

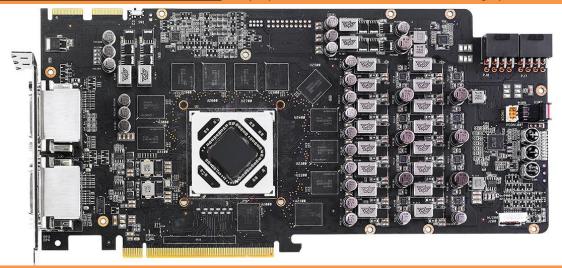
# Installation and mounting manual for EK-FC7970 Matrix water block

This product is intended for installation only by expert users. Please consult with a qualified technician for installation. Improper installation may result in damage to your equipment. EK Water Blocks assumes no liability whatsoever, expressed or implied, for the use of these products, nor their installation. The following instructions are subject to change without notice. Please visit our web site at <a href="https://www.ekwb.com">www.ekwb.com</a> for updates. Before installation of this product please read important notice, disclosure and warranty conditions printed on the back of the box.

Before you start using this product please follow these basic guidelines:

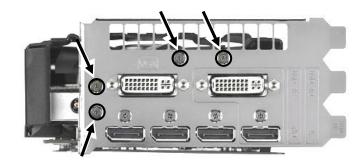
- I. Please carefully read the manual before through before beginning with the installation process!
- 2. Please remove your motherboard from the computer to assure safest mounting process in order to prevent any possible damages to your CPU and/or motherboard's circuit board (PCB).
- 3. The EK High Flow and EK-PSC type fittings require only a small amount of force to screw them firmly in place since the liquid seal is ensured by the rubber o-ring gaskets.
- 4. The use of corrosion inhibiting coolants is always recommended for any liquid cooling system.

### STEP 1: GENERAL INFORMATION. Sample picture of ASUS HD7970 MATRIX series graphics card.



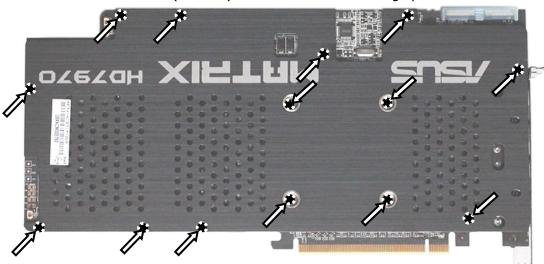
#### **STEP 2: PREPARING YOUR GRAPHIC CARD.**

1. REMOVING STOCK COOLER: Remove four encircled screws on the I/O bracket using Philips head screwdriver:



### **STEP 2 cont.: PREPARING YOUR GRAPHIC CARD**

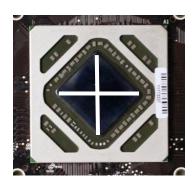
2 cont.. REMOVING STOCK COOLER. Remove all encircled screws. All heat sink assembly screws should be removed. There are 14 (fourteen) screws on the back of the graphics card.



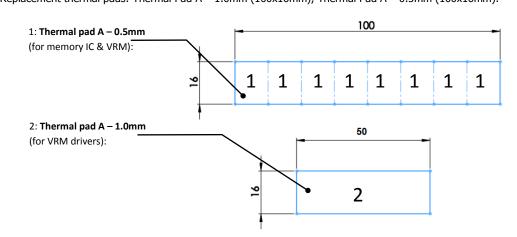
2. CLEANING THE PCB. Carefully detach the original stock cooler after removing **all** screws securing it to the board. Wipe off the remains (by using non–abrasive cloth or *qtip*, as shown on sample photo) of the original thermal compound until the components and circuit board are completely clean. EKWB recommends the use of denatured alcohol for removing TIM leftovers.



3. APPLYING THERMAL COMPOUND. Apply thermal compound: lightly coat AMD GPU chip with for example Arctic Cooling MX-2<sup>TM</sup>, MX-4<sup>TM</sup> or Gelid GC-Extreme<sup>TM</sup> thermal grease. EKWB recommends to apply thermal grease in cross form for best performance (see sample picture).

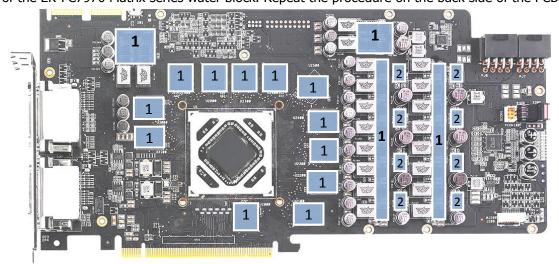


4. CUTTING THERMAL PADS. Your block comes with thermal pads, some of which are already pre-cut. Others have to be cut to smaller chunks in order to cover all the VRM components such as MOSFETs and drivers. PLEASE REMOVE THE PROTECTIVE FOIL FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE THERMAL PADS PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. Replacement thermal pads: Thermal Pad A – 1.0mm (100x16mm), Thermal Pad A – 0.5mm (100x16mm).

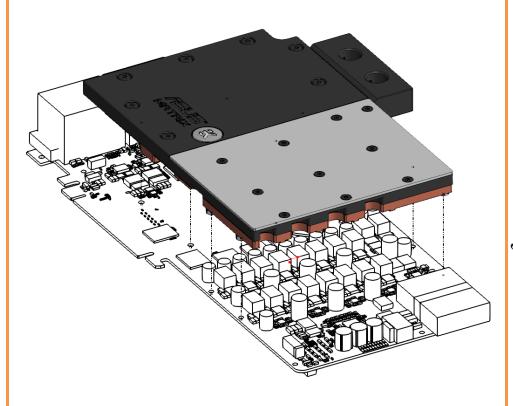


### **STEP 3: INSTALLING THE WATER BLOCK**

1. PLACING THERMAL PADS ON PCB. Place thermal pads on chips so that numbers on chips match size of thermal pads. EKWB made sure users have more than enough pads to cover all surfaces that need to be covered to make block fully functional). EKWB recommends using small drops of <u>electrically non-conductive</u> (for example: Arctic Cooling MX-2 <sup>TM</sup>, MX-4 <sup>TM</sup> or GELID GC-Extreme <sup>TM</sup>) thermal grease on each phase regulator (that is being covered with thermal pad) in order to even further improve the thermal performance of the EK-FC7970 Matrix series water block. Repeat the procedure on the back side of the PCB.



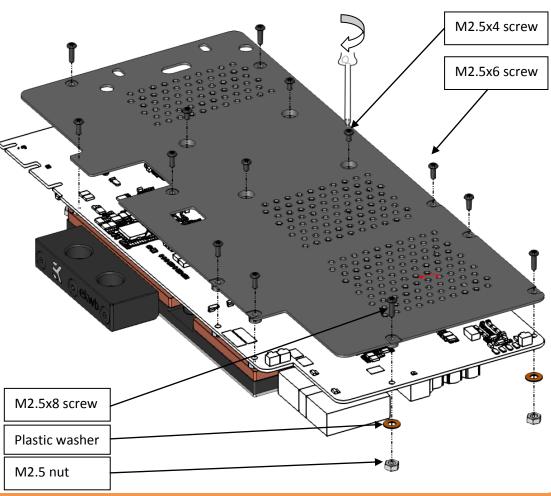
2. PLACING BLOCK TO GRAPHIC CARD. Carefully position the water block with preinstalled 2.5mm standoffs on to the graphics card. During this process please make sure you align mounting holes on PCB with holes on the water block. Also pay attention not to use too much force by pressing block down to PCB. Chip dies are prone to cracking.



3B. <u>ALTERNATIVE MOUNTING OPTION</u> WITHOUT USING ASUS BACKPLATE. By using Philips screwdriver screw in ten (10) enclosed M2.5x4 DIN7985 screws into each and every standoff on the water block. EKWB recommends start screwing the screws around the GPU core and continue outwards.

3A. ATTACHING BLOCK AND ASUS BACKPLATE TO GRAPHIC CARD. By using Philips screwdriver screw in enclosed M2.5 DIN7985 screws, washers and M2.5 nuts. EKWB recommends the following procedure:

- 1. Place the ASUS factory backplate onto the graphics card circuit board
- 2. Screw in four (4) M2.5x4 DIN7985 screws around the GPU core. Do not tighten the screws firmly just yet.
- 3. Start screwing six (6) M2.5x6 DIN7985 screws to secure the backplate to the water block.
- 4. Once all ten (10) M2.5x4 & -6 screws are in position tighten the screws completely.
- 5. Screw in the remaining four (4) M2.5x8 DIN7985 screws (which go through PCB) and secure them with M2.5 nuts. Use PVC washer underneath each nut!

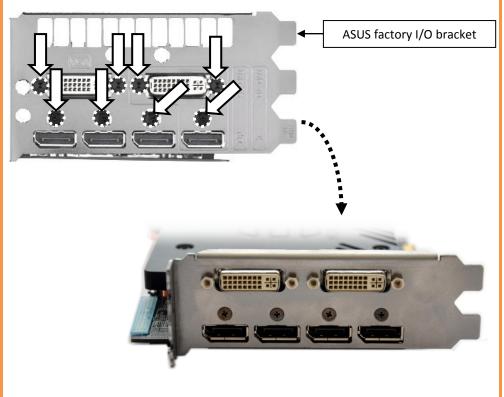


# **STEP 4: CHECKING FOR CONTACTS**

If necessary temporarily remove the water block to check for uniform surface contact between the block and the components, pay special attention to the VRM section of the graphics card. Check whether the water block makes contact with the intended integrated cirucit. Then repeat sub-steps in previous section to re-attach the block. **In case you fail to obtain good contact, please check again your thermal pad thickness or contact our support service at http://www.ekwb.com/support.** 

# STEP 5: REPLACING THE ORIGINAL I/O BRACKET

Remove the four (4) screws and four (4) hexagonal nuts securing the original three-slot I/O bracket to the circuit board. Replace the original I/O bracket with enclosed EK FC7970 DCII I/O bracket and install it using the original screws.

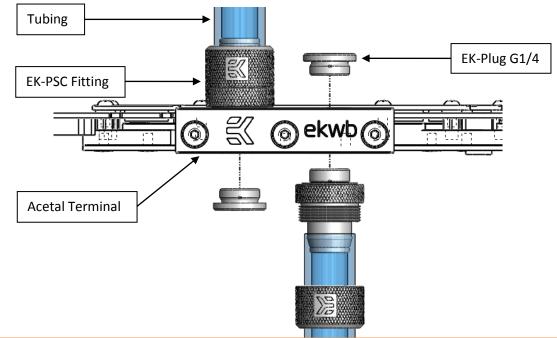


# **STEP 6: INSTALLATION OF FITTINGS AND TUBING**

Screw in the two G1/4 threaded male fittings. Attach the liquid cooling tubes and connect the water-block(s) into the cooling circuit. **EKWB recommends using EK-PSC fittings with the EK-FC7970 Matrix series water blocks**. To ensure that the tubes are securely attached to the barb/fittings, please use hose clamps or an appropriate substitute.

You can use any opening as an inlet/outlet port.

**CAUTION:** In case of using connectors other than EK-PSC series compression fittings take special attention to the length of the fittings' male G1/4" thread. In case the thread is longer than 5mm please <u>use</u> the enclosed 1.8mm nickel plated <u>distancer! 5mm is the maximum</u> allowed G1/4" thread length!



### STEP 6: FINISHING INSTALLATION - INSERTING THE GRAPHICS CARD IN YOUR PC CHASSIS

At this point you may carefully lift your graphics card with installed block and insert it in your PC's motherboard PCI-express expansion slot. Please bear in mind that your graphics card is probably heavier than when it was equipped with original heat sink fan assembly. One needs to be very careful when handling the graphics card. Avoid all un-needed manipulation of the VGA/water block assembly that might damage your card or water block during final installation.

# REQUIRED TOOLS:



scissors

philips screwdriver