



BUYERS LABORATORY INC.

Field Test Report

A Buyers Laboratory Document Imaging Device Assessment

Toshiba e-STUDIO162D
16 PPM Segment 1 Monochrome Device
 Copy • Print • Fax • Scan



Performance Ratings*

Click ratings for details. Click ▲ to return to ratings.

Overall Rating.....	★★★★★
Value.....	★★★★★
Ease of Use.....	★★★★★
Copy Productivity.....	★★★★
Print Productivity.....	★★★★
Image Quality.....	★★★★★
Multitasking.....	Lab Test Report Only
Utilities.....	Lab Test Report Only
Reliability.....	Lab Test Report Only
Feedback to Workstations.....	Lab Test Report Only
Toner Yield/Costs per Page.....	Lab Test Report Only

*Based upon a five-star rating system where five is the best.

Suggested retail price: \$1,695 base unit. (Complete specifications information for this unit, including pricing for accessories and options, is available through bliQ™, at www.buyerslab.com/bliq.)

Testing method: The unit's copy/print capabilities were tested using a Windows 2000 workstation with a crossover cable, the GA 1170 controller and the PCL 6 print driver (version 1.00). The crossover cable eliminates network traffic, allowing for optimal productivity of the unit.

Comparative Analysis

Positioned by Toshiba for small to medium-size workgroup environments, the Toshiba e-STUDIO162D offers standard copy with 32 MB of memory, and PC print and color scan functionality. When users add the optional Network Expansion kit, which offers 200 MHz of processing speed and 64 MB of memory (upgradeable to 320 MB), the unit is enabled with PCL 5e/6 network printing, full-color network scanning and Web-based device management. In addition, this 16-page-per-minute (ppm) unit offers optional fax capability with the Super G3 Fax kit, which offers a 33.6 Kbps modem and 2 MB of memory. The e-STUDIO162D is easy to use from the control panel and from the well-designed print drivers. Unlike some other units BLI has tested in this speed range, the e-STUDIO162D offers standard duplexing.

This product's image quality is competitive overall, except for the areas of black text in copy and print modes, and halftone levels in print mode, which were rated outstanding. Although the e-STUDIO162D unit's overall copy and print productivity is slower than average among competitive models, the e-STUDIO162D's duplex print efficiency and first-print times for two of the five test files are competitive. In addition, the features offered with the device include Scan Once Print Many (SOPM), which allows users to



For a copy of
 BLI's upcoming
 Toshiba
 e-STUDIO162D
 Lab Test Report,
 contact BLI at
 (201) 488-0404
info@buyerslab.com
www.buyerslab.com





scan an original once to make up to 99 copies of the original, as well as Electronic Sort and Offset Stacking, which help users organize multiple jobs as they output.

▲ Value Analysis (★★★★)

The e-STUDIO162D, configured as a copier/printer with PCL 6 printing and a reversing automatic document feeder (RADF), has a suggested retail price (SRP) that is among the lowest for competitive models available. BLI rates value by evaluating a unit's SRP in relation to its overall performance, paper handling, and user and service intervention (see Advantages/Shortcomings).

▲ Summary

Because of its exceptional price point, its ease of programming and competitive overall image quality, BLI gives the e-STUDIO162D an overall Field Tested Rating** of **Four Stars**.

Advantages

- Easy-to-use control panel, from its well-lit liquid crystal display (LCD) to its intuitive layout and clearly labeled hard keys.
- Well-designed PCL print driver with point-and-click graphical display.
- Duplexing capabilities.
- Excellent feedback to user via the Web Status Monitor utility.
- Color scanning, which is uncommon in this range.

Shortcomings

- Below-average overall copy and print productivity.
- More service intervention than some competitive models available due to the unit's below-average preventive maintenance (PM) schedule and drum life. More user intervention required due to its below-average toner yield and paper capacities.
- Does not allow users to reserve additional copy jobs while a copy or print job is in progress.

***Note: The data presented in this Field Test Report was obtained from testing performed by BLI outside of our 10,000 sq. ft. test lab. BLI's Lab Test Reports contain the results of BLI's extensive in-house testing for reliability, multitasking, toner yield/cost per page and performance of additional functions and on additional platforms. Please contact BLI (phone 201-488-0404, or e-mail info@buyerslab.com) for information regarding when the Lab Test Report for this product will be available.*

(This report has been reprinted with the written permission of Buyers Laboratory Inc.)

