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# THE SCAN-TO-FILE GUIDE

- Document scanners from 20 to 100 pages per minute
- Imaging software & storage
- Updated for 2005



# **Better Buys** for Business

### The Nation's Leading Independent **Buyer's Guide for Office Equipment**

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## PANASONI

#### Panasonic KV-S3065CL Panasonic KV-S3065CW

Simplex speed: 67ppm Duplex speed: 125ipm

(Speed at 200dpi, portrait mode, B&W)

Simplex speed: 75ppm Duplex speed: 142ipm

(Speed at 150dpi, portrait mode, color)

Sum-up: Speedy, feature-rich scanners midrange price.

These two models differ in that the KV-S3065CL (the L is for "legal") accepts originals up to legal size, whereas the KV-S3065CW (the W is for "wide") can feed documents up to ledger size. Each has a 300sheet document feeder. Essentially, you pay \$1,000 extra for ledger-size scanning, which also allows you to scan standard letter-size pages in landscape mode.

These durable stainless-steel models replaced the KV-S2065L and KV-S2065W, which had similar features but were monochrome-only. Panasonic, like other vendors, now supplies color scanning in all of its models.

The models can run at up to 75ppm simplex in fast mode, where scans are initially processed at a lower resolution (150dpi), then interpolated to a higher resolution by software. This technology is suitable for most users when scanning clear, easily readable documents. As with some other models in the Panasonic product line, these scanners can run in "long paper mode" when processing long documents. Panasonic claims they can handle documents up to 182 feet long! (This may include such documents as plotter readouts used in geological testing.) They also come with Panasonic's strong PIE advanced image enhancement technology as a standard feature.

These new machines are very speedy for the price range and are well suited to high-productivity scanning. As an example, the 300-sheet-capacity document feeder is especially strong for this level of the market. We are impressed as well by Panasonic's 10,000-page daily duty cycle for these machines.

A prescan and postscan imprinter/endorser is available as well. Ultrasonic double-feed detection is a plus, as is the scanners' ability to automatically recognize color versus black-and-white documents, saving space-consuming color scanning for those pages that need it only. In addition, you can easily switch to either a white or black reference, to calibrate your scan for driver requirements and to improve automatic cropping of documents. Panasonic also offers kits for easy user replacement of rollers.

The machines also offer standard color dropout and provide a wide range of scanning resolutions. Panasonic offers a "multicolor" dropout option as well, so the operator can specify any other background color to be ignored by the scanner, allowing for better OCR accuracy with some forms. You can also multistream scanned output, so you get a bitonal file for text capture and a color file for archiving on the same scan. JPEG, TIF, and PDF file output are supported. Blank page removal, which will save file

space, especially on duplex scans, is also supported.

Both of these are very good midrange scanners, though we have a slight preference for the greater flexibility of the KV-S3065CW. But both models are great additions to the Panasonic lineup. They get our Editor's Choice Award

#### Panasonic KV-S3085C

Simplex speed: 90ppm Duplex speed: 170ipm

(Speed at 200dpi, portrait mode, B&W) Simplex speed: 110ppm (optional) Duplex speed: 170ipm (optional) (Speed at 150dpi, portrait mode, color)



Sum-up: Speedy, feature-rich scanner at a midrange

The KV-S3085C is similar in many ways to the KV-S3065CW, as another ledger-size duplex scanner. Obviously, it is faster, with a base speed (black-andwhite, simplex) of 90ppm, which is almost half again faster than the KV-S3065CW. It is also unique in the Panasonic product line in that it is a black-and-white scanner that can be upgraded to color. The list price of the upgrade kit is \$7,195. Of course, you may want simply to buy the full-color KV-S3105C, a faster version of the same scanner that has color scanning standard.

The features of the KV-S3085C are guite strong. The document feeder can hold up to 1,000 sheets. (There is no platen.) Like other Panasonic scanners, it can handle long documents, which are continuously fed and divided into separate files by the scanner software.

Color dropout is standard. Multicolor dropout, by which a user can designate to have the scanner omit colors other than primary ones, is optional. An imprinter/endorser unit is also optional. Standard SCSI and USB ports come with the scanner. Strong imaging software is standard as well, including unusual ones such as multistreaming and color/monochrome page detection. Ultrasonic double-feed detection is a solid plus.

You can read the description of the KV-S3065CW (above) to get a fuller listing of these features.

In two places besides speed, the KV-S3085C separates itself from slower Panasonic models. It has a generous 1,000-sheet document feeder, three times the size of other Panasonic products, which is among the largest in this guide. It also has a duty cycle that Panasonic documents as unlimited. Obviously, no machine allows for truly unlimited use, but Panasonic is declaring that this machine is such a workhorse that you can use it continuously without failure. Naturally, the rollers will have to be replaced after much use, but that is something that users can do themselves.

This is a heavy-duty winner, and it deserves our Editor's Choice award. You may also want to look at the KV-S3105C.

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## **Editor's Choice Reprint**

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