

# Digital Imaging REVIEW

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

### Xerox FaxCentre F116

*Outstanding High-Volume Fax-Centric  
Multifunctional Imaging System, Spring 2005*

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Impressive print quality, reliability, good productivity and a first-rate feature set have earned the Xerox FaxCentre F116 a Spring 2005 BLI "Pick of the Year" award for "Outstanding High-Volume Fax-Centric Multifunctional Imaging System." "The Xerox FaxCentre F116 is an excellent overall performer that packs an abundance of features into a compact, easy-to-use unit," said Pete Emory, BLI's manager of laboratory testing. "This unit offers features that not only can help users to be more productive but also to keep their documents secure, which has become increasingly important in light of privacy regulations such as HIPAA." Security features provided by the FaxCentre F116 include 98 department codes, 31 mailboxes for confidential communications, a protected fax reception feature that prevents faxes from being printed until a code has been entered and the ability to lock the keyboard and other features that provide access to the device. Furthermore, the device offers a protected memory feature that holds faxes in memory indefinitely if power is interrupted.

A 16-ppm model geared to small and medium-size offices or workgroups in an enterprise environment, the FaxCentre F116, which received BLI's "Highly Recommended" rating, offers standard standalone faxing and convenience copying, as well as PC-based faxing, printing and scanning. The unit proved to be easy to use as a printer as tested using a direct connection to a PC via the standard USB interface (an Ethernet interface is available as an option) and the standard Windows GDI driver (PCL 6 and PostScript are available as an option). Scanning, via the standard TWAIN driver and bundled ScanSoft PaperPort Deluxe document management software (which incorporates OCR), was also easy.

Noteworthy is the FaxCentre F116's print output, which was rated "Very Good" or "Good" in all categories evalu-



**Xerox FaxCentre F116**

ated. Text and solids in copy mode were also rated "Good." Furthermore, the device's first-copy time and BLI-tested fax scanning speed are faster than those of most fax-centric models tested, while its first-print time is competitive.

The FaxCentre F116 offers a 33.6-Kbps modem with JBIG compression, 8 MB of memory (non-upgradable), more speed-dial destinations (526) than any other current fax-centric model, and the ability to automatically reduce a fax reception to fit the paper

loaded in the tray and print multiple copies of a fax automatically upon reception.

Priced lower (\$999) than all but a handful of competitive high-volume models, the FaxCentre F116 has a competitive cost per page.

Note: This model is available in two configurations—the FaxCentre F116 and F116L—that differ mainly in that the F116L provides a standard dual modem, which would allow simultaneous transmissions and/or receptions, effectively doubling capacity.

### **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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