

SCANNERS

Entry level DuoScan T1200 added to TwinPlate family

Agfa has now added the DuoScan T1200, a starter model to its family of dual purpose flatbed scanners.

Like the other members of the TwinPlate family, the DuoScan T1200

scans either reflectives or transparencies through its two-tiered bed system, to a maximum size of 8.5 x 14" (8 x 10" for transparencies). Maximum density is 3.0; image capture is 36-bit color and 600 x 1200 ppi optical resolution; maximum output resolution is 2400 ppi for color, 3600 ppi for line art. Agfa also offers an optional batch

slide holder kit. The T1200 includes Agfa's FotoLook color software and Caere's OmniPage LE OCR software.

Pricing on Agfa's DuoScan T1200 is \$1,099. The PC version is available now, while the Mac version ships in October. Visit Agfa's web site at [www.agfahome.com](http://www.agfahome.com) or call 1-800-268-1331, extension 4032.

WORKFLOW SYSTEMS

Fujifilm plots comprehensive approach to production with new Valiano workflow solution

At IPEX '98 Fujifilm introduced *Valiano*, a total digital workflow solution designed to expedite ROOM (RIP Once Output Many) and PDF workflow technologies. *Valiano* incorporates automated job tickets, image replacement, proofing, trapping, queuing, data management, imposition, interpretation and screening.

*Valiano* consists of modular elements linked by open architecture to allow compatibility and integration with other equipment and systems and enabling customers to build a system in stages, adding new elements as their business requirements change. It runs under Windows NT, but can interface with servers running other operating systems.

By allocating a job ticket, *Valiano* enables the user to simply create and manage productive workflows that match production needs.

Key components and features are:

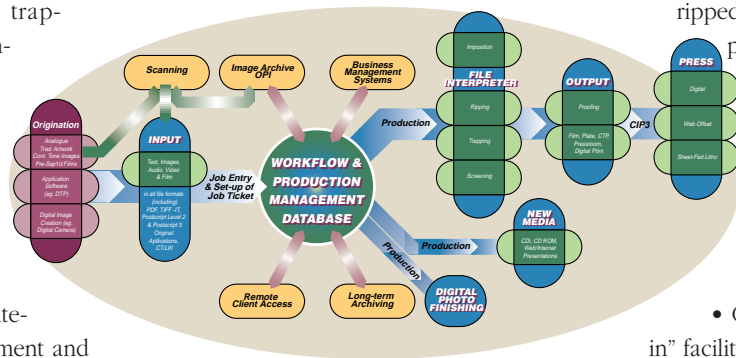
- File tracking and management. Windows NT workflow management system running a server application interfacing to an SQL database and a number of client applications running on PCs or Macs
- Searchable database. Automated cataloguing and management of elements on one or more NT file servers
- Production tracking. Status levels for elements in a job and for the job itself, with automatic logging of time spent on tasks
- Management reports. Optional report generator for analyzing workflow and productivity
- Job costing. The ability to enter estimated and actual time spent for each component of a job
- Multimedia workflow. Accepts any type of file, including sound and movie elements
- Automatic in-RIP trapping. A wide range of trapping pro-

files can be created and shared, and proofing profiles produced as required

- Interactive pre-RIP trapping. Object-based traps can be previewed and edited before pages are ripped, permitting different trapping parameters for individual objects within a page
- Post-RIP imposition. Supports major imposition packages such as *Preps* and *PressWise*.
- OPI integration. A "plug in" facility supports OPI servers
- Internet integration. Optional image database application interfacing to an SQL database allowing for image management, browsing and the downloading of images via Internet or Intranet using standard browser software.

- ROOM implementation. Jobs are ripped once and can be output to a variety of different devices; the same ripped page file is used for imposition and is output without re-ripping
- Single page workflow. Enables late changes without re-ripping the whole job; job can be repurposed to new imposition layout or different output device
- Full file preflighting. Editable preflighting available to all Mac workstations
- Screening on-the-fly. Done on final output of the imposed job, allowing last minute changes
- Unlimited Macintosh clients. Any number of Macs can have client software running at no extra cost; allows efficient checking and editing of trapping, soft proofing and hard proofing
- CIP 3 support
- DCS 2.0 support

For additional details, call Fuji Graphic Systems Canada at (905) 612-9111 or check the website at [www.fgsc.ca](http://www.fgsc.ca).



MONITORS

19" USB-connected MB90 new from ViewSonic

ViewSonic Corporation has expanded its MultiMedia Series with the 19" (18.0" viewable) MB90. The new model incorporates a USB hub, letting users operate their system while simultaneously using additional peripheral devices, such as a second keyboard, joystick or digital camera, and offers a super-fine 0.26mm dot pitch, 204MHz video bandwidth, and a 30 to 95kHz horizontal scanning range to display a maximum resolution of 1,280 x 1,024 at 88Hz.

Viewsonic's release says that the MB90 incorporates state-of-the-art Nakamichi acoustic technology, along with a built-in microphone, two integrated front-firing five-watt speakers and a 10-watt subwoofer housed in the monitor's base to ensure excellent sound quality. Users can adjust bass, treble and audio volume via on-screen controls with an option to add a second subwoofer through the rear port.

The MB90 19" Viewsonic monitor is priced at \$1,049.

Call Viewsonic Canada at (905) 709-9774 or visit [www.viewsonic.com](http://www.viewsonic.com) to find out more.

REMOVABLE STORAGE Pricing on Iomega Jaz 2 drives drops to \$599

Iomega Corporation has announced that it has lowered the price of both its external and internal Jaz 2GB drives by \$150 to an estimated street price of \$599 for either.

Equipped with dual-capacity, Jaz 2GB has the ability to read and write both Jaz 1GB and 2GB disks. Iomega's top of the line storage products operate at a maximum sustained transfer rate of 8.7 megabytes (MB) per second — fast enough to run applications or deliver full-screen, full-motion video. For additional details, surf to [www.iomega.com](http://www.iomega.com).

ACQUISITIONS

MediaBank DAM software sold to Inso for \$12 million

At Seybold San Francisco, Bitstream announced that it had sold its digital asset management system, *MediaBank*, to Web content management system provider Inso in return for a package worth \$12 million. Inso says it will accelerate support for the prepress market and will integrate thirty Bitstream employees into its Boston office.

According to reports, Bitstream made the decision to sell based at least in part on its inability to continue financing development of *MediaBank* and *PageFlex*, its custom publishing client server application.

ONE-TO-ONE MARKETING Scitex ships personalization software for Quark

Scitex has announced the release of *Darwin Desktop 2.0*, a Macintosh application for authoring and printing variable data jobs through *QuarkXPress*. Features include:

- efficient final page composition, as pictures are spooled and ripped once, then inserted into personalized documents on the fly;
- a new built-in database, making *Darwin Desktop* a standalone application, and compatible with *QuarkXPress 4*
- the ability to submit print jobs to any standard PostScript printer

Users design pages in any Mac or PC application and import data into *QuarkXPress*. The database built into *Darwin Desktop* acts as a placeholder for the variable information elements. Users can preview assembled variable data documents on the screen before submitting the job to print.

*Darwin Desktop* starts at \$995 (US) for the single-user package (\$3995 for the five-user package); the software can be purchased through The Xerox Connection (TXC).

For more info, visit [www.scitex.com](http://www.scitex.com).

STUDIO

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DIGITAL GRAPHIC DESIGN & TRAINING

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DESIGN

Corporate Identity  
Web Sites  
Advertising

Original Art  
Various Media  
Photo Retouch  
Photo Imaging




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Courses and workshops  
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## TABLETS

## Wacom shows off new intelligent Intuos graphics system

Wacom's new Intuos intelligent graphics tablet system, shown for the first time at Seybold San Francisco, will encompass a new line of five graphics tablets and four input devices with previously unavailable capabilities. The system offers more pressure levels, improved pressure response, flexible two-handed input, device rotation, on-screen pop-up menus, navigational zip areas, and device memory.

Intuos' input tools include 4D Mouse, a pressure-sensitive ambidextrous mouse; Intuos Airbrush, a digital airbrush equipped with both a pressure-sensitive pen tip for controlling height, and a pressure-sensitive finger-wheel for simultaneously controlling ink flow; the Intuos Pen and Tablets, featuring 1,024 levels of pressure and a new 9 x 12" size; and the Intuos Lens Cursor, the first with a rotating crosshair lens.

Another Intuos innovation is Tool ID, a unique identifying digital code embedded in all Intuos tools for recognition by software, allowing artists to work as they do in a traditional art environment, selecting different color-coded pens to function as a pencil or chalk or oilbrush.

Tool ID also allows multiple users who share a single workstation to customize their own input tools. The workstation and application will switch automatically to each user's preferences.

Through the new Intuos DualTrack feature, two tools can even be used at once: a 4D Mouse can be held in one hand to orient an object in 3D space while the other paints it with the Intuos Pen.

Prices for the Intuos tablets will start at around \$200 (US) for a 4 x 5" tablet. Check [www.wacom.com](http://www.wacom.com) for details.

## MONITORS

## First digital ViewPanel with pivot capabilities

In November, ViewSonic Corporation will introduce its first digital flat panel display — the 15" LCD display VPD150 — featuring a resolution of 1,024 x 768 and portrait/landscape functionality through PerfectPortrait software. Only three inches deep and weighing just 15 pounds, this is the first monitor to support the new digital standards developed by the Digital Flat Panel (DFP) Initiative.

By using a MDR-20 pin PanelLink video connector, the VPD150 does not encounter the signal impurities or degraded image quality caused by the traditional digital, to analog, to digital conversion process.

The VPD150 will retail (without graphics card) for \$1,539 CDN, and is compatible with DFP equipped PCs. Viewsonic Canada is at (905) 709-9774 or check [www.viewsonic.com](http://www.viewsonic.com).

## WORKFLOW SOFTWARE

## DoubleCheck for PDF and PostScript preflighting

At Seybold, Enfocus Software demonstrated *DoubleCheck* (formerly known as *Ferrari*), an application and core technology promising correct document output in client-to-service provider PDF and PostScript workflows.

*DoubleCheck* will be available in November for Windows 98/95/NT and MacOS at \$995 (US), including one server and multiple clients.

Enfocus says that *DoubleCheck* will:

- provide quality assurance for client-to-service provider print workflows
- allow creators to verify documents before submission
- make PDF and PostScript files production-ready by checking and correcting errors
- generate comprehensive preflight and correction reports

*DoubleCheck* verifies documents before they leave the creator, and then auto-corrects them on arrival at the production site, regardless of originating application or platform. Creators utilize rules, or profiles, as defined by the service provider to check the status of their files. Printers, by setting these "rules" (profiles) for their workflows, allow creators to utilize the client verification module to receive files that are compliant with their particular workflow. *DoubleCheck* shifts preflighting away from the service provider and back to the document originators, who are in a better position to make the necessary corrections to the file.

*DoubleCheck* supports PostScript Level 2, EPS, PDF, and OPI. Contact Enfocus through its website at [www.enfocus.com](http://www.enfocus.com), telephone (303) 393-7282.

In a related announcement, Agfa announced that it will bundle *PitStop*, Enfocus' visual PDF editor, and *CheckUp*, for PDF editing and preflighting, with Apogee Pilot, the Apogee PDF production system's front-end component.

## WORKFLOW SOFTWARE

## MarkzScout offers user-definable rules for native document checking and routing

Markzware Software introduced *MarkzScout* prepress workflow automation software at Seybold, the first product created from its new MarkzONE development engine.

*MarkzScout* examines job elements in native documents and separates the files appropriately within any prepress workflow system (Scitex Brisque and Agfa Apogee included). It processes documents created from *QuarkXPress*, *PageMaker*, *FreeHand*, *Illustrator*, *FrameMaker*, and *Multi-Ad Creator*, or in PDF, EPS, TIFF, JPEG, HTML and XML file formats.

For example, with a folder of 1,000 images requiring separation into RGB and CMYK images, *MarkzScout* locates the RGB files and moves them to a designated work folder, at which time RGB images can be converted to CMYK and re-submitted back into the workflow.

*MarkzScout* comes pre-configured with a set of over 300 ready-to-use rules to check for prepress errors, including use of RGB colors, missing fonts, and incorrect image resolutions. Specific custom rules can also be created based on simple text scripting.

*MarkzScout* for Windows and Windows NT is due out in October, with a Macintosh version soon to follow, pricing to be announced. Visit [www.markzware.com](http://www.markzware.com) for more information.

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THE  
SHADOW  
KNOWS...

Now that Adobe has cleaned house (dumping 300) and fought off Quark, wonder what will happen to Adobe Seattle?...Another one bites the dust as Herzig-Somerville goes to Schawk (but how does this fit with Schawk's other Toronto holding, Batten Graphics?)...and another, as Laird Group shuts down...Is this a publishing phenomenon? The Starr Report breaks all records for Internet hits and half a dozen paperbacks are printed and in the stores one week later. Goes to show that there's public interest in graphic communication \*s\*...Spotted in the press room at Seybold, PUBLISH publisher Gene Gable, offering passing scribes a choice of buttons: one that said I'm Betting on Adobe, the other reading I'm Betting on Quark...Almost two years after the release of Acrobat 3, Quark is finally offering a beta version of an XTension ([www.quark.com/xtensions/xtquark-xts\\_40.html](http://www.quark.com/xtensions/xtquark-xts_40.html)) which imports PDFs into QuarkXPress at...Meanwhile get set for \*sigh\* XPress revision number 4, due any time...Iterated Systems claimed that 80% of attendees polled at Seybold couldn't distinguish the difference between printed samples of Iterated's 38MB Sting-compressed file and the original 214MB version...hmmm...does that say more about the compression technology or the printing?...Microsoft says it has shipped out over 270,000 copies of Windows NT 5.0 Beta 2. Did you get one? I didn't... Hmmm...wonder if there's any truth to grapevine rumblings that DAX founders are losing their equity due to failure to meet projections?...Virus notice: Stock Illustration Source recently sent out a whack o' promo CDs for its latest collection Nostalgia... seems this disc is reminiscent of the old AutoStart bug, so if you have one, better check if it's from the first batch or the replacement...

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