The success of any large format scanning process is not just about image quality, it depends on good hardware design, capable software and achievable high productivity. **See more on the back page.**

IQ Quattro 44"

WideTEK® 48" CL

HARDWARE DESIGN
PRODUCTIVITY AND FLEXIBILITY
IMAGE QUALITY
SOFTWARE OPTIONS

FEATURES	Contex IQ Quattro 4450	Contex IQ Quattro 4490	Image Access WideTEK WT48CL-600
Scan width	44 inches (1118 mm)		48 inches (1219 mm)
Max document width	47 inches (1194 mm)		50 inches (1270 mm)
Max document thickness	2 mm (0.08 inches)		2.5 mm (0.1 inches)
Energy Star	Yes		No
Power consumption	Ready: < 10 W, Sleep mode: < 0.5 W, Scanning: 18 W		Ready: < 25 W, Sleep mode: < 0.5 W, Scanning: < 45 W
True size detection (no shoe-shine)	No		No
Unpacked scanner weight	23.7 kg (52.2 lbs)		28.5 kg (63 lbs)
Size (L x W x H)	53.1" (1350 mm) × 18.9" (480 mm) × 6.3" (161 mm)		55.8" (1418 mm) × 14.1" (358 mm) × 6.7" (170 mm)
Paper load	Face up		Face up
Upgradable processing hardware	Yes (external Windows PC)		No (internal Linux)
Full length automatic paper size detection	Yes		No
Interface (control)	Gigabit Ethernet xDTR2.5, USB 2.0 with xDTR		Gigabit network
Rollable stand	Yes		No
Upgradable scan color speed	Yes	No	No
Scanning speed at 200 dpi RGB color	7 inches/sec (118 mm/sec)	14 inches/sec (356 mm/sec)	3.8 inches/sec (96 mm/sec)
Scanning speed at 200 dpi B&W	14 inches/sec (356 mm/sec)	14 inches/sec (356 mm/sec)	15 inches/sec (381 mm/sec)
Productivity E-size portrait RGB color at 200 dpi	322 pages per hour	685 pages per hour	Not quoted. Two-stage job file/slow direct transfer
Maximum optical resolution	1200 × 1200 dpi		1200 × 1200 dpi
Accuracy	0.1% +/- 1 pixel at any point of the scanned surface		± 0.08% in scan and paper directions
Data capture	16-bit grayscale, 48-bit color		16-bit grayscale, 48-bit color
Sensor type	5 x 2D RGB LED CIS		4 x 2D RGB LED CIS
Sensor resolution	64,800 pixels		Not quoted
File formats	Big TIFF, TIF, JPG, PDF, PDF/A, DWF, CALS, BMP, JPEG-2000(JP2), JPEG2000 Extended(JPX), TIF-G3, TIF-G4, multi-page PDF and others		Multipage PDF (PDF/A) and TIFF, JPEG, JPEG 2000, PNM, PNG, BMP, TIFF (Raw, G3, G4, LZW, JPEG),AutoCAD DWF, JBIG, DjVu, DICOM, PCX, Postscript, EPS, Raw data
Professional PC software option	Nextimage		No
TWAIN driver	Yes		No
Auto image align	Yes		No

Gray = Advantage

What determines a successful large format scanning process?

HARDWARE DESIGN

Much thought goes into a product design and it is very easy to cut corners and make a product that – on the outside – looks similar to another.

And while they may not be obvious at first glance, any cut corners become very apparent once you put the product to use:

- The size of the table where you insert the document proves important to ease the handling of large documents
- Large capacity input buffers will allow you to scan one document after the next at full speed without ever experiencing a delay or lag time
- Utilizing the highest quality camera lenses and scanning technology available in the industry makes it possible to capture every detail in perfect color
- Guide plate options will let you scan any type of thick, thin, rigid or pliable document
- Simple and intuitive operation allows even the newest of operators to feel confident when they walk up to the scanner

These are only a few of the many design features that make the difference between a good and a bad scanning experience.

SOFTWARE OPTIONS

Software is paramount! Good scanning software creates a workflow that makes using the scanner easier, faster and, most importantly, provides you with an image that is equal to and most often better than the original. Choose a scanning software loaded with features that make the scanner shine. The interface should be built so that all of the most important and most used features are easy to get to and easily customizable.

If production is in the forefront of your needs, your software should include powerful options, such as batch scanning, where you simply insert one document after the next into the scanner, and the software will automatically rotate, resize, clean up background noise, enhance the colors and auto name the file – all in one step. No need to touch the PC.

If outputting to a printer is important to you, make sure your scanning software is the best in its class in producing copies – and supports the greatest number of large format printers in the industry. Your software should include drivers that supports the many features of any printer. A good software will include a simple to set up, yet highly complex closed loop calibration that easily matches the colors of your printer with your scanner. With that, any operator can set up the color management in just a few minutes.

PRODUCTIVITY AND FLEXIBILITY

To be productive, the scanner must be flexible and conform to your specialized workflows. Make sure you choose a scanner that is easy to tailor to suit your personal needs as well as the needs of your colleagues. Shifting from one style of workflow to another should be as simple as selecting a personalized software preset.

Productivity is also measured in pure raw speed. It really comes down to how many scans can be produced in an hour. Therefore, your scanner should have enough capacity to completely eliminate any image process waiting time in-between scans. If your scanner also supports batch mode, all of your attention can be focused on preparing the next document to be inserted into the scanner.

IMAGE QUALITY

A truly professional CIS scanner uses high-end contact image sensors that capture extremely accurate detail in high resolution and 48 bit depth. This provides the ability to scan both monochrome and color documents precisely and inexpensively. There are limitations to CIS technology so it is important to ensure your scanning needs are going to be met using this technology:

- It will be best if your documents are not rigid or heavily folded and can lay flat against the glass plate, this will prevent any focus or color loss, capturing all details of the document.
- Dual LED sensors provide additional lighting from two angles to assist scanning folded or wrinkled documents.
- Color, grey or monochrome is perfectly captured in scanners using CIS modules. However, the lighting source is typically brighter so be sure you have an intelligent software application to manage the additional contrast.

CONCLUSION

Top scanner developers have pushed the boundaries for not only producing great looking scans and copies, but also doing so in a cost effective, simple and highly intuitive and productive manner. Their scanners are developed through real life experience where efficiency, ease of use and quality is of utmost importance. They are built to last and supported by large worldwide distribution networks.

A scanner is not just a scanner. While there are many options available, you should reach for the industry standard of excellence. Ask your scanner supplier for advice.

Contact us for more information on large format scanning: