A: Yes, unfortunately DirectCD has a small problem during erasing that causes the display on some systems to freeze during erasing. The computer is not hung, and the screen will return to normal when erasing is completed. This will be fixed in an upcoming version of DirectCD.

Q: When I drag files and directories that have been recorded on a CD-RW disc to the recycle bin, I notice that I can't reclaim the disc space that the deleted files occupied. Is this a bug?
A: No, this is how DirectCD works with "track incremental" packet writing. Track incremental means that the data is being recorded sequentially in a open track, as opposed to randomly, like a floppy or hard disk drive. When I file is deleted in DirectCD, it is really "virtually" deleted in that you don't see it anymore, but it still exists physically. To reclaim the space, the entire disc must be erased. However, the MP6200 can support "random" recording and erasing of files, and DirectCD will be updated in the near future to support random record & erase. When this happens, the

disc space is reclaimed immediately when files or directories are deleted.

Q: What is the "Close to ISO" option, and why would I use it?
A: If you have been using a CD-R disc with DirectCD, and you have a need to send this disc
    to someone, you will need to close the disc to ISO. DirectCD uses a new method of
    writing called "packet writing" with a new format called Universal Disc Format (UDF).

Because most CD-ROM drives don't yet support reading of native UDF packet recorded
discs, DirectCD allows you to close the disc in the industry standard ISO9660 format,
which every CD-ROM drive can read. Remember, regular CD-ROM drives cannot read
CD-RW discs, even if you close them to ISO. CD-RW discs are compatible only with the
new Multi-Read CD-ROM drives and DVD-ROM drives.

Q: Can I save my files directly to the CD-RW or CD-R disc from within an application?
A: Yes, because DirectCD is a true "drive letter access" software, you can copy files from
    the desktop or Explorer to the disc, or save directly to the disc from within any
    application. Keep in mind however, that the CD recording process is too slow to support
    some direct-to-disc applications such as real time recording of music or video, or high
    speed scanning. Such applications should still use a hard disk drive to capture the data,
    and then record the finished files to the CD-RW or CD-R disc.

Q: I've heard that some pre-mastering software like CeQuadrat's WinOnCD conflict with
    DirectCD. What can I do about this if I use such software with DirectCD?
A: At this time, the best solution is to temporarily quit DirectCD with you want to use
    software that is known to conflict with it. You can do this easily by holding down the
    Ctrl-Alt-Del key while in Windows 95, then select DirectCD from the list of applications to
    close.

Q: Will Windows 3.1 or Windows NT ever be supported by DirectCD?
A: Windows 3.1/3.11 will most likely never be supported by DirectCD because of the many
    limitations of the 16-bit platform. It is likely that there will be Windows NT support in
    Direct CD sometime in the future.

Q: The documentation that came with DirectCD recommends the "B" version of Windows
    95, what is that?
A: The "B" version of Windows 95 is nothing more than an updated version of the
    operating system that corrects a number of known problems and limitations. This
    version is strongly recommended for optimum performance and reliability of the
    DirectCD software. The "B" version of Windows 95 may not yet be in mass
    distribution. You can use DirectCD with the current version of Windows 95.

Ricoh and Adaptec are working together to make your experience with DirectCD and Ricoh CD-
ReWritable as positive and satisfying as possible. Ricoh values your opinion and feedback. Visit
our website at hhtp://www.ricohdms.com and tell us what you like and don't like about the

MP6200 and DirectCD. Your comments will help us design and deliver better solutions to you, our valued customers.