HP 9000 Series 300 Computers: Repair of 3.5″ Floppy Drives

Repair of 3.5″ Floppy Drives (Sony) for HP 9121 Dual Disk Drive

Message #10 Posted by Tony Duell (UK) on 13 Apr 2003, 4:41 p.m.,
in response to message #3 by Ellis Easley

“I don't think I ever wrote this up for Datafile, so it won't be on the CD-ROM. And it's a long time since I've done it, but I can still remember roughly what to do. After taking the drive out and disconnecting all the external cables, take off any mounting brackets/plates. Then remove the one screw on the back and take off the top cover. Flip the drive over. Take out the 3 screws on the 'foil' shield over the PCB. Take off the shield, then ease out the PCB (you will probably have to untangle the wires to the stepper motor). Unplug the connectors from the PCB and set the PCB aside. Still working from under the chassis, take out the 2 screws at the very front. These hold the front panel in place. Remove this, taking care not to damage the LED or lose the eject button/spring. Put all these parts aside. Back on top now. At the rear left, take out the screw holding the eject damper in place, and remove it. Note how the little white arm fits in place. Take out the 2 screws on the head load solenoid bracket (one holds an earth tag in place), and take the bracket out. Feed the wires through the chassis. Again from the bottom, take out the 4 screws near the sides which hold the disk holder in place. Carefully free the holder from the head assembly -- if this is a double-head drive put a piece of clean tissue paper (a lens tissue or similar) between the heads so they don't touch). Take off the E-circlips on the sides of the disk holder assembly and separate the parts. Note how they go together. Clean the parts in a degreasing solvent (start with propan-2-ol, use something stronger if this doesn't work) and remove the old grease. Apply a little new grease (I use Electrolube plastic grease, if only because I have it around), and put everything back together. Incidentally, if it's a 9121, then it should have single-sided drives. There's no risk of ripping a head off with these.”

Source: The Museum of HP Calculators, HP Forum Archive 12
https://www.hpmuseum.org/cgi-sys/cgiwrap/hpmuseum/archv012.cgi?read=32014.

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