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Mapping and GIS Field Computers: SD Card Support

This support note describes the types of Secure Digital (SD) cards supported by Trimble® Mapping and GIS field computers, and issues related to using SD cards with these products.

SD card support

There are different types of SD cards, including SD memory cards, SDHC (Secure Digital High Capacity) memory cards, and SDIO (Secure Digital Input/Output) cards. Typically, SDIO cards do not contain on-board memory, but use the SD interface to connect external devices to a field computer.

The following table summarizes SD card support provided by Trimble Mapping and GIS field computers:

Field computer	SD	SDHC	SDIO
GeoExplorer® 2008 series	✓	✓	✗
GeoExplorer 2005 series	✓	✗	✗
Juno™ ST handheld	✓	✗	✓
Juno series handhelds (SB and SC)	✓	✓	✗
Trimble Nomad™ series	✓	✓	✓
Trimble Recon® handheld and Recon GPS edition	✗	✗	✗
Trimble Ranger™ handheld	✓	✗	✓

Note: The Juno series handhelds utilize a microSD/microSDHC card.

SD memory cards

Most available SD memory cards are compatible with the Mapping and GIS field computers listed above. SD memory cards are available in various storage capacities.

Note: Some 2 GB and 4 GB SD memory cards may not work correctly in all of the field computers listed above. It is recommended that any SD cards are tested in the field computer before purchase.

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SDHC card support

SDHC memory cards cannot be used in devices that support only SD memory cards.

Storing files on the SD card

If files are stored in the root folder of an SD memory card, rather than in sub-folders, there are limits to the number of files that can be stored on the card.

To avoid this limitation, Trimble recommends that you store all files in sub-folders on the SD memory card, rather than the root folder.

However, some versions of the TerraSync™ software browse only the root folder for images, not sub-folders. To use background images with maps in the TerraSync software version 3.05 and earlier, you may need to move files in and out of the root folder as required. To maximize the number of files that can be stored in the root directory, format the SD card to FAT16, and use a maximum of 8 characters to name each file.