

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCKING STATIONS

Document prepared in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2023/988 on general product safety (GPSR)

Purpose of the Document

The purpose of this document is to ensure the safe use of docking stations by identifying potential hazards and outlining appropriate preventive measures, in compliance with current European Union product safety regulations.

1. General Hazards and Precautionary Measures

1.1 Electric shock:

- Use only the original power adapter provided with the docking station or a manufacturer-approved replacement.
- Connect the device only to grounded power outlets with proper voltage (as specified).
- Do not touch connectors or cables with wet hands.
- If the power cable or housing is damaged – immediately unplug the device and contact service support.
- Do not disassemble the housing – risk of electric shock.

1.2 Fire hazard:

- Do not cover the ventilation openings of the docking station (if present).
- Do not place the device on flammable materials (e.g., bed, curtains, paper).
- Avoid connecting too many devices at once, especially high-power peripherals (e.g., external drives without their own power supply).
- Regularly check if the device is overheating.

1.3 Mechanical hazards:

- Place the docking station on a stable, flat surface – do not set it on the edge of a table or shelf.
 - Do not place heavy objects on top of the docking station.
 - Do not remove the laptop from the dock with sudden force – this may damage the connector.
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2. Specific Hazards and Mitigation

2.1 Improper connection/disconnection:

- Always connect and disconnect the docking station according to the manufacturer's instructions – inserting or removing at an angle or too quickly may damage the contacts.
- Before undocking the laptop – close the lid or use the system's safe removal option.
- Do not unplug USB devices during data transfer – this may lead to file loss.

2.2 Incompatible devices:

- Only use devices compatible with the docking station's technical specifications (USB, HDMI, DisplayPort, LAN, etc.).
- Do not connect high-power devices unless the station is designed to support them.
- Never use excessive force when connecting plugs – this may cause permanent damage.

2.3 Electromagnetic interference:

- Avoid placing the docking station near devices that emit strong electromagnetic fields (e.g., microwave ovens, UPS units, high-powered Wi-Fi routers).
 - Use high-quality shielded cables to reduce signal interference.
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3. Maintenance and Cleaning

3.1 Preparation:

- Disconnect the docking station from the power source before cleaning.
- Unplug all cables and peripheral devices.

3.2 Cleaning the housing:

- Use a dry or slightly damp soft cloth.
- Do not use chemical agents, solvents, or alcohol – they may damage the surface.

3.3 Cleaning the ports:

- Regularly check USB, HDMI, and DisplayPort connectors for dust, which may interfere with connectivity.
- Use an antistatic brush or compressed air for cleaning.
- Never use metal objects to clean the connectors.

3.4 Firmware and software updates:

- Check for available firmware/driver updates from the manufacturer – they may improve stability and security.
- Only install updates from official sources.

4. Additional Recommendations

4.1 Child and pet safety:

- Keep the docking station and cables out of reach of children and pets.
- Secure cables to prevent tripping or accidental disconnection.

4.2 Transport and storage:

- During transport, protect the ports (e.g., with silicone covers).
- Store the device in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and heat sources.

4.3 Compliance and certification:

- Make sure the product has the CE marking and other required certifications.
 - Verify that the power adapter has the proper markings and safety class.
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5. Disposal and Environmental Considerations

- Do not dispose of the docking station in mixed household waste.
 - In accordance with the WEEE directive, return used equipment to a designated e-waste collection point or leave it at the store when buying a new one.
 - Disconnect and separate any batteries (if applicable) before disposal.
 - Dispose of packaging and documentation in accordance with local paper and plastic recycling regulations.
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Summary

Despite its small size, a docking station is a sophisticated electronic device that requires responsible use. Following the above guidelines will ensure the safety of the user, the computer equipment, and connected peripherals. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations and applicable law to avoid malfunctions, electric shock, data loss, or health hazards.