

Kyocera Mita America, Inc.
2011 Monochrome Printer Line of the Year



Kyocera Mita America, Inc.
225 Sand Road
PO Box 40008
Fairfield, NJ 07004-0008
www.kyoceramita.com

All five Kyocera monochrome printers and MFPs tested by BLI in 2010 received the “Highly Recommended” rating for their excellent overall performances in BLI’s lab, with four garnering individual “Pick” awards, making Kyocera the obvious choice for “Monochrome Printer Line of the Year.”

“Kyocera’s monochrome printers have always been very strong in the value they provide,” said BLI European Lab Manager David Sweetnam. “From entry-level models through departmental A3 printers, Kyocera machines are robust and reliable workhorses that can easily withstand the stresses of busy workgroups. And because its ECOSYS printers utilize high-yield consumables, these models are easy on the budget and kind on the environment, too.”

Manufacturers must submit at least one device for lab testing in each of the “Pick” segments—entry-, mid- and high-level—to qualify for this prominent and celebrated award, and BLI considers many factors when selecting the “Line of the Year.” The Kyocera devices that have contributed to this win include the FS-3140MFP, “Outstanding A4 MFP for Mid-Size Workgroups,” Winter 2011; FS-1320D, “Outstanding A4 Printer for Mid-Size Workgroups,” Winter 2011; FS-1370DN, “Outstanding A4 Printer for Mid-Size Workgroups,” Winter 2011; and the FS-1128MFP, “Outstanding Personal Monochrome Multifunction Printer,” Summer 2010. The FS-1120, which is targeted to small workgroups, was also tested in 2010 and received BLI’s “Highly Recommended” rating. Rounding out Kyocera’s monochrome product line are the FS-2020D, FS-3920DN and FS-4020DN (a Fall 2009 “Pick” winner for “Outstanding Mid-Size Workgroup Monochrome Printer”) all received “Recommended” ratings in 2009. In the large workgroup and departmental categories, the A3-capable FS-9130DN and FS-9530 received “Highly Recommended” ratings in 2007 and 2008.

“We are delighted to have won the BLI ‘Monochrome Printer Line of the Year’ award,” said Oliver Kreth, marketing director of Kyocera Mita Europe. “BLI’s awards are granted following rigorous testing and are the most coveted in the industry, so it’s a great endorsement that the entire Kyocera mono printer line has been recognized in this way. The award reaffirms our customers’ satisfaction and validates all the work that we put into making Kyocera devices outstanding.”

Reliability

BLI is known for being the leading source of the most exhaustive third-party durability testing in the industry. The Reliability certificate included in the lab reports stands as proof positive that a manufacturer's hardware can withstand the rigors of day-to-day usage in environments that a specific device is intended to serve. Kyocera has long asserted that its monochrome products are among the best in the industry in terms of robust design and reliability. This assertion has actually proved true in BLI's lab testing: The 10 monochrome devices tested since 2007 ran nearly half a million pages combined with only five misfeeds and none of them required service.

Ease of Use

At the desktop, the models in the line are easy to use via the well-designed KX driver—combining PCL 5e/XL and PostScript 3 drivers—and the control panel. A clean design and intuitive menu structure makes walkup functionality simple. Ease of setup was rated very good for all models tested and driver installation is highly automated. KM Net for Direct Printing simplifies printing of multiple PDF files without opening the application.

Environmental

All models tested by BLI are ENERGY STAR-qualified and include standard automatic duplexing, which contributes to less paper waste. Users can conserve toner by using the toner-save mode in the driver. Because the ECOSYS models employ long-life drums, there's much less waste sent to the landfill compared with competitive models. In addition, users can recycle depleted cartridges through Kyocera's recycling program. BLI's environmental testing confirms the company's commitment to the environment, with the FS-4020DN honored with an "Outstanding Achievement" award for Energy Efficiency in Winter 2011.

Administration and Management

Kyocera's included utilities make the models in the line easy to manage on the network. KMnet Admin provides page counts and device status, and lets administrators configure alerts for groups of output devices—Kyocera and other vendors models alike—on the network. Administrators can also access detailed information on individual devices such as amount of toner remaining, configuration settings and event logs. An office map can be downloaded and icons representing each device can be dragged and dropped to its specific location, enabling faster response for technical support. Administrators can view device status of specific devices via Command Center, the embedded Web page, to handle administrative tasks, such as changing device settings, viewing device status and monitoring toner and paper supplies. The embedded Web page allows administrators to send e-mail alerts to three recipients for error conditions, including paper jam, cover open and add toner/paper.

The Bottom Line

While numerous factors affect overall TCO, not just acquisition price or supplies cost per page, Kyocera's monochrome printers simplify that equation for business users by offering a cost per page that is consistently lower than competitive products. While acquisition costs range from competitive to slightly higher than average, BLI test reports show that the supplies cost per page for the models tested by BLI scales from 40 to a whopping 80 percent lower than the average of comparable models tested.

"The bottom line is, when it comes to monochrome, businesses want robust, reliable devices that continue to perform—regardless of daily stresses," Sweetnam said. "The fact that Kyocera models get the job done and save money makes Kyocera Mita the obvious choice as our 'Monochrome Printer Line of the Year' winner."

We congratulate Kyocera on winning BLI's "2011 Monochrome Printer Line of the Year" award.

About BLI's Picks

Twice a year with its "Pick" awards, BLI gives special recognition in each category to those products that provided the most outstanding performances in BLI's exhaustive lab tests, and once each year, it acknowledges the vendors whose overall product lines are judged to be the best in their respective categories by virtue of their cumulative test results. In order for a vendor to be considered for "Line of the Year," products in each market segment must have been tested by BLI. In addition, the breadth of the vendors' product line is considered.

BLI's awards stand alone in that they are based on a rigorous battery of lab tests that takes approximately two months to complete and includes an extensive durability test, during which each unit is run at the manufacturer's maximum recommended volume. BLI's durability test is unique among office product evaluations and uniquely qualifies BLI to assess reliability, which is a critical factor for buyers and IT directors, given that virtually all of the products are designed for use on networks.

In addition to assessing reliability, in terms of the number of service calls and PM (preventive maintenance) calls required, as well as misfeed frequency, BLI's comprehensive evaluation includes an assessment of copy and print quality, productivity, ease of use and economy, as well as connectivity issues such as feedback to workstations, administrative utilities, print drivers, multitasking and scanning solutions. Each product that successfully passes BLI's lab test earns BLI's "Recommended" or "Highly Recommended" seal and a BLI "Certificate of Reliability" and qualifies as a "Pick" award contender. Consequently, a BLI "Pick" is a hard-earned award that buyers and IT directors can trust to better guide them in their acquisition decisions.

Buyers Laboratory Inc.

Michael Danziger
CEO

Mark Lerch
COO

Anthony F. Polifrone
Managing Director

Daria M. Hoffman
Managing Editor

Lynn Nannariello
Asst. Managing Editor

Jamie Bsales
Senior Product Editor, Solutions

George Mikolay
Senior Product Editor, A3/Copier MFPs

Marlene Orr
Senior Printer Analyst

Lisa Reider
Senior Product Editor,
Scanners and Environmental

Jennifer DeFeo
Associate Editor

Tracie Hines
Associate Editor

Carl Schell
Associate Editor

Marc Bussanich
Assistant Editor

Dmitry Sheynin
Research Editor

Pete Emory
Manager of
Laboratory Testing

Pia Beddiges
Manager of Competitive Services

Ken Nardone
Technical Manager, Field Testing

Anthony Marchesini
IT Director

T. R. Patrick
Art Director

20 Railroad Avenue ■ Hackensack, NJ 07601 ■ (201) 488-0404