



Maintenance and Validation of Tableau Forensic Hardware

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By Tableau, LLC

If acquiring forensically sound images of digital evidence is your responsibility, then Tableau products are most likely a vital part of your forensic toolkit. Tableau forensic products are valued world-wide for their reliability, performance, and user-friendly price.

Forensic examiners often have one opportunity to image hard-drives. Imaging hard-drives and other storage devices requires equipment that is fast, reliable, and ready for the next acquisition. Updating your Tableau products with the most current firmware *and* validating proper device operation are important elements of long-term equipment maintenance.

When you buy a Tableau write-blocker, you get access to Tableau software applications which enhance long-term performance and value of your Tableau purchase. The Tableau Firmware Update and The Tableau Test Utility are two such applications. In the remainder of this article we explore how these applications help you manage and even extend the life-cycle of your Tableau products.

Tableau Firmware Update

When Tableau launched its first product line years ago, we recognized the need to make firmware updates available. These updates make it possible to introduce new features, improve device compatibility, and fix bugs.

[Tableau Firmware Update](#) is a simple-to-use, Windows-based utility which updates the firmware of all Tableau products. Tableau Firmware Update automatically identifies the model of the Tableau device attached to the computer and notifies the user whether an update is available. There's no need for you to match firmware files with the corresponding device.

Tip: At trade shows we frequently meet end users who have *never* updated firmware in their Tableau products. If you fall into that category, then you're missing out on a valuable and *free* part of what makes Tableau different than its competitors. We put enormous energy into improving the compatibility, reliability, and features of our products through regular firmware updates. Take advantage of it!

To scan the firmware revision history and download a copy of [Tableau Firmware Update](#), please visit the [Tableau Firmware Update product page](#).

Tableau Test Utility (TabTest)

In direct response to user requests, Tableau created TabTest as a tool for validating proper operation of Tableau equipment.

TabTest is a Windows application that visually guides the user through a pre-defined test script to verify functionality of each of our write-blockers. Reports are generated from each test which the user can export and incorporate directly into their validation documentation. If a problem is found with the device, the user can send the report along with a support request to their Tableau reseller.

To learn more about TabTest and to download a copy, please visit the [TabTest product page](#).



Tableau delivers high quality, high performance, and cost effective solutions for the Digital Evidence Lifecycle®. Tableau's industry-leading forensic products include the TD1 Forensic Duplicator, Forensic Bridges (aka "write-blockers"), the TACC Hardware Accelerator (for password recovery), and Forensic Software Utilities. For more information, e-mail us at info@tableau.com or visit www.tableau.com.

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