

Photoshop®

JULY/AUGUST 2007

THE ADOBE® PHOTOSHOP® "HOW-TO" MAGAZINE **user**



reviews

Get the inside scoop on all the latest Photoshop gear

Photo Safe Review by Dave Singer

Portable image storage with card reader



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| PRICE | Starting at \$149 |
| FOR | Mac and Windows |
| FROM | Digital Foci Inc. |
| PHONE | 310-763-9100 |
| WEB | www.digitalfoci.com |
| RATING | ◆◆◆◆◇ |

With the advent of digital photography, photographers are taking more pictures than ever. And with ever increasing camera resolutions and file sizes, storage space for all of these images becomes an issue. Certainly you can buy bigger and bigger memory cards and wallets to carry them in but if you're shooting a lot, carrying a pocket full of memory cards can be clumsy. To answer this storage need, several companies have introduced portable storage devices with built-in memory-card slots for a variety of memory-card types that allow photographers to

"dump" their memory cards in the field. One of these vendors, Digital Foci Inc., recently introduced their latest solution—the Photo Safe.

This pocket-sized device comes in 40-GB, 80-GB, and 120-GB versions and it has built-in card slots for CF, MD, MMC, SD/HC, MS, and xD memory. The LCD screen doesn't let you view your pictures but it does provide basic information, such as informing you about image-transfer progress, how many images have been copied, and battery life remaining. While the ability to view your pictures after transfer, as on other models, would be nice,

the Photo Safe delivers a nice price/performance balance.

The user-replaceable li-ion battery provides approximately 1.5 hours of use on a full charge. The Photo Safe connects to your computer via high-speed USB 2, and using it is as simple as pressing the One-Touch copy button. The Photo Safe can also function as an external card reader and its Auto Shut-Off feature can help extend battery life.

If you're looking for a portable storage device that's easy to use and won't break the bank, the Digital Foci Photo Safe may be just what the doctor ordered. ■