

upgrading the Elegoo Saturn



## Info

The *UV Blaster 30* KIT is an upgrade-kit for an Elegoo Saturn 3D resin printer. It reduces the total printtime, by the use of quality high-power UV LEDs. Upgrading, requires a more powerful adapter. Info about this can be found in this document. A detailed step-by-step-plan and images are included to support the process of updating the Elegoo Saturn 3D resin printer.

UV Blaster 30 KIT is designed and manufactured by SMDKing.

# **CONTENTS**

Advantages		2
Contents of UV Blaster 30 kit		2
Specifications UV Blaster 30 KIT		2
<b>Replacing powers</b>	ource	2
Tools needed for i	installatation	
Installation, step l	by step	3
Step 1	Remove USB side-panel	3
Step 2	Detach FFP LCD-cable	3
Step 3	Remove screws red top-plate	4
Step 4	Tilting red top-plate	4
Step 5	Detach connectors "Z-"sensor, steppermotor and inverterboard	5
Step 6	Remove screws inverter-bracket	5
Step 7	Detach connectors UV-boards and inverterboard	6
Step 8	Remove screws heatsink	6
Step 9	Remove screws LED-lenses	7
Step 10	Remove LED-lenses	7
Step 11	Remove screws distance-beds	8
Step 12	Remove distance-beds	8
Step 13	Remove screws UV boards	9
Step 14	Remove UV boards	9
Step 15	Cleaning heatsink	10
Step 16	Apply thermal grease	10
Step 17	Additional lines of thermal grease	11
Step 18	Fixate UV Blaster 30 boards	11
Step 19	Insert screws UV Blaster 30 boards	12
Step 20	Add distance-beds	12
Step 21	Insert screws distance-beds	13
Step 22	Add LED-lenses	13
Step 23	Insert screws LED-lenses	14
Step 24	Insert screws heatsink	14
Step 25	Add a green powerjack to UV Blaster 30	15
Step 26	Attach connectors Z-sensor, steppermotor and inverterboard	15
Step 27	Insert screws red top-plate	16
Step 28	Attach FFP LCD-cable	16
Step 29	Place USB side-panel	17
Additional improv	<i>iements</i>	18

# NOTE :

An upgrade can be performed by just following the steps in the content-description above. If needed you can verify each step which includes a picture for clarifications at given page.

## **Advantages**

UV Blaster 30 boards offer several advantages, compared with original ones in Elegoo Saturn, like :

- Faster 3D printing
- More accurate ON-OFF response-time
- No step-up inverter required
- Less chance to damage onboard MOSFETs
- More UV-reflection thanks to white colored boards
- Good thermal transfer to heatsink
- Freeing up internal space

# Contents of UV Blaster 30 kit

- UV Blaster 30 KIT (3 pre-wired boards)
  - Syringe with super conducting thermal grease
    - o Color : grey
      - Thermal conductivity : 2.8 W/mK
    - o Dielectric constant : 5.1
    - $\circ$  Operating temperature : -30 to 300 °C / -22 to 572 °F

## **Specifications UV Blaster 30 KIT**

UV Light	: Narrow band UV-A spectrum
Voltage	: 24 V DC
Current	: 1.65 Ampere / UV Blaster 30 board
LEDs Emitting power	: Approx. 33 Watts per UV Blaster 30 board, total <u>± 100 Watts</u> per KIT

## **Replacing powersource**

Since the upgrade-kit consumes more energy, the original power adapter is not capable to provide enough power. A different power adapter is required. The minimum requirement is approx. **150 Watts at 24V DC**. Get a 6 Amps, 24V DC power adapter, including a 2.5mm jack from a reliable manufacturer / store.

**NOTE :** If you order one directly from China, keep in mind, the given ratings (Watts) are not always reliable. Our experiences show some sellers exagerate or mention peakcurrents a power adapter can supply. To be on the safe side, go for a **10 Amps, 24 V DC powersupply**. Besides, more available power offers additional space for upgrades like extra internal cooling-fans, if desired.

# **Tools needed for installation**

- Screwdrivers
  - o Torx V8, V9 and V10
  - o Flathead 2.5 mm wide
- Cleaning paper tissue(s) for heatsink
- Cleaning fluid i.e. alcohol, IPA (to remove thermal grease)



#### Installation, step by step

Step 2

The whole process is a matter of removing screws, unplug connectors and remove some parts. Next step is inserting UV Blaster 30 KIT (with thermal grease) and replace a **green** connector. What remains is plugging connectors and inserting the screws back into place.

All steps include an image as extra help, or for those who got stuck somewhere in the middle. If screws are involved, a blue banner shows the amount and size of them.



Remove 4 screws from USB side-panel and remove panel **NOTE** : USB side-panel can be fixed to red top-plate with a piece of tape



<u>Carefully</u> flip black plastic lid up (75° angle) from FFP-connector at motherboard. Remove FFP LCD-cable from connector at motherboard.





Tilt red top-plate in 45° angle, backwards



Detach white connector with 3-cables to "*Z*-" sensor (brown, blue and black) Detach white connector with 4-cables to steppermotor (red, blue, green, black) Detach green connector with 2-cables to inverter board (black and red) **NOTE** : This green connector is needed (later) for the *UV Blaster 30* KIT



Remove 2 screws of inverter-bracket at bottom of case **NOTE** : Make sure you keep the inverter-bracket inside the case stable, with 1 hand





Remove 12 screws which fix 3 LED-lenses to black distance-beds.



Remove 3 LED-lenses and store safely



Remove 12 screws which fixate black distance-beds at metal spacers from heatsink.



Remove all 3 distance-beds



Remove 12 screws, which fixate UV boards to heatsink





Clean heatsink thoroughly with cleaning fluid (i.e. alcohol, IPA)



Apply thermal grease at backside of each *UV Blaster 30* board Suggestion : Add a tiny dot where a LED is located (indicators : tiny thermal support-holes). NOTE : The photo shows too large dots of thermal grease.



When carefully applied the thermal grease, there's some left-over. Apply this in lines at UV Blaster 30 board.



Slightly swirl / rotate UV Blaster 30 boards and push gently to smear out the thermal grease. Next, align UV blaster 30 boards with holes at heatsink.



Mount 12 screws back into heatsink to fixate UV Blaster 30 boards



Add all 3 distance-beds back to original position



Insert all 12 screws to fixate distance-beds



Add and align all 3 LED-lenses to distance-beds



Step 23

Insert all 12 screws back to fixate LED-lenses **IMPORTANT NOTE :** Don't tighten the screws too much or it may irreversable damage the transparant plastic LED-lenses. Suggestion : Clean top of LED-lenses with microfiber cloth.



Align heatsink and insert 4 screws back, in all 4 corners of heatsink, to fixate it to case

14



Attach green connector from original inverter board to powercable of *UV Blaster 30* KIT **NOTE** : The green socket at the motherboard, text "-LED+" is printed and indicates the position of **plus** (red cable) and **minus** (black cable).

As an extra feature / precaution, *UV blaster 30* KIT is protected for inversed polarity. If accidentally inversed polarity occurs, no damage will happen : LEDs of *UV Blaster 30* KIT will not turn ON.





Attach white connector with 3-cables to "*Z*-" sensor (brown, blue and black) Attach white connector with 4-cables to steppermotor (red, blue, green, black) Attach green connector with 2-cables to *UV blaster 30* KIT (black and red)



Align red top-plate back onto case and insert 8 screws to fixate it. Note : Be sure there's no hardened UV resin left in these screw-holes. If there is, remove / clean it carefully. Heads of screws should be right below the surface. No excessive force is required to tighten it to the end of the screw-threading.



Attach FFP LCD-cable inside connector at motherboard. <u>Carefully</u> flip black plastic lid (75° angle) from FFP-connector down to fixate FFP LCD-cable



Align USB-panel back to original position at side of case. Insert 4 screws to fixate USB side-panel. **NOTE :** The USB-connector needs to be be easy accesible.

## You're almost ready : congratulations !

Power your Elegoo Saturn by a more powerful adapter including a 2.5mm powerjack, as suggested earlier in this document.

Next step is to turn the Elegoo Saturn on and perform a displaytest to see if the UV Blaster 30 KIT is operating correct.

If all went fine, the upgraded Elegoo Saturn is now ready for faster resin 3D-printing !

#### **Additional improvements**

There are some design flaws on the Saturn motherboard. When checking the datasheet for the components used, odd values for capacitors are present. In addition, it was better if the power lines were insulated. By isolating power lines, the effects of current and voltage spikes caused in adjacent parts are reduced.

Below is a photo of the controller board, showing some key parts (by pink dots/number), which could use an improvement.

Important notice : Modifying the motherboard might void warranty. Performing these improvements are at your own risk.



#### 1) Isolate powerlane

Right after the powerswitch, a combined powerlane is used for powersection, steppermotor driver and the UV-matrix / fans. To optimise the power-section for this motherboard, it's best to isolate this part. Isolating this parts means, if current/voltage spikes occur elsewhere (steppermotor / UV-LED part) it will lower harmful effects to the powerregulation (to control-ICs). This powersection converts 24V DC into 5V via an LM2596 150KHz 3Amps switcher. Cutting this powerlane and bridging it by a rectifying diode will do protect this part better. You could even consider a Schottky-diode as it will respond faster to spikes than a default rectifying diode. A 3 Amps version for 30V or higher voltage will do the job. The anode of a diode should be aligned to 24V DC part, the cathode to the LM2596. Cathode is mostly marked by a small line or ring at the body of the diode.

**NOTE** : It might be a tough job to perform this. The black mechanical powerswitch is a bottleneck because of its size. Best is to desolder this part first carefully. If you don't have access to tools to perform this task, skip this.

#### 2) Replace capacitor at input

This is a 470uF / 35V SMD version. The datasheet of the 5-legged LM2596 switcher, next to it advises a 680uF capacitor. This suggest it's best to replace it original 470uF/35V capacitor by a 680uF/35V radial through-hole version. You can bend and cut the legs of such capacitor to fit. A SMD-version will work also, bit will take much more effort to solder. Also, there's a chance the through-hole version is cheaper to source than the SMD version.

## 3) Replace capacitor at output

As output /feedback for the LM2596 a 220 uF capacitor is suggested by the manufacturer datasheet. The onboard capacitor is a 680uF/6.3V version.

The switcher is generating some voltage-ripple, which means, the output Voltage is above and below 5 Volts. When spikes occur, it might go well past 6.3V. Next, the capacity of a capacitor might variate at a given Voltage.

If you like to be on the safe side, replace this capacitor by a 220uF/16V radial through-hole capactor and keep polarity in mind. At the side of a capacitor is often a line visible, marking the negative polarity. In the picture, you can see the black line at the top of this capacitor.

## 4) Remove capacitor

This is another 680uF/6.3V capacitor in the 5V powerlane. It only adds up the total capacity at the 5V output of the LM2596 and generates an imbalance. This capacitor should be removed if succeeded step 3) previously.

## 5) Replace capacitor

This capacitor is present at the output-section of the CJT 1117B-3.3V, which is a 3.3 Volt regulator. This voltage-regulator "transforms" 5 Volts into 3.3 Volts for the control-IC. Datasheet for this part suggests a value of 22 uF, while a 680uF/6.3V is present. This 680uF is way too much and can cause another power imbalance. You can replace this capacitor by a 22uF/6.3V radial through-hole version.

Like mentioned before, all suggested "repairs" will likely void warranty. However, in return the motherboard got improved and works better / more safe. The chance an electronic malfunction will occur is reduced.