## USB Flash Drives for Thermo Scientific Multiskan GO, Multiskan FC, Wellwash and Wellwash Versa

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## Introduction

Thermo Scientific<sup>TM</sup> Multiskan<sup>TM</sup> GO microplate spectrophotometer, Thermo Scientific<sup>TM</sup> Multiskan FC microplate photometer, Thermo Scientific<sup>TM</sup> Wellwash<sup>TM</sup> and Wellwash Versa microplate washers have a USB port for simple and easy data export. You can save measurement data when using Multiskan GO and Multiskan FC with a USB flash drive and transfer the data to a computer for further processing. You may use the Wellwash and Wellwash Versa USB port for transferring protocols between several washers.

This technical note will help you to select a suitable USB flash drive to be used with these instruments.

## How to select a suitable USB flash drive

Follow these basic rules on how to select a USB flash drive compatible with Multiskan GO, Multiskan FC, Wellwash and Wellwash Versa.

The USB flash drive has to be:

- single drive without partitioning.
- FAT16 or FAT32 formatted. For formatting, the 'Quick Format' option has to be unchecked in order to have all the preinstalled files/software removed.









The USB flash drive must not:

- have a U3 smart drive system in use.
- have any data protection systems in use.
- have a compulsory software installation.
- contain virtual CD drive-type memory spaces.

It is possible to check the compatibility of the USB flash drive and if there is a virtual CD drive present when you insert a USB flash drive into the USB port of the PC.

- Select "My Computer" to see the new drives on the list.
   Check that the USB flash drive uses single partition (only one drive appears).
- Select "Properties" by using the right-click mouse menu and check that the USB flash drive is using correct formatting. The item type "Removable Disk" is stated for the USB flash drive in the General sheet. It is compatible with these instruments if the file system is FAT16 or FAT32. If the item type is a virtual CD drive, then the type shown will be "CD Drive", which is not compatible with these instruments.

Sometimes a bulky size of the USB flash drive may prevent proper insertion into the instrument USB port. In this case the drive will not be recognized.

Even if the above basic requirements are fulfilled, it may be that in some rare cases a USB flash drive is not compatible with these instruments due to a diversity of memory technologies available on the market.

An incompatible USB drive is either:

- not recognized, (e.g. Multiskan GO does not show the USB flash drive icon on the info text bar of the instrument), or
- the instrument shows an error message.

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