

11th Annual Awards

2006

**BERTL's
BEST**



Most User-Friendly Scanning Solution **eCopy ScanStation OP**

Almost every MFP offers some form of scan to mail or file. The new challenge is handling complex workflows where the MFP is an on-ramp to back end applications. eCopy ScanStation OP shines in this area, converting the MFP experience into an extension of the application. As a result, ScanStation OP has been honored with the 2006 BERTL's Best Award for the Most User-Friendly Scanning Solution.

2006

Ease-of-use is a key consideration for businesses looking to convert the MFP into an on-ramp to back-end software applications. While new solutions are opening doors to integration with software workflow systems, the ease of use through the interface at the MFP is often limited.

eCopy's ScanStation OP, with its Open Platform architecture, integrates with almost all mainline MFP vendors. eCopy ScanStation OP includes eCopy ShareScan OP software, and an ergonomically-designed touch panel, hard button QWERTY keyboard, and PC.

Since unveiling its new Open Platform approach at the inaugural eCopy Paper Connections forum in Miami in 2005, eCopy has announced a plethora of new software connectors

that provide direct, real-time integration to enterprise applications. These include Microsoft SharePoint, FileNet, Hyland OnBase, Questys, LaserFiche, Westbrook Fortis, and Worldox.

In addition, ScanStation OP provides connectors to market-leading document management applications, email delivery systems, cost recovery tools, OCR engines, and network fax server applications.

While these application connectors may steal the limelight, eCopy ScanStation OP also offers a Quick Connect capability. This allows administrators to design a custom template that can be used to create a scan workflow for any back end application. The template can be designed with all the

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required file creation and metadata tagging steps, so that when the hardcopy document is scanned into the application, the data can be successfully filed with no additional human intervention.

The key to eCopy's success is the user experience, which is designed to create a mirror image of familiar desktop practices that users are trained on.

How Does It Work?

The user first chooses the task from the touch panel at the MFP. They are then presented with an (optional) authentication login page, where—just like a desktop user—the walk-up user identifies himself prior to access being granted to the back end business application. This authentication also provides the audit capability so important in today's corporate society due to the requirements of government legislation like Sarbanes-Oxley, HIPAA, and Gramm Leach Bliley.

Once granted access to the system, the user can carry out activities the same way as they would from the desktop. Scan settings including resolution, file type, conversion into searchable PDF files, and metadata filing information, etc., can all be added at this stage using either the touch screen interface or the hard key QWERTY keyboard. This keyboard alone is a critical element, providing fast data entry capabilities, rather than the cumbersome QWERTY feature built into the smaller MFP touch screens found in MFP solutions.

Users get one last benefit of the eCopy color touch screen interface before committing a job, namely the ability to preview the scan image before committing the file. If the user is not satisfied with the image quality, they can cancel the job and go back a stage, making amendments to the scan phase utilizing image enhancement features. This ensures that the on-going workflow process is not plagued by inefficiencies and high human intervention rates.

This preview, like the user interface and hard key QWERTY keyboard, focuses on the user experience, ensuring that human intervention time is kept to a minimum, raising staff productivity.

The Core Architecture

The brains in the background of the system are a trio of inter-related components: ShareScan OP Client, ShareScan OP



The touch screen visually leads users through a variety of operations.

Services Manager, and ShareScan OP Administration software. All three components run on the eCopy ScanStation OP. The Client provides the interface for the user. The Services Manager handles image processing and other CPU intensive operations. The Administration software provides the ability to manage MFP profiles, for example, the buttons offered on the ScanStation OP at this local device and other devices on the network.

Also included is eCopy Desktop, a Windows application that lets users treat scanned documents just like paper files. eCopy Desktop works with Microsoft Exchange/Outlook, Lotus Notes, GroupWise, or any MAPI-compliant email system. It is fully PDF compliant and lets users mark up scanned documents using an annotation toolkit (stamp, highlight, add text, or underline), convert the image data to text, and email, fax, or save the document in an enterprise application.

While some other workflow applications may offer as much or more workflow functionality, none matches up to the overall end user experience that eCopy brings to the table with ScanStation OP. This is why it has earned itself the prestigious 2006 BERTL's Best Award for the Most User-Friendly Scanning Solution.

Spotlight on eCopy

Since its founding in 1992, eCopy Inc. has provided open and flexible solutions that rapidly integrate paper-based information into existing business processes and applications. eCopy software is used across industries, including legal, healthcare, financial services, manufacturing, and government, changing the way businesses access, modify, distribute, and share information.

eCopy provides simple, easy-to-use solutions for turning any paper document into a digital file that can be used like any other electronic document. Leveraging the existing networked copier or office scanner, eCopy software is a convenient departmental and enterprise solution for creating electronic versions of paper documents, allowing users to distribute them easily and at virtually no cost via email, fax, and content management systems.

The eCopy corporate statement notes, "We recognize that wide adoption of a technology is the key to that technology's success. That's why we focus our developmental efforts on interfaces that are easy to use, so client companies can immediately reap the benefits of our solutions. eCopy applications were conceived of, and designed by, technology pioneers who believe deeply in bridging the gap between the digital and paper worlds."

In April, 2005, eCopy announced new manufacturer and channel partnerships, expanding beyond a Canon-exclusive relationship to add Gestetner, HP, Konica Minolta, Lanier, Ricoh, Savin, Sharp, and Toshiba.

BERTL's Best Office Awards

Recognizing the Best in Digital Imaging Technology and Innovation

For 11 consecutive years, BERTL has recognized the best devices and software in the digital imaging marketplace with BERTL's Best awards. Winners are selected after rigorous analysis of the hundreds of digital imaging devices, software, and management utilities in the world-wide marketplace.

This year, the awards are presented in three segments.

Office Awards	Spring, 2006
Software and Solutions Awards	Dates to be announced
Production Awards	Dates to be announced

BERTL's Best Office awards honor digital imaging and document management solutions for business offices of all sizes and vertical sectors. Imaging solutions covered by these office awards include:

Digital Duplicators	General Office Monochrome
Executive Office MFPs	Innovation Awards
General Office Color	Software and Utilities

BERTL's analysts review current product lines and new product introductions to identify the select group of devices and software that stand apart from the others.

Overall business process value is the key consideration in judging which product is BERTL's Best. BERTL analysts take the role of the end user and ask: "How well does this product work in my real-world business setting?"

BERTL combines its wide-ranging knowledge of the competitive landscape and contact with buyers about their product and supplier experiences to identify worthy products. BERTL analyzes network management utilities, concurrency and contention, print and copy productivity, image quality, return on investment, competitive advantage, accessibility, design and build quality, standard functions, modularity of design and upgrade path, installation, and more.

BERTL is 100 percent independent. It receives no funding from the industry and all product evaluations and reports are published at BERTL's own expense for its subscribers.

BERTL publishes the world's largest library of business competitive intelligence for the digital imaging market at www.BERTL.com.