Digital maging REVIEW

BLI HONORS FALL 2005 "PICKS OF THE YEAR"

XEROX WORKCENTRE M118i

Outstanding Segment 1 Multifunctional Imaging System Ledger Size, Fall 2005

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Buyers Lab has awarded a Fall 2005 "Pick" in the ledger-size category of Segment 1 to the Xerox WorkCentre M118i. Not only did this unit complete its 50,000-impression durability test without any service calls or even a single misfeed, but it also offers excellent print productivity, very good output quality and good ease of use—all for a price that's the lowest of comparably equipped competitive units. An 18-ppm model, which was tested with the optional duplex unit and RADF kit—features not always available for units in this range—the WorkCentre M118i (\$1,999) offers standard copy, network print and scan to e-mail capabilities.

"Awesome" is the word BLI Senior Test Technician Paul DePaolo used to describe the functionality offered by this model for the price. He noted, for example, that the unit's performance in BLI's job stream test, which measures the time it takes for the unit to print a series of typical office documents, is among the best for tested models in this range. In fact, its job stream print efficiency is nearly 20 percentage points higher than the average. The WorkCentre M118i also received high marks for the other network connectivity aspects of its performance, including its administrative utilities and well-designed print drivers.

Unlike competitive models, noted DePaolo, the WorkCentre M118i provides dedicated keys for many functions, eliminating the need for users to scroll through many menus to find the features they're looking for. "The





breadth of the text messages that Xerox has managed to pack onto the unit's LCD display to aid users in making selections is remarkable," said DePaolo. An excellent value in this range, the Xerox WorkCentre M118i is recommended by BLI for monthly volumes of up to 25,000 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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