

## Low Cost Internal IDE RAID Level 1 Product Announced

### *Affordable Redundancy For Eagle 800 Systems*

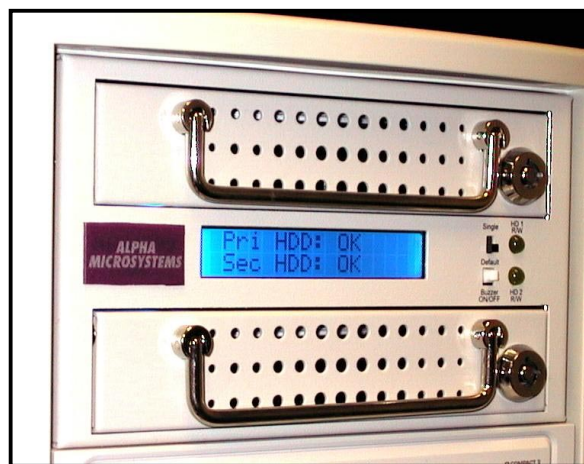
Dear Alpha Micro Dealer:

Many VARs have requested a lower cost RAID technology for the Eagle 800 product line, so here it is! Alpha Micro is pleased to announce another enhancement to the Eagle 800 product line, the AM-452 Internal IDE RAID. This RAID product is a simple and cost effective way to incorporate RAID technology into any system with an IDE interface and two free 5.25" half-height bays.

### **The Perfect Redundant Disk Drive for the Eagle 800**

The AM-452 internal IDE RAID is a hot-swappable, non-stop IDE disk array that attaches directly to the IDE interface of Eagle 800 servers. It requires two 5.25" half-height drive bays for physical mounting (see below for expansion options), and provides RAID Level 1 (disk mirroring), utilizing the same IDE disk drives currently sold with Eagle 800 systems. Although not restricted to the Eagle 800, this RAID Level 1 capability is aimed primarily at Eagle 800 system configurations that require enhanced system reliability and up-time.

The AM-452 can house two identical hard disks (current capacity is 40GB each), mounted in hot-swappable disk drive trays, as shown in the adjacent picture. Should one of the hard disks fail, an audible alarm sounds and the system administrator can easily replace the failed hard disk while the system is operating, resulting in no system down time. Once the failed drive is replaced, the AM-452 automatically rebuilds all contents of the existing disk on to the new hard drive. Control buttons on the front panel initiate rebuild operations, and an LCD display informs you of the status of the rebuild. The background disk rebuilding is fully transparent to the system users.



### **A High-Tech Look And A Solid Feel**

Constructed from steel components, the AM-452 is a durable unit designed to withstand years of drive tray exchanges. The front panel combines all the essential control functionality with a sleek appearance that gives your Alpha Micro server an attractive, modern look.

## **Disk Drive Consistency Makes For Easy Upgrades To A RAID Configuration**

The base AM-452 configuration includes one 40 GB IDE disk drive. If you order the AM-452 in conjunction with a new Eagle 800, which itself comes with one 40 GB hard drive, you only need that one drive with the RAID. Alpha Micro will deliver the system with the AM-452 holding two 40 GB drives, because the second RAID drive will be supplied in place of the one (non-RAID) drive normally supplied with an Eagle 800.

If you are adding the AM-452 to an existing Eagle 800 in the field, you only need to order the basic configuration with one 40 GB disk drive, because you can move the Eagle 800's standard drive into the AM-452.

You would be required to order two drives if the existing Eagle's drive were not the same size as the one currently being supplied with the AM-452. This will happen as drive capacities inevitably increase over time. For example, if your Eagle 800 has a 40 GB drive today, and two years from now you order an AM-452 whose standard drive is then 100 GB in size, then you will need to purchase a second 100 GB drive to comprise the RAID, because the Eagle's original 40 GB drive cannot be used as a mirror to the 100 GB drive.

Consider purchasing an extra drive and drive tray so that you have an additional disk module on hand in the event of a drive failure.

## **Peripheral Mounting Space Considerations For The Eagle 800**

Since the standard Eagle 800 chassis has only three 5.25" half-height drive bays (one for CD-RW or DVD-RAM peripheral, and two for the internal IDE RAID), any additional 5-1/4" peripheral, such as a streaming tape drive, will require one of the following options for Eagle 800 configurations:

- ◆ House an additional peripheral, such as a streaming tape drive (not the AM-452 RAID unit) in an external enclosure, such as the PDB-00904-00 (see attached Reseller Supplement).
- ◆ Purchase the Eagle 800 with the Larger Pedestal chassis or Rack Mount chassis option, which provide additional 5-1/4" peripheral mounting bays (see attached Reseller Supplement). In the Pedestal configuration, this essentially puts an Eagle 800 into an AM-8000 chassis.

## **Select the RAID Model To Match Your Performance and Budget Requirements**

The AM-452 is an elegant, low cost RAID solution. Our external AM-448 RAID remains a better choice for sites that need to stand up to a heavier multi-user load. The AM-448 has a higher performance SCSI RAID controller with on-board caching. The AM-448 is also available in RAID Level 5 configurations for the ultimate in redundancy.

In general, the AM-452 will be a better fit for Eagle 800 systems, and the AM-448 will match the types of system loads encountered by AM-8000 sites. We do not recommend replacing the AM-8000's standard high-speed SCSI drive with this RAID, as you will take a performance hit.

## **AM-452 Specifications**

Specifications for the AM-452 internal IDE RAID are as follows:

Interface:	EIDE
Mounting:	Two free 5.25" drive bays with front access
Disk Capacity:	A total of two disk drives, 40 GB each
RAID Configuration:	RAID Level 1
Drive Hot Swap Capability:	Yes
Drive Auto Rebuild:	Yes
Drive Failure Alert:	Yes, audible and visual alarms