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DOCUMENT IMAGING PRODUCTS 2005: **BLI'S PICKS OF THE YEAR**

Konica Minolta bizhub PRO 1050

*Outstanding Segment 6 Multifunctional Imaging System
Spring 2005*

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Without a doubt the most impressive Segment 6 multifunctional product ever tested by BLI, the 105-ppm Konica Minolta bizhub PRO 1050 has been awarded a Spring 2005 "Pick of the Year" for "Outstanding Segment 6 Multifunctional Imaging System." "This truly exceptional product offers everything that would be important to production environments," said Pete Emory, BLI's manager of lab testing. In addition to demonstrating strong reliability, misfeeding only eight times and requiring no service other than regularly scheduled preventive maintenance during its 1,500,000-impression test, the bizhub PRO 1050 also offers unparalleled productivity and paper-handling features.

Featuring standard copy, network print and scanning capabilities, the bizhub PRO 1050 (\$57,000) also proved to be the most productive of competitive models tested to date, holding the top position for overall print efficiency in both simplex and



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duplex modes, job stream print efficiency, simplex copy efficiency, document feeding efficiency and first-print times. Other strengths of this model include its excellent multitasking, excellent overall ease of use, excellent control over the job queue, and very good output quality in both print and copy modes.

Distinguished by a maximum manufacturer's rated monthly volume that's more than twice that of most competitive models in this speed range, "This sturdy workhorse extends Konica Minolta's reputation for highly reliable engines into Segment 6," said Pia Beddiges, BLI's manager of field testing. Also contributing to the bizhub PRO's suitability in production environments are exceptional paper-handling capabilities that include the highest maximum

paper capacity in its class, the ability to accommodate heavier weights from all of its the drawers than competitive models and extensive finishing options that include a saddle-stitch finisher that can fold and staple up to 50 sheets to produce 200-page booklets that can be trimmed with the included trimmer. Though the bizhub PRO 1050 tested in the lab was not configured with the booklet finisher, the finisher was found to offer excellent functionality in BLI's field test of the product.

Combining exceptional performance with exceptional value, the Konica Minolta bizhub PRO 1050 is highly recommended by BLI for use in production environments with monthly volumes of up to 750,000 impressions.

ABOUT BLI'S PICKS OF THE YEAR

Twice a year with its "Pick of the Year" awards, BLI gives special recognition in each category to those products that provided the most outstanding performances in BLI's exhaustive lab tests.

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 monthly 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 of the Year" is a hard-earned award that buyers and IT directors can trust to better guide them in their acquisition decisions.

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