BUYERS LABORATORY INC.

First Look

A BLI New Product Brief

Toshiba e-STUDIO205 20 PPM Copy • Print • Scan • Fax



Features:

- MSRP: \$3,095
- Std/max paper capacity: 350/1,700 sheets
- Max monthly duty cycle: 20,000 impressions
- TWAIN scanning
- Electronic sorting
- Windows GDI printing

Noteworthy:

- Ledger-size copying and printing
- Coin Controller
- Toner recycling system
- Starter toner kit
- ID card copy
- Long PM interval

Watch for BLI's upcoming Lab Test Report on this product for thorough, hands-on analysis.

Target Market

Like its sister model, the e-STUDI0165, the e-STUDI0205 is available with optional network connectivity and is targeted at users in small businesses, executive offices and small workgroups. While still offering local printing and scanning like the non-networked e-STUDI0163 (which will remain in the line), "the e-STUDI0205 is intended not only for users making the transition from analog copying to digital copying, but for users looking to upgrade to a true multifunctional product," said Andrew Kim, product brand manager for Toshiba America Business Solutions (TABS). Kim noted that the unit "offers exceptional image quality, up to ledger-size paper capabilities, and digital technology to increase office performance while delivering outstanding cost efficiency." He also said that the unit can be placed in convenience stores because of its Coin Controller feature and paper handling options. After purchasing the harness option for the Coin Controller, these types of businesses can offer document copying as a revenue-generating service to their customers.

Competitors

Kim told BLI that the unit competes against the Canon imageRUNNER 2020, Konica Minolta bizhub 200, Ricoh Aficio 2020 and Kyocera KM-2050. Other competitors include the Sharp AR-M207 IMAGER and Xerox CopyCentre C20/WorkCentre M20i.

WHAT'S NEW

Supported by a 333-MHz processor and 128 MB of network print memory, the e-STUDIO205 is designed on a foundation of Toshiba's e-BRIDGE technology, offering the multifunctional advantages found in Toshiba's higher-segment models. The standard Top Access Web-based utility allows users and administrators to access information about the e-STUDIO205 over the Internet. For example, users can view certain conditions of the unit, such as available paper sources and quantities. In addition, users can view the total meter count for copy, print, scan and fax jobs completed at the unit. TopAccess also allows administrators to configure device settings; display the job logs for print, scan and fax; and download client software. TopAccess can be used in Microsoft, UNIX and Macintosh operating system environments, as the unit has support for Mac OS 8.6, 9.x, 10.x. Whereas the predecessor model offered eSort as an option, it is offered standard on the e-STUDIO205, enabling users to collate sets. In addition, users in doctors' offices, for example, can use the ID card copy feature to make copies of both sides of a patient's insurance card on a single page. Further, users place single-

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sided originals through the document feeder to produce output in magazine format using the Magazine Sort function. In addition, the unit's paper capacity is significantly higher than that of its predecessor— at 1,700 sheets, up from 600 sheets—with users able to draw paper from up to five paper sources.

FEATURES

Providing ledger-size copy and print capability, the e-STUDIO205 has a warm-up time of 25 seconds and copies at 20 ppm with a first-copy time of 7.7 seconds. In addition, the unit features a Windows GDI print driver and TWAIN scanning that enables users to print and scan from their PCs via the unit's USB port (see "Options" for network printing). Users place a document in the ADF, RADF or on the glass, and then launch the bundled Toshiba Viewer software program on the PC to scan the document to the desktop. The unit comes standard with one 250-sheet paper drawer and a 100-sheet bypass tray. Standard memory is 48 MB, upgradeable to 112 MB. The scan once/print many feature allows users to scan an original once to make up to 999 copies of the original, and department codes restrict unauthorized users from making copies. In addition, when the unit is connected to the network, the e-BRIDGE Viewer application speeds the search for documents. It enables broad searching among all selected data stored on a PC and allows users to narrow search criteria by application, folder and date. Further, the Coin Controller feature enables businesses to deploy the unit for public copying.

Kim noted that while Segment 1 models typically have a PM cycle of 25,000 to 50,000 impressions, the PM cycle of the e-STUDIO205 is identical to that of Toshiba models in Segment 2 and 3, making it an almost maintenance-free product. Indeed, since preventive maintenance is not necessary until 90,000 impressions, users producing 4,000 copies per month, which is what TABS expects for a unit in this range, would not require service for almost two years. In addition, the e-STUDIO205 uses separate toner, drum and developer cartridges, thereby eliminating the premature disposal of the drum, which commonly occurs with units that use an all-in-one print cartridge. Also noteworthy is that the unit features 100 percent toner recycling so there's no waste toner to dispose of, minimizing environmental impact and reducing downtime. While the standard toner cartridge yields 24,000 impressions, a starter toner kit that comes with the unit produces up to 5,900 impressions.

OPTIONS

Options for the e-STUDIO205 include a platen cover, duplexing unit, 100-sheet ADF or RADF, a second 250-sheet paper drawer, a 550-sheet paper feed pedestal and a fourth 550-sheet drawer. Also available is a 64-MB memory upgrade; a network print kit that includes a 333-MHz Power PC 750 CXr controller and PCL 5e/6 and PostScript 3 print drivers; a network scan kit that includes TWAIN scanning and scan to file, e-mail, FTP and SMB folders; a fax kit that offers walk-up, PC and Internet faxing; and the Coin Controller Harness.

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