# Xerox DocuColor 242

## Outstanding Critical Color MFP
## (51 to 60 ppm)

**BLI BUYERS LAB 2007 PICK**

The Xerox DocuColor 242 has earned a Fall 2007 BLI "Pick" for "Outstanding Critical Color MFP" in the 51- to 60-ppm speed range. The device, which features 2,400-x-2,400-dpi print resolution and utilizes Xerox's EA toner, demonstrated superior overall image quality in BLI's testing. In fact, the DocuColor 242 displayed higher-quality output when compared to most other color models tested to date, even in copy mode. Printed color output also remained extremely consistent over the course of the test.

The DocuColor 242, one of Xerox's "next-generation" DocuColors, offers rated speeds of 40 ppm in color and 55 ppm in black. The device's predecessors, the DocuColor 240 and DocuColor 250, earned Fall 2005 BLI "Picks." The DocuColor 242 is also based on an engine that produced 300,000 impressions in BLI's lab testing with no service required and only four misfeeds.

In addition to outstanding image quality and reliability, the DocuColor 242's customization capabilities are noteworthy. The unit can be targeted to mid- to large-size office environments looking for a color production unit and can also be targeted to color-intense markets that need higher-quality color, more color matching tools and use graphic arts software. Four print controllers are available in addition to the tested EFI Fiery System 8e controller. These include the Creo Spire Color server; the Xerox FreeFlow DocuSP controller; the EFI Fiery Bustled controller; and the EFI Splash RPX-ii Color server software, which works in conjunction with the EFI Fiery Bustled Network Color server to provide color management, document management and production management features for MAC users. An array of finishing options are available, including a professional finisher that V folds and saddle stitches up to 15 sheets to create 60-page booklets.

"This device's robust customization capabilities further extend to its control panel, as in addition to being able to specify the default screen, the administrator can customize the copy screen to hold up to 24 job services," said BLI Manager of Laboratory Testing Pete Emory.

Ease of use from the print drivers is very good as well. "Xerox's genuine Adobe PostScript 3 print driver with the tested EFI Fiery System 8e print controller has been modified to offer a graphical interface that is nearly identical to the layout of the PCL driver," said BLI Senior Associate Editor George Mikolay. "This is an extra step, and cost, that many competitive

vendors do not carry out." In addition, the print drivers feature paper and consumables supply gauges, and allow users to save the settings of frequently used jobs so that they can be applied to other jobs of the same type.

With a base price of $37,195, the DocuColor 242 is highly recommended by BLI for an optimum monthly volume of 36,500 impressions and for occasional peak usage at the manufacturer's monthly duty cycle of 200,000 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 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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**20 Railroad Avenue ■ Hackensack, NJ 07601 ■ (201) 488-0404**