Backgrounder

Minolta's New Top-of-the-Line Film Scanner:
The DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO

The new Minolta DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO film scanner is designed to produce clear, high-resolution scans and detailed color reproduction with fast, easy operation.

Key Features

4,800 dpi scanning

The new Minolta DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO film scanner is equipped with 4,800 dpi optical resolution for 35mm. With a pixel count of more than 33-million, an A3-size output can retain a resolution of more than 400 dpi. Medium format film also can have a 4,800 dpi interpolated resolution for up to 6 x 9cm high-resolution, clear and crisp images with more than 169 million pixels and a 600 dpi. The scanner's core component, a 7,260-pixel, 3-line color CCD, is enhanced by the inclusion of a dual focus-length lens system. The result: photographers can produce files suitable for fine exhibition-quality output with the DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO.

16-bit A/D Conversion

The new DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO provides users with rich tonal gradation from its 16-bit A/D conversion which enables it to differentiate 65,536 gradations on each of its RGB channels – sixteen times the amount detectable by 12-bit scanners, such as the Scan Multi PRO's predecessor, the Dimâge Scan Multi II. The results are highly detailed images with accurate color reproduction. The 4.8 dynamic range ensures shadows and highlight details are retained and the 16-bit output preserves the details of the original scan.

Digital ICE[3 TM] Technology

The new DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO features Applied Science Fiction [TM]'s (ASF [TM]) Digital ICE[3] (pronounced Digital ICE "cubed") image enhancing technology for automatic image correction and restoration. Digital ICE[3] is the combination of three digital enhancement tools: Digital ICE[TM] (Image Correction and Enhancement), Digital ROC[TM] (Reconstruction of Color) and Digital GEM[TM] (Grain Equalization and Management). With easy-to-use settings, Digital ICE[3] eliminates scratches on photographic film or slides, restores faded colors and improves on a photograph's overall appearance by minimizing grain, quickly and automatically during the scanning process. This trio of image processing tools can be selected individually or in combination. Digital ICE[3] is applicable to color film only and is not recommended for use with Kodachrome film.

Color Matching System

When working with the data from one image, even on multiple monitors sometimes in different operating environments, it's important to retain the same color reproduction. The Minolta DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO's Color Matching capability offers sRGB, Apple RGB, SMPTEC-C, PAL/SECAM and other color space settings so the images on one monitor will display the same

color on another. In combination with photo-retouching applications featuring color management systems, scanned images retain virtually the same colors when used with different monitors and operating systems.

Multi-Format Capability
Supported film types include 35mm (slides and negatives) and 120/220 medium-format films (slides and negatives). An optional Multi Format Set is also available for various, special-size film formats such as 16mm film, Minox, Transmission Electron Microscope film, microfilm in aperture cards and 24 x 65 mm panorama film.

Rapid Data Transfer
With its high speed, dual interface of Ultra SCSI and IEEE1394 "FireWire", Minolta's DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO allows users increased productivity with rapid scanning of high resolution images with the supplied cables.

Easy-to-Handle Film Holders
The new DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO features a Universal Holder for glass-less and with glass scanning. This film scanner also features a Slide Mount Holder that functions as a four-slide batch-scanning holder as well as a one-slide holder. This film scanner is also capable of batch scanning up to six frames in a strip of 35mm film with the 35mm Film Holder.

Intuitive, user-friendly software
The DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO offers more functions with new driver software delivered as a Photoshop Plug-in for Macintosh, TWAIN for Windows and as a stand-alone utility for both platforms.

Minolta's new autofocusing system quickly focuses on the center of the image and produces razor-sharp scans. The Point AF mode is able to focus accurately on any point in the film area. Images can also be manually focused or defocused using a slider bar.

Image processing gives additional control over image sharpness. If the original film image is soft, edges and details can be sharpened using the new unsharp mask, which produces subtle, yet striking, micro-image edge enhancement without effecting smooth gradations. Multi-sample scanning delivers virtually noise-free images, giving smooth and natural results for up to 16 samples.

The DIMAGE Scan Multi PRO automatically adjusts to the density range of scanned negatives to optimize the reproduction. For example, negatives with a large density range, such as pictures with backlit subjects, are controlled so that the highlight area retains detail rather than being washed out. Color images with a dominant color are analyzed to preserve the original appearance of the scene. The autoexposure (AE) Area Lock allows users to adjust exposure of the film by selecting an area on the image to calculate a new exposure.

During correction, images can be temporarily saved with a click of the Snapshot icon. Users compare changes made by viewing thumbnails and choose the best result.

Color tools allow flexible correction with RGB Color Balance or the Hue, Saturation and Lightness Correction palette. The tone curve and histogram is laid out in one window for quick and easy access. Fine adjustments can be made to a specific color on the Selective Color Correction palette.

The DiMAGE Scan Multi PRO's Custom Wizard automates the whole scanning procedure for a simplified scan setting process. The Custom Wizard can start the pre-scan, crop the image to the holder frame, apply Digital ICE^3, activate the Image Correction Job function, carry out the final scanning and eject the holder.

Additional include:
- Auto Crop
- Selectable pre-scan image size
- Zoom pre-scan
- Side-by-side comparison between original and corrected images
- Image Correction Job function saves a specific correction setting to be applied to other images
- Tab partitions and graphic function buttons for quick and easy access

Specifications are subject to change without notice.
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