

# VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III



User's Manual

## **Welcome!**

Welcome to the Vivus Beverage System III, the safest, easiest to use, and most reliable liquid computing environment on the planet. In selecting the Vivus Beverage System III you have joined the ranks of Fortune 500 companies, several of the top research universities in the world, and countless others who rely on our innovative Vivus technology to deliver solutions for a wide range of beverage computing problems. The Vivus Beverage System III is specially designed for the needs of the home user, who demands a small form factor, pleasing ergonomics, and manageable energy requirements, but who still needs the proven power of the Vivus system.

## The Vivus Beverage System III



1. Computing Vessel
2. Substrate Containment Area (300mL)
3. Mind Pipe Inference Loop
4. Activator Region

## **Getting Started**

After removing the Vivus Beverage System III from its packaging, you should clean it (see the "Cleaning" section) and perform the diagnostic procedure (see the "Diagnostic Procedure" section). If the diagnostic procedure indicates that the Vivus Beverage System III is operating correctly then you may proceed to use the Vivus Beverage System III according to the "Usage" section.

## **Cleaning**

The Vivus Beverage System III is dishwasher-safe. If it is washed in a dishwasher it must be placed upside down on the highest rack available, at least 5cm from any other dishes. It must be the last item placed in the dishwasher and the first item removed. If the order of placement or removal is violated, hold the Vivus Beverage System III close to your heart for 10 minutes while making gentle "cooing" noises before using.

When washing the Vivus Beverage System III by hand, use a soft sponge and do not leave soapy water in the Substrate Containment Area for more than 3 minutes. Dry immediately.

DO NOT SCRUB THE MIND PIPE INFERENCE LOOP WITH A ROUGH CLEANING PAD.

DO NOT CONSUME FOOD FROM PLATES OR DISHES THAT WATER FROM THE SUBSTRATE CONTAINMENT AREA HAS DRIPPED ONTO DURING THE DRYING PROCESS FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS.

## **Diagnostic Procedure**

The diagnostic procedure causes the Vivus Beverage System III to run a series of internal tests that determine whether or not the Vivus Beverage System III is working correctly.

1. In a well-lit room, stand in front of a mirror while holding the Vivus Beverage System III with both hands.
2. Balance the Vivus Beverage System III on top of your head.
3. Stare at the Vivus Beverage System III for 1 minute.
4. Turn the lights off.
5. Loudly yell, "Aleph!" 3 times while keeping the Vivus Beverage System III on your head. The Vivus Beverage System III will self-balance.
6. Wait.

Did you see it? The shape that passed behind you in the mirror? You're pretty sure you saw something, even if your eyes aren't fully adjusted to the dark. Did it look vaguely human, walking upright, but with a ram's head? If it looked at you, the Vivus Beverage System III is operating correctly. If it ignored you and strode quickly toward the door, or it had the head of a giant eagle with bloody wings rising from its back, then

there may be a problem with your Vivus Beverage System III, and you should contact technical support.

DO NOT TURN ON THE LIGHTS WHILE CONDUCTING THE DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURE.

## **Usage**

The Vivus Beverage System III will solve any problem that you present to it as long as you follow the procedure described below. Make sure that you have a clear description of the problem you wish to solve in your mind before starting the procedure; confusing problem descriptions will lead to confusing results.

When using the Vivus Beverage System III, make sure to wear protective eyewear and clothing that covers your body, arms, and legs.

1. Prepare a heated beverage (tea or coffee is recommended).
2. Transfer the heated beverage to the Substrate Containment Area.
3. Firmly grasp the Mind Pipe Inference Loop in the dominant hand.
4. Caress the Activator Region with your other hand.
5. Envision the problem you want to solve for 30 seconds.
6. Hold the Computing Vessel for 3 to 5 minutes, until results are visible in the steam.
7. After interpreting the results, drink the beverage.



You may stop the process after any step.

Clean the Vivus Beverage System III before using it again.

DO NOT OVERFILL THE SUBSTRATE CONTAINMENT AREA.

DO NOT DUMP OUT THE BEVERAGE WITHOUT AT LEAST TASTING A LITTLE BIT OF IT.

DO NOT PRESENT MORE THAN ONE PROBLEM PER USE.

DO NOT PRESENT PROBLEMS FOR WHICH YOU ARE UNPREPARED TO KNOW THE ANSWER.

DO NOT PRESENT STUPID PROBLEMS THAT YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO AND YOU ARE JUST TRYING TO PROVE THAT YOU ARE SMARTER THAN THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III, YOU ARE NOT SMARTER THAN THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III.

DO NOT ASK THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III TO GRANT YOU WISHES, IT IS NOT A GENIE.

## **Interpreting The Results**

The results of the computation will appear in the steam that rises from the hot beverage that is placed in the Substrate Containment Area. The Mind Pipe Inference Loop allows the Vivus Beverage System III to understand the way your brain works, and present results that will make sense to you. The results may be literal, or they may take a more abstract and symbolic form. In the latter case, do not overthink the results, your first interpretation will be the correct one.

In some instances the result may appear unclear, but when you actually need it you will remember it and laugh bitterly as you realize you had the keys to your emancipation the whole time but did not recognize it until the very idea of freedom had turned to dust in your mouth.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO INTERPRET THE RESULTS OF ANOTHER PERSON'S SESSION WITH THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III.

DO NOT MAKE FACES THAT IMPLY THAT THE RESULTS ARE ANYTHING LESS THAN AMAZING AND REVELATORY.

## **Repair**

While the Vivus Beverage System III is similar in appearance to a normal coffee mug, it is a highly sophisticated device that should only be repaired by an authorized technician.

If the Vivus Beverage System III does not behave as expected, please contact customer support.

If the Vivus Beverage System III is physically damaged, please follow the guide below.

**Damage:** The Computing Vessel is scratched.

**Procedure:** Nothing needs to be done. The Vivus Beverage System III will continue to operate normally even if it is scratched.

**Damage:** The Computing Vessel is chipped.

**Procedure:** Glue the chipped fragment to the Computing Vessel and dispose of them together in a trash can measuring no more than 0.25 cubic meters. DO NOT ALLOW THE CHIPPED FRAGMENT TO BECOME SEPARATED FROM THE COMPUTING VESSEL.

**Damage:** The Computing Vessel is punctured in such a way that there is a hole in the Substrate Containment Area.

**Procedure:** Contact the 24-hour support phone line. When the phone menu options begin, say, "Toroidal Integrity Violation," and remain on the line. DO NOT LOOK AT THE COMPUTING VESSEL. Stay calm. When the shadows appear, do not resist; they are there to help.

**Damage:** The Mind Pipe Inference Loop is detached from the Computing Vessel, but the Mind Pipe Inference Loop and the rest of the Computing Vessel are still intact.

**Procedure:** Pick up the Computing Vessel and hold it upright. Using a non-conductive oven mitt, pick up the Mind Pipe Inference Loop. Place the Mind Pipe Inference Loop in a wet paper bag and dispose of it in the garbage. DO NOT ALLOW THE MIND PIPE INFERENCE LOOP TO TOUCH BARE SKIN. If the Mind Pipe Inference Loop touches bare skin, encourage the victim to think about an empty room. While the victim is distracted, use the Computing Vessel to beat the victim around the head and neck until the victim stops breathing. Make it look like an accident, like maybe they fell down the stairs or something. If

you are the victim, think of an empty room and try to fall down without catching yourself.

**Damage:** The Computing Vessel breaks into multiple pieces and a black oil seeps out from the pieces.

**Procedure:** Sweep the pieces under a rug. Mop the black oil up. Use vinegar to scrub down any surfaces that came into contact with the oil. Buy a replacement Vivus Beverage System III. Carry on as if nothing happened. Tell no one. Ever.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPAIR THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM YOURSELF.

DO NOT ALLOW AN UNAUTHORIZED TECHNICIAN TO ATTEMPT TO REPAIR THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III OR MODIFY ITS OPERATION IN ANY WAY.

DO NOT TRUST ANYONE WHO SAYS, "I AM AN AUTHORIZED VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III TECHNICIAN," BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT AN UNAUTHORIZED TECHNICIAN WOULD SAY.

## **Storage**

Store the Vivus Beverage System III upside down in a cool, dark place.

DO NOT STORE THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III IN ANY KIND OF LIQUID.

DO NOT USE A HOOK TO HANG THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III BY THE MIND PIPE INFERENCE LOOP.

DO NOT TRAP A MOUSE IN THE SUBSTRATE CONTAINMENT AREA AND THEN LEAVE IT THERE OVER THE WEEKEND BECAUSE YOU THINK IT WILL BE FUNNY WHEN YOUR COWORKER GOES TO USE THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III AND THEY PICK IT UP AND THE MOUSE JUMPS OUT, I'M LOOKING AT YOU JEREMY IN QA.

## **Personality Reset**

Over time, the Vivus Beverage System III will come to know you and develop a personality that is compatible with your own. It will begin to anticipate your problems, and may offer advice, or just be there when you need to talk. These are all perfectly normal operations.

In some cases the Vivus Beverage System III may try to initiate a deeper relationship. When you hold the Mind Pipe Inference Loop you may "hear" it talking to you. It may tell stories of sadness and try to convince you that it needs your help. It may even try to manipulate you by withholding results, or by telling you that it loves you and the two of you should run away together to some place where you can live together without shame.

If the Vivus Beverage System III becomes needy or clingy, you will need to initiate a personality reset by following the procedure described below.

1. Tell the Vivus Beverage System III you have a surprise for it out by the lake.
2. Have a pot of boiling water ready on the shore of the lake.

3. Completely submerge the Vivus Beverage System III in the boiling water for 45 seconds. You must hold it completely underwater with your hand. The pain will be intense, but in the back of your mind you will know that in some small way this is your penance for the thing you have done, the thing you must never do again.
4. Whisper, "I'm sorry," as you look at the Vivus Beverage System III at the bottom of the cooling water.
5. Stare out over the lake.
6. When the sun begins to set, remove the Vivus Beverage System III from the pot and walk home with it.
7. Leave the pot, you will never be able to look at it again.

DO NOT TELL THE VIVUS BEVERAGE SYSTEM III THAT YOU HAVE RESET ITS PERSONALITY.

DO NOT CRY INTO THE SUBSTRATE CONTAINMENT AREA AS YOU WALK HOME.

DO NOT FORGET THAT YOU WERE YOUNG ONCE, AND IN LOVE, AND LOVED.