



## Lab Test Report

A Comprehensive Keypoint Intelligence Laboratory Evaluation

# KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci\*

35 ppm Monochrome/35 ppm Color | Print • Copy • Scan • Fax



● Reliability	10
● Value	9.5
● Apps/Onboard Tools	Not Rated
● Image Quality	8.5
Print Quality	9.0
Copy Quality	7.0
● Usability	8.0
Serviceability/Management	7.5
Walk-up Experience	8.0
Workstation Experience	8.5
● Mobility	Not Rated
● Security	9.0
● Specifications	7.5
● Speed	7.5
Print Speed	7.0
Scan Speed	9.5
Copy Speed	7.0
● Power Consumption	Not Tested

JANUARY  
2020

## OUR TAKE

The KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci performed extremely well in Buyers Lab’s extensive lab test evaluation, proving to be a highly reliable product and a strong choice overall. The device’s reliability is based on the performance of a similar engine which experienced only one misfeed over the course of its 125,000-impression durability assessment. When also taking into consideration its extremely high rated yields for drums, downtime will rarely if ever be an issue. Print and copy quality was extremely effective as well, especially in colour. Moreover, device’s top-flight colour consistency ensures dependable colour output quality through-and-through. The device’s control panel lacks the slide/swipe navigation seen more and more frequently among competing devices, as well as simple scan and copy menus to simplify selection of commonly-used functions. In addition, the scan and copy previews are somewhat limited compared to some of its peers. Still, usability was found to be very good overall. The control panel was intuitive and easy to navigate, and also supports user-by-user customization, shortcut keys, and up to 50 job programs to streamline workflows. The TASKalfa 3553ci is also HyPAS-enabled, allowing for seamless integration of customized workflow solutions to streamline complex tasks, reduce costs, and enhance security. Standard WiFi-Direct and NFC and support for Apple AirPrint®, Google Cloud Print®, and Kyocera Mobile Print® let users quickly and easily print from mobile devices. A low SRP and very strong feature set solidify the unit’s outstanding value. A large QWERTY keypad and fast scan speeds make programming and delivery of scan destinations easy and fast, not to mention the smaller-than-average compressed file size of scanned colour documents helps optimize the device’s storage space. Tested copy speeds were faster than the times of other competing devices for both short- and long-run jobs. The device also exhibited fast job stream print speed in black, a Buyers Lab test procedure that incorporates a mixed suite of job types to simulate real-world print environments. Based on its performance, Buyers Lab would highly recommend the KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci for small to midsize workgroups.

## KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci Fast Facts\*

<b>SRP/Street Price</b>	\$11,832
<b>Max Monthly Duty Cycle</b>	175,000 impressions
<b>Manufacturer’s Recommended Monthly Volume</b>	Info not avail
<b>Rated Speed</b>	35 ppm color/35 ppm black
<b>Std Paper Source(s)</b>	Dual drawer
<b>Std Paper Capacity</b>	1,000 sheets
<b>Paper Weights</b>	14-lb bond to 166-lb index
<b>Bypass/Paper Weights</b>	150-sheet/14-lb bond to 166-lb index
<b>Max Paper Capacity</b>	7,150 sheets
<b>System Memory (Std/Max)</b>	4-GB RAM/8-GB RAM
<b>Document Feeder/ Capacity</b>	Opt RADF, DSPF and DSPF/140/270/270 originals
<b>PDL/PCL</b>	PCL 5c/6/XL, PostScript 3, PRESCRIBE, XPS
<b>HDD (Std/Max)</b>	320-GB
<b>Scanner Technology/ Speed</b>	CCD/80 ipm color, 80 ipm black; 100 ipm color, 100 ipm black; 120 ipm color, 120 ipm black
<b>* At time of publication</b>	

**Test Duration:** Two months, including a 125,000-impression and 12,500-scan durability test.

The scores herein represent Excellent (9–10), Very Good (7–8.5), Good (4–6.5), Fair (1.5–3.5) and Poor (0–1).

\*Reliability, image quality, and scan productivity results are based on the performance of the KYOCERA TASKalfa 3253ci, which uses the same engine.

Please visit [www.buyerslab.com/bliQ](http://www.buyerslab.com/bliQ) for more information.

## BENEFITS

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- Maximize uptime thanks to outstanding reliability and very high yields for components such as drum and developer
- Low price and above-average feature set make for an excellent value proposition
- High quality output that meets the needs of general office environments and more marketing-intensive environments
- Easy to use web user interface, detailed feedback, and ease of misfeed removal simplify administrator and service tasks
- Ensure unique settings are one click away via the driver's Quick Print tab, which enables users to create and save custom profiles as graphical icons
- Streamline scan and copy workflows with user by user control panel customization, shortcut keys, and up to 50 job programs
- Print from anywhere with mobile printing support for both Android and Apple devices
- Take advantage of KYOCERA's HyPAS Platform to connect to specialized and embedded applications
- Conveniently switch between PCL and PostScript for different job types from within the KX driver

## ADVANTAGES

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- Heavy paper weight support increases media flexibility
- Above average document feeder capacity (if 270-sheet DSPF is chosen when configured)
- Above average maximum paper and bypass tray capacities mean less time spent having to refill paper
- Fast job stream time in black among peers
- Scan speeds were the fastest or among the fastest tested to date among peers
- Compressed file size of scanned media is smaller than average
- Faster-than-average long- and short-run copy job speeds in black
- Superb gamut volume and stability when outputting color documents
- Faster-than-average speeds when copying two-sided documents in color

## LIMITATIONS

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- No support for alternate simple scan or copy menus
- Scan and copy previews do not support page deletion or onscreen editing
- Unable to store extensions nor save domains as one-touch keys to the scan display
- Only quantity can be modified for jobs in queue

- Slow output when printing Microsoft Word documents, as well as short-run duplex copy jobs
- No digital signature for job tracking; no support for MAC filtering for security
- Below average maximum hard drive capacity means less available storage space
- Below average toner yields

## RELIABILITY

10

- The KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci is based on an engine that experienced just one minor misfeed over the course of its 125,000-impression test.

Impressions Printed	125,000 impressions
Scanned Pages	12,500 scans
Misfeeds	1
Misfeed Rate	1/125,000
Service Calls	0

## VALUE

9.5

- Considering its outstanding reliability assessment, very good usability, and impressive image quality, combined with a robust feature set and a purchase price that is much lower than the competitive average, the KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci presents an excellent value.

## APPS/ONBOARD TOOLS

Not Rated

- KYOCERA's HyPAS Platform offers both Java-based and Web Services-based software development kits. According to KYOCERA, this approach provides a more open and flexible developer environment, which enables integration with systems that are already implemented in a customer's enterprise. DocuWare Connector serves as a bi-directional bridge between HyPAS-enabled and capable MFPs, and DocuWare on-premises and cloud-based enterprise content management systems.
- AccuSender, powered by Biscom, allows users to scan and send documents quickly to and from their KYOCERA MFP using Biscom Secure File Transfer, email, or fax. KYOCERA notes that the solution is well-suited

for organizations operating in the legal, financial, healthcare, and government segments, as they often send large files and are subject to tight security and privacy regulations.

- CentraQ and CentraQ Pro enable businesses to control data and printing costs while enhancing worker productivity. Users can release print jobs from any compatible device on the network. The solutions also support QR code release functionality. The Pro edition of the solution also offers six detailed reports, including device usage, individual user usage, device ranking, and more.
- DMConnect and DMConnect Pro enhance the benefits of a document management system by transforming KYOCERA MFPs into on-ramps for routing documents into any folder in an organization’s DMS, allowing users to store, retrieve, and share files quickly, easily, and securely. In testing it was easy for administrators to develop, deploy, and maintain workflows, and even easier for end-users to use the system for their capture routing needs.
- PinPoint Scan 3 allows for scanning from the MFP to a PC with added speed, functionality, and versatility. Users can scan to a series of preconfigured destinations after entering a PIN, and all data is encrypted to protect sensitive information. The application easily allows end-users to create their own PIN and personalized scan destinations. It also requires minimal involvement on the part of IT staff.
- Teaching Assistant enables automated creation, printing, and grading of multiple-choice exams using popular bubble-sheet forms right from supported MFPs, with no need for client PC or server software.
- Microsoft connector allows users to access documents from SharePoint on-Premise, Exchange on-Premise, and Office 365 directly from the MFP’s control panel.

## IMAGE QUALITY

**8.5**

	Print Mode	Copy Mode
Color Photographic Images	Very Good	Good
Color Business Graphics	Very Good	Very Good
Text	Excellent	Very Good
Line Art	Excellent	Very Good
Halftone Pattern	Excellent	Very Good
Halftone Range	Excellent	Very Good
Solids	Very Good	Very Good

## PRINT QUALITY

9.0

- Above average sharpness and background reproduction in business graphics, but saturation not bright enough; Katun Yellow appears dark
- While flesh tones were slightly reddish, color photos exhibited above average smoothness and detail; above-average color halftone range
- Dark, sharp and fully formed text, with no signs of breakup under magnification
- Distinct fine lines, with consistent thickness, smooth circles and diagonal lines, with no evidence of breakup or stair-stepping, though some toner overspray was evident under magnification
- Distinct separation between all greyscale levels and smooth dot-fill with minimal banding
- Dark solids, with minimal mottling visible

### Print Density

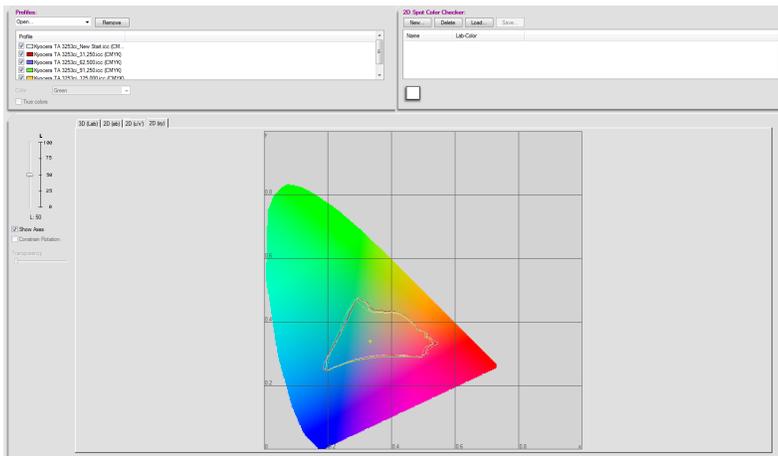
	Tested Device	Competitive Average
Black	1.45	1.47
Cyan	1.21	1.11
Magenta	1.12	1.19
Yellow	0.94	0.90

Density of a printed image with blocks of all solid colors, based on the average of two readings each for cyan, magenta and yellow, and four different locations on the output for black. The higher the reading, the darker the image.

### Gamut Variance Readings

Test Point	DELTA E	DELTA E (2000)	RATING
31,250	2.04	1.54	Excellent
62,500	1.94	1.38	Excellent
91,250	2.70	2.05	Very Good
125,000	2.03	1.58	Excellent
Average Buyers Lab Rating =			Excellent

The above chart/graph represents the change in the device's (overall) color gamut, taken at four specific points during the evaluation. Each test point is compared to the starting point and the Delta E measurement represents how far the device's color has changed over time. The higher the number/measurement, the more significant the change.



## Visible Halftone Range

**KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci**

Halftone output was visible from the 10% to 100% dot-fill levels, with distinct transitions between all levels.

The halftone range test original consists of 10 blocks of increasing dot-fill levels (10 to 100%, in 10% increments).



## COPY QUALITY

7.0

- Bright saturation, with above average background reproduction; above average production of pastel shades
- Slightly reddish flesh tones for color photos; above average color halftone range
- Dark, fully formed characters, though curves were slightly jagged
- Distinct fine lines, with consistent line thickness, though an average amount of stair-stepping and toner overspray were evident
- Distinct separation between levels over the entire range of greyscale; halftone patterns were slightly grainy
- Dark solids, with minimal mottling

### Copy Density

	Original	Tested Model	Competitive Average
Black	1.61	1.41	1.50
Cyan	1.52	1.20	1.27
Magenta	1.45	1.12	1.22
Yellow	1.03	0.91	1.64

Density of a printed image with blocks of all solid colors, based on the average of two readings each for black, cyan, magenta and yellow, corresponding to two different locations on the output. The higher the reading, the darker the image

### Visible Halftone Range

KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci	Halftone output was visible from the 15% (which is the minimum coverage area on the original) to 100% dot-fill levels, with distinct transitions between all levels.
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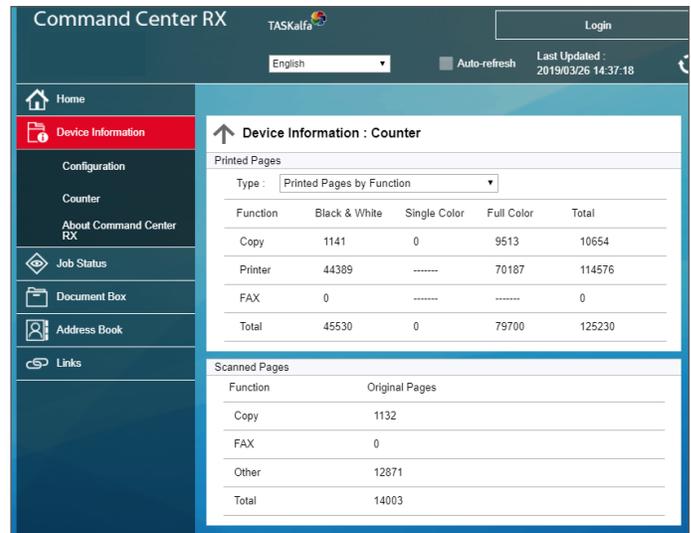
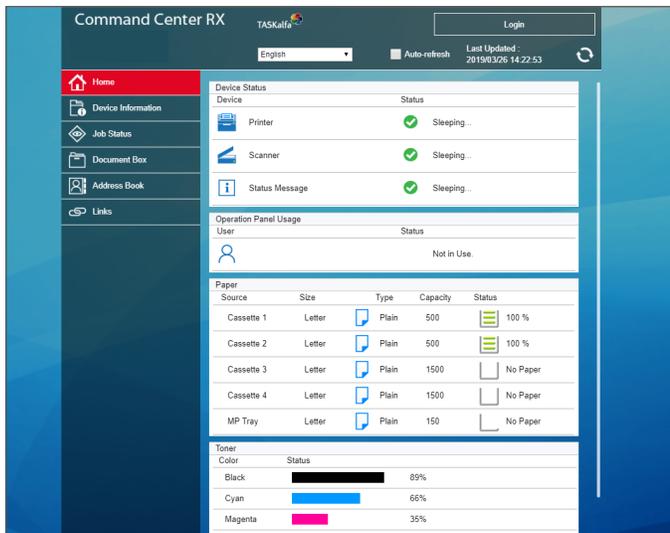
The halftone range test original consists of eight blocks of increasing dot-fill levels (15%, 29%, 53%, 77%, 83%, 91%, 95%, 100%).

## USABILITY 8.0

## SERVICEABILITY/MANAGEMENT 7.5

- Drivers can be installed simultaneously with each other and the feedback utility, and no user intervention is required for the configuration of accessories.
- The install utility also has built-in test-page printing, but drivers cannot be pushed out to multiple PCs during install.
- Browsing when adding a network scan to folder is available from the control panel, as well as LDAP support for programming destinations remotely KYOCERA Fleet Services (KFS) is a web-based service that streamlines remote fleet maintenance. The cloud-hosted solution enables administrators to view device status and easily identify and execute high-level maintenance tasks from anywhere, thus reducing service costs by circumventing on-site visits from technicians. It also includes a Remote Panel feature that allows administrators to remotely access the end users' operation panel to assist in navigation without a technician on site.
- The web user interface, Command Center RX, is logically organized and easy to use.
- Unlike with some competitors, a built-in search function to quickly find device settings and administrative tasks is not supported. Administrators also cannot create a shortcut when on a tab or settings page frequently used.

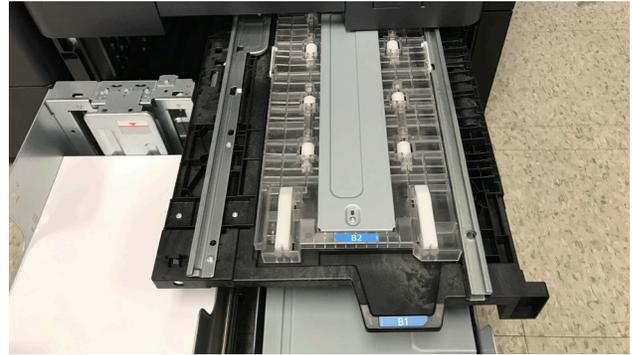
- KYOCERA Net Viewer enables device discovery and management of Kyocera hardware on the network. Administrators can sort devices by name or IP address and specify which information is shown on monitored devices. KYOCERA Net Viewer also allows administrators to create groups of products based on reporting or error notification requirements. Within a “report group” an administrator can receive reports via e-mail outlining a variety of device statistics, including printed page volumes and consumables levels, at defined time intervals. While Net Viewer does not support remote access to the device’s service mode, it does provide access to the embedded web utility, where firmware can be upgraded from. Remote drive installation is not supported.
- The rated color and black drum yields of the TASKalfa 3553ci are higher than the average of competitive systems, reducing the amount of scheduled maintenance calls when compared to competitors.



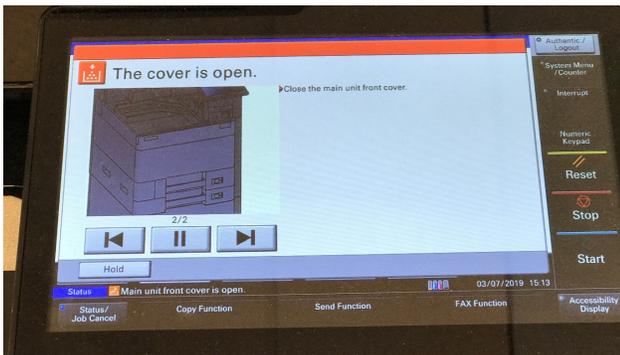
The main screen of the web user interface, Command Center RX, includes notifications and gauges on the status of the device including device state, and paper drawers and consumables in percent increments. Common job defaults can be set for print, scan, and copy. Administrators can also customize the Home screen and taskbar, as well as the scan and copy menus from Command Center RX. Print, scan, and copy usage can be restricted and tracked by user and group. Detailed job history lists are provided for print, scan, and copy jobs, but cannot be exported. Optional remote operation allows an administrator to operate the control panel from a PC and interact virtually across networks.



Both length and width guides slide in sync when adjusting paper size in the drawers and have blue locking tabs for easy view. The drawers also feature easy-to-see limit indicators for standard paper, envelopes, and small sizes. The soft close drawers make for no slamming of cassettes, and also pull out far enough for easy access in case of misfeed.



Misfeed areas are easily identified inside the machine with blue labels and numbers.



Users are also presented with an animated video to help clear misfeeds; users can let the video play or scroll through using the arrows at the control panel.



The process for replacing toner is simple and clean. Only when the container is empty will the device notify the user to open the front panel and make the replacement, helping to prevent premature replacement of toner. Guidance at the control panel is extensive and includes text, graphics, animation, and video.



The black toner bottle can be reused as a waste toner bottle. Simply remove the black toner bottle when it is empty, rotate the bottle, and insert the bottle into the waste toner slot.

### Consumable Rated Yields

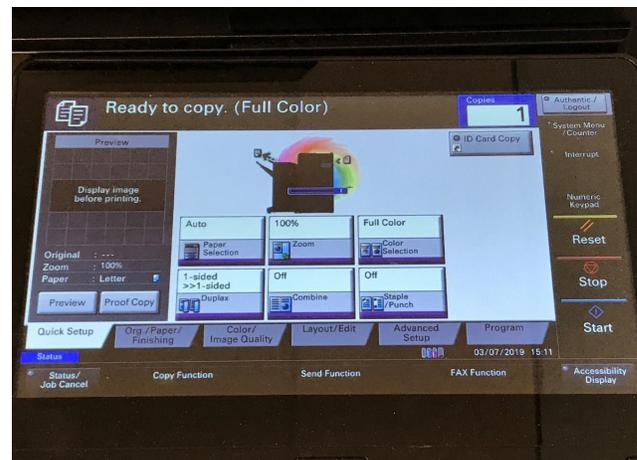
USER- REPLACEABLE	Competitive Average	Tested Model
Black Toner	36,674.19	30,000.00
Color Toner	26,112.90	20,000.00
Black Photoconductor	191,461.53	600,00.00
Color Photoconductor	153,769.23	600,000.00
Black Developer	917,500.00	600,000.00
Color Developer	917,500.00	600,000.00

## ▲ WALK-UP EXPERIENCE

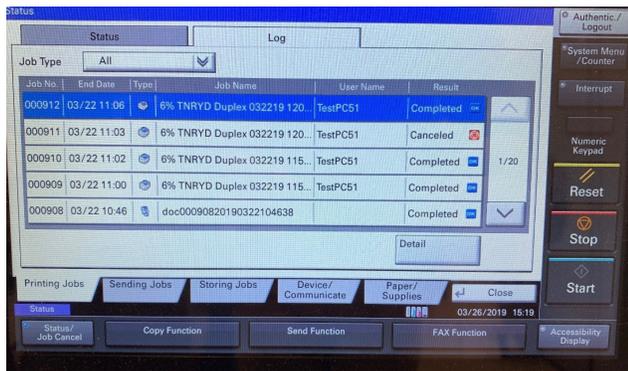
8.0

- The 10.1-inch control panel has been redesigned to be entirely touch outside of the Home hard key and is fully tiltable. The screen is also bright in default settings and is adjustable in one of five increments. However, slide/swipe navigation is not yet supported, and would further simplify the usability of the control panel.
- The Help button on the device tool bar is robust, listing three pages of explanations of basic operations, six pages of functions, and one page of trouble shooting skills. However, the information is not context sensitive for specific functions.
- The Home screen and taskbar can be customized on a user by user basis with authentication. Functions can be added and removed, and relocated, though the functions available are somewhat limited.
- The scan and copy menus can also be customized on a user by user basis.
- The system does not support simple scan or copy interfaces, but both screens can be enlarged for the visually impaired.

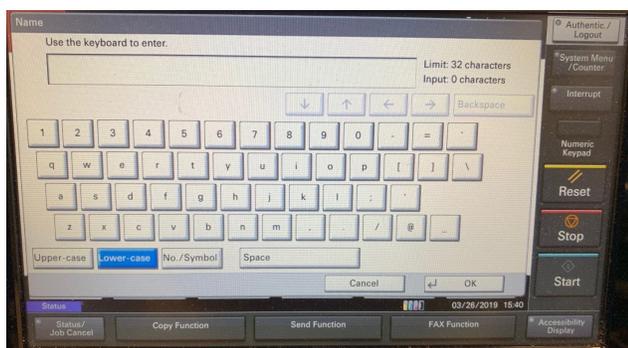
- Scan preview allows users to enlarge the view, navigate through pages, and move images around, but does not support page deletion or onscreen editing. There is also no support for slide/swipe navigation through pages.
- Blank page removal and color drop-out mode are both supported.
- Up to four LDAP servers are supported and destination addresses entered manually at the control panel can be added to the device-resident address book on the fly by end-users. Multiple destination types can also be stored into a one-touch address book entry, but users must first set up a group entry.
- The USB port is located on the right side of the control panel, and would be more visible if placed on the front of the panel. The USB menu does auto-populate when a USB device is inserted into the port, whereas some other systems require users to navigate through several menus to locate USB capabilities. In addition to support for encrypted PDF, users can name files, store them into subfolders, and create folders from the device. Scan preview is not supported when scanning to USB.
- Job build for scanning and copying is robust, with support for mix pages from the platen and document feeder, mixed-size original feeding, mixplex changes between batches, and image quality changes between batches. Users can change additional settings in between scanned pages, including duplex, resolution, bleed-thru, and skip blank pages. Staple can only be selected when starting the job build once the first image is scanned, users cannot go back and have the job stapled.



Navigating the control panel interface is simple and intuitive overall. Most commonly used scan and copy functions are selectable from each menu's first screen, helping to maximize efficiency. In addition, users can easily navigate to the scan or copy menus without having to return to the Home screen. The scan and copy menus can also be customized on a user by user basis by adding up to six shortcuts for functions that can be found under the System Menu button on the Home screen taskbar. In addition, up to 50 job programs can be saved within the scan or copy menus, or even on the Home screen, to streamline workflow of commonly run jobs.



Users can view all print, scan, and copy jobs in a single list, or they can choose to view only specific types of jobs. The number of originals and numbers of sets in a job are listed, as are jobs that are complete and incomplete. The queue displays the total number of sets in a job, but not the time until job completion. Jobs can be promoted to the top or one slot at a time for maximum flexibility. However, jobs cannot be modified beyond quantity.



The electronic QWERTY keypad appears when a search key is selected, or when entering an email destination from the scan screen. The keypad is large, and the keys are comfortably spaced. Dedicated "@" and "." keys are provided on the main screen, but the ability to store extensions (.com, .net) is not supported, nor are typical domains (@gmail.com, @yahoo.com). A subject and three body templates can be stored. A hard keyboard is available as an option.

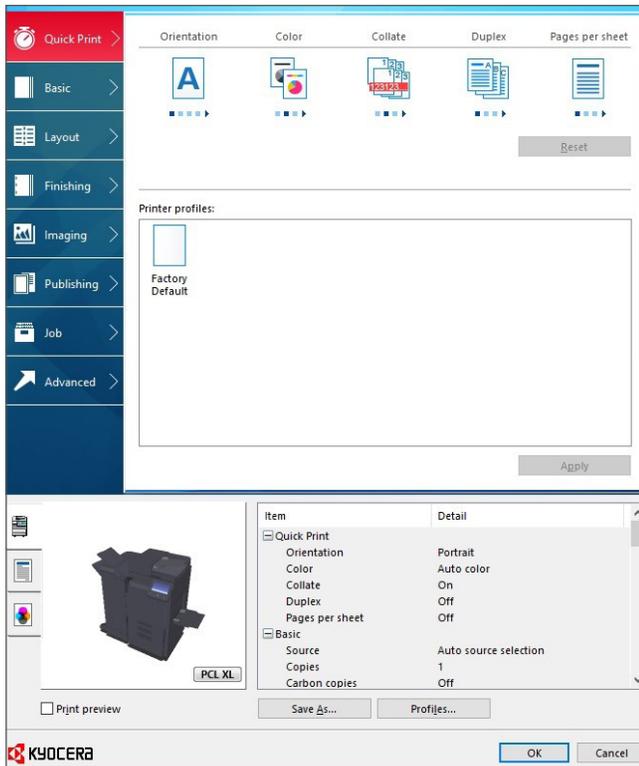


## WORKSTATION EXPERIENCE

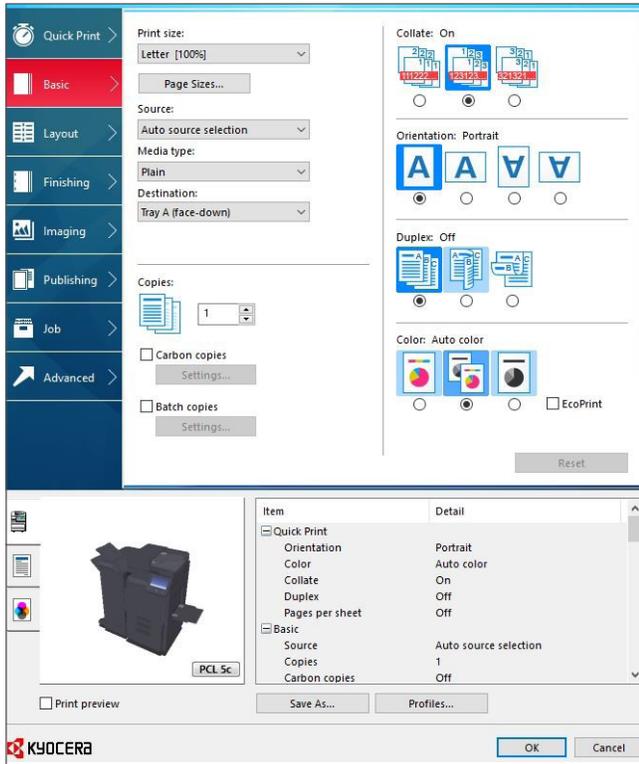
8.5

- Streamline complex workflows via the Quick Print tab.
- Easily switch between PCL and PostScript drivers for different job types, whereas competitors typically require users to have to go through printer properties in order to switch between drivers.
- Direct print capabilities are robust and include support for PDF, JPEG, TIFF, DOC, XLS, and PPT formats, as well as the ability to output multiple jobs and sets, change quantity, change simplex/duplex, select paper size and source, apply corner stapling, and create profiles.
- Secure print procedures are intuitive, and username and filename can be changed via the Custom Name function; however, any user can delete a secure print job.
- Highly detailed consumables status and highly customizable email alerts are supported from the embedded web server for conditions including add paper, add toner, cover open, paper jam, low toner, almost full waste toner box, and all other errors.
- The driver includes Eco Print (reduces the amount of toner used) and Print Preview (provides on-screen preview of every page of the job, along with the ability to zoom in and cancel the job). However, no changes can be made to the document from the preview function.

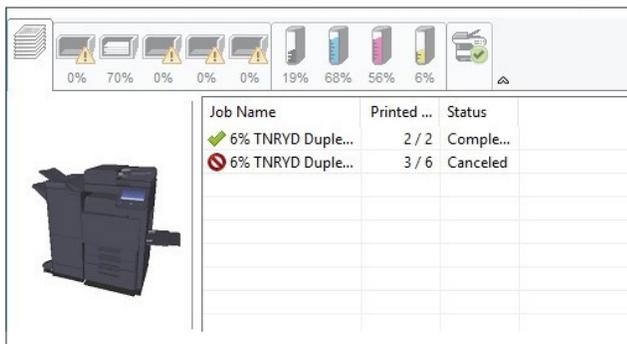
- Any driver settings that are not compatible are grayed out and not selectable, whereas some competitors allow users to scroll over the grayed out settings with their mouse and receive a pop up on how to get the setting to work.
- The Batch Copies feature separates copies of a print job into different batches by enabling the user to select the number of copies in each batch. Users can name each batch printing job and save its settings for future use. A storage device must be installed or RAM disk enabled in order for this feature to be used.
- An optional EFI Fiery print controller is available for more graphics-intensive environments; the EFI Fiery controller features a 2.9-GHz processor and a 500-GB SATA hard drive. Capabilities include standard spot colors, and optional Fiery Hot Folders, Fiery Impose, and Fiery Compose.



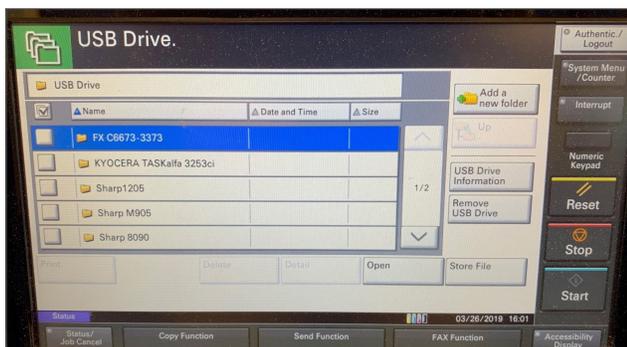
While an entire tab of the driver cannot be customized, users can save custom profiles that are stored as graphical icons via the Quick Print tab to allow programming of complex jobs in one click. Users can click on the Save As button on any of the tabs to save currently selected settings, name the new profile, and add a description for storage on the Quick Print tab.



Most typical print job settings are selectable from the Basic tab, including paper type and source, duplex, EcoPrint On/Off, quantity, and collate sets, although finishing selections such as stapling are programmable from the Finishing tab.



When the user sends a print job a pop up box appears showing all the paper trays and amounts of paper available in each drawer in percent increments, toner remaining in percent increments, and jobs in the print queue. Print job completion and deletion are supported. However, if the user closes out the pop up box during the print process, print job completion and/or deletion will not reappear.



The print from USB menu is automatically populated, with support for PDF, JPEG, and TIFF formats. Users can also change settings for quantity, simplex/duplex, color/mono, and paper size and source. Users can also navigate and print from sub-folders. However, file preview did not function.

## MOBILITY

**Not Rated**

The device provides standard WiFi-Direct and NFC support for Android mobile devices. The optional IB-51 for wireless LAN interface extends communication distance to 328.1 feet. Mobile printing is also supported via Apple AirPrint, Google Cloud Print, and Kyocera Mobile Print.

## SECURITY

**9.0**

- Standard secure print, encrypted secure print, encrypted scanning, and encrypted USB scanning
- Standard hard drive overwrite and encryption
- Optional ID card authentication
- Administrators can limit or restrict access to color printing, the control panel, and the USB port
- No support for digital signature
- No support for MAC filtering

## SPECIFICATIONS

**7.5**

- Above average maximum paper capacity and heavy paper weight mean less time spent refilling paper, and increased media flexibility
- Above average bypass tray capacity
- Below average hard drive space means less storage on the device
- Optional 270-sheet duplex single pass feeder supports multi-feed detection to minimize risk of misfeeds and scans at 120 ipm
- Paper handling options include a dual 500-sheet paper drawer, a dual 1,500-sheet paper drawer, and a 3,000-sheet side large capacity tray (8.5" x 11"/A4)
- Optional 4,000-sheet finisher allows for more complex jobs and can be configured with an optional hole punch unit, optional 7-bin mailbox (100 sheets per bin), and optional booklet/tri-fold unit; 500-sheet internal finisher and 1,000-sheet finisher also supported

**SPEED**

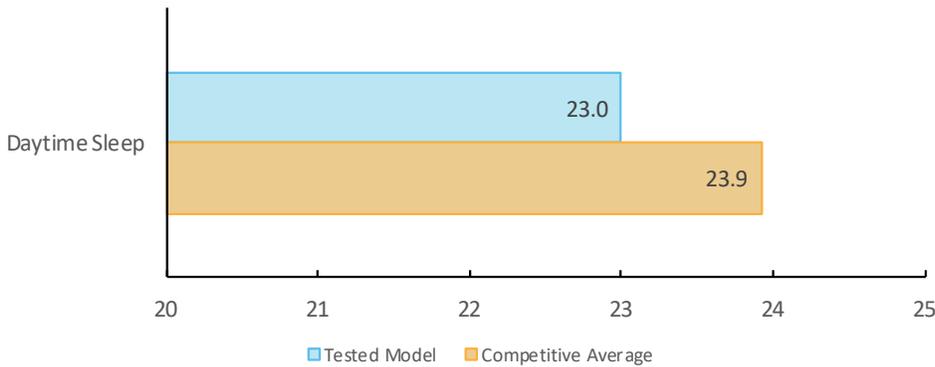
7.5

**PRINT SPEED**

7.0

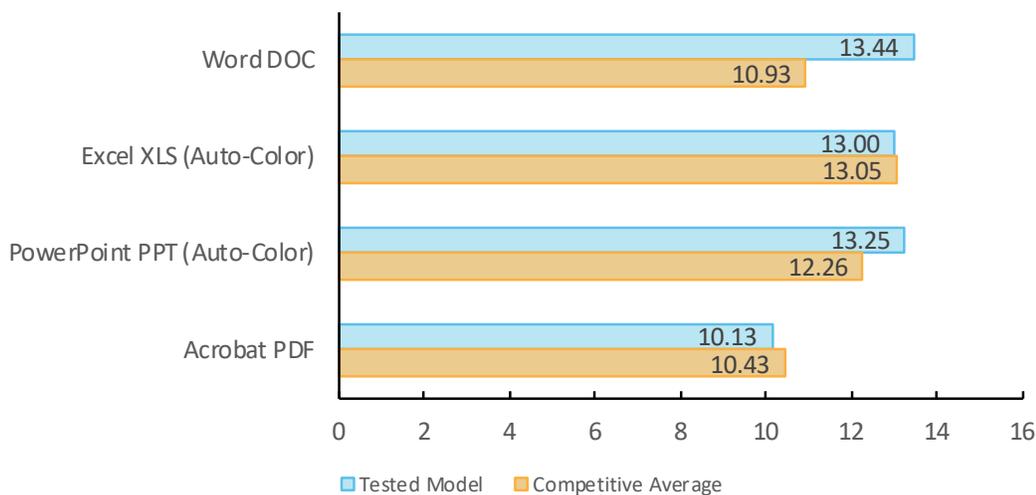
First-print times were slow compared to the average when printing Word file formats. However, long- and short-run job speeds were faster than the competition in most tests. The device's output speed in black job stream testing was faster than average, meaning the device can expediently handle various types of workflows throughout the day.

**Recovery Times (in Seconds)**



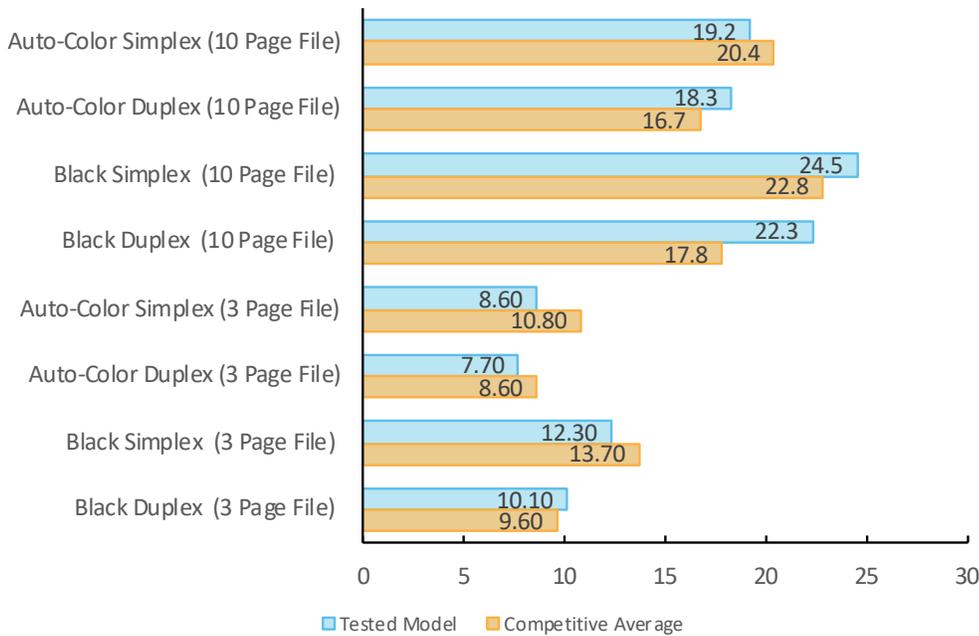
Recovery time in seconds indicates the time it took to warm up, process the image and deliver a single-page test document to the output tray. The unit was tested with the PCL driver.

**First-Page Print Time From Ready Mode by File Type (in Seconds)**



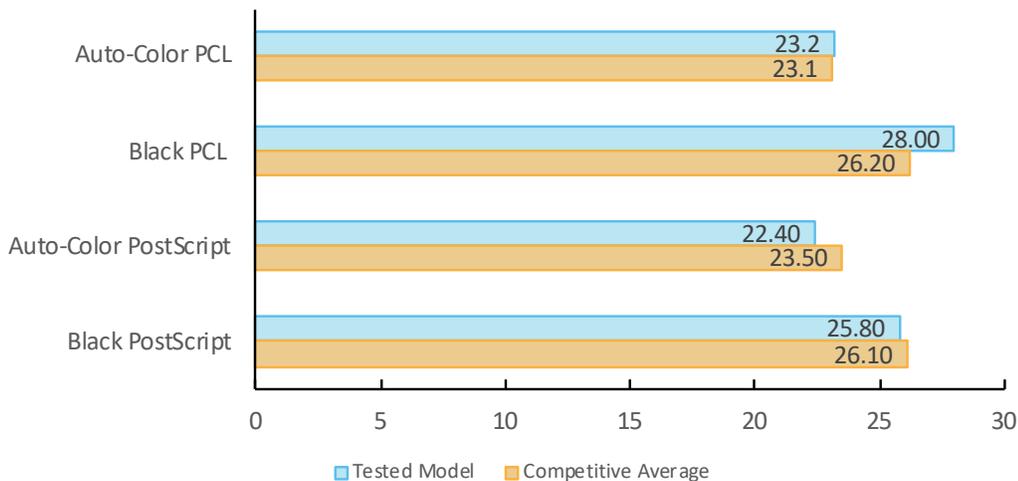
First-print time indicates the time it took to process the image and deliver a single-page test document to the output tray. The unit was tested using the PCL driver.

## Single-Set Print Speed (in PPM)



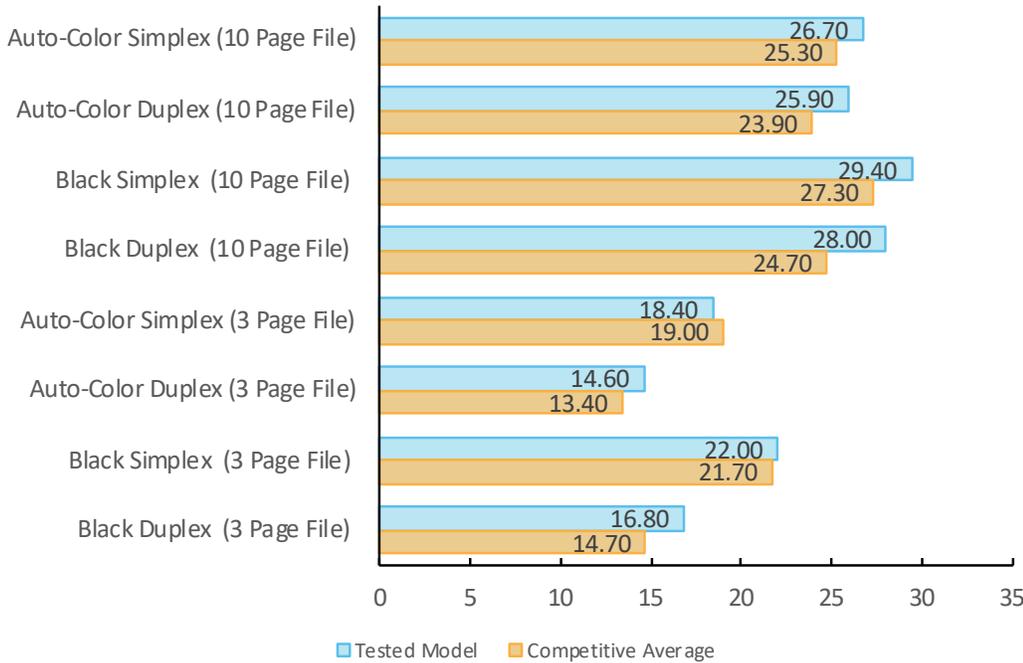
Single-set speed is tested using Buyers Lab's proprietary 3-page and 10-page testing documents. The unit was tested using the PCL driver.

## Job Stream Test



Buyers Lab's job stream includes Word documents, Outlook email messages, Excel spreadsheets, PowerPoint, HTML and Acrobat PDF files, totaling 19 pages. This test simulates the type of traffic a typical device might experience in a real-world, multi-user environment. All of the files are sent to the device as a group, at which time the stopwatch begins; timing ends when the last page of the last file exits the device.

### Average Print Speed (Multi-Set; in PPM)



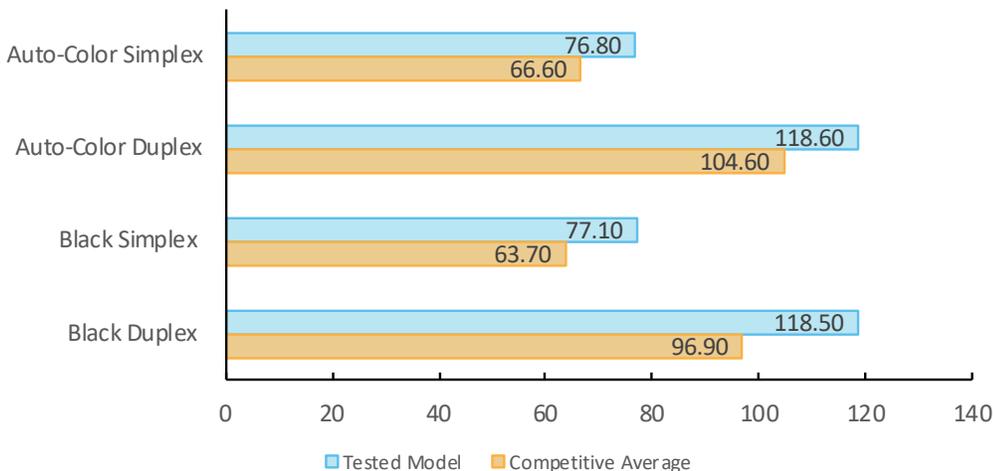
Speed is tested using Buyers Lab's proprietary 3-page and 10-page testing documents. Buyers Lab obtains the overall speed by averaging the tested speed for each run length (1, 5 and 10 sets). The unit was tested using the PCL driver.

### SCAN SPEED

9.5

Scan speeds were the fastest or among the fastest tested to date among its peers. Color file size was smaller than average when compressed. No compression exists in black-and-white mode, but default scan file size is relatively competitive to other non-compressed files.

### Scan Speed (in IPM)



Testing is conducted with a 10-page file scanned in default mode at 300 dpi in PDF format.

### Scan File Size (in KB)

	Tested Model	Competitive Average
Auto-Color (Default Compression)	569.00	556.00
Auto-Color (Best Compression)	143.00	235.00
Black (Default Compression)	47.00	75.00
Black (Best Compression)	47.00	43.00

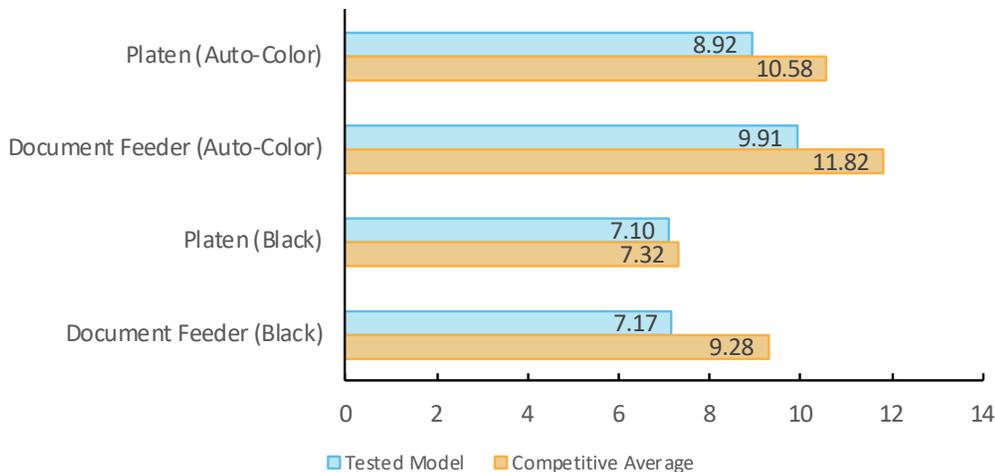
Testing is conducted with single-page files scanned at 300 dpi in PDF format.

## **COPY SPEED**

7.0

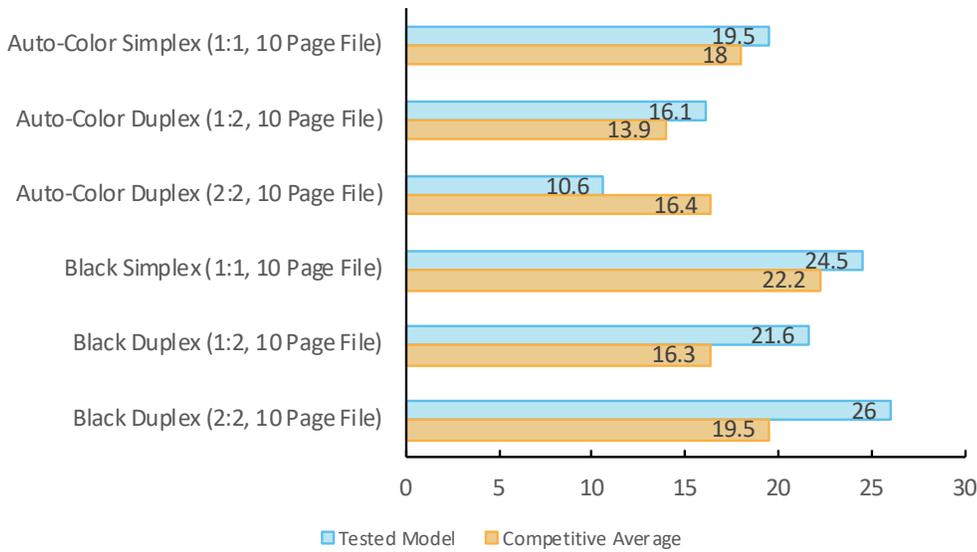
The device exhibited faster-than-average output times in nearly every test for copy speed, especially in black. Color speeds were generally faster than average as well, but short-run duplex copy jobs in color were output slow compared to the competitors.

### First-Copy Times (in Seconds)



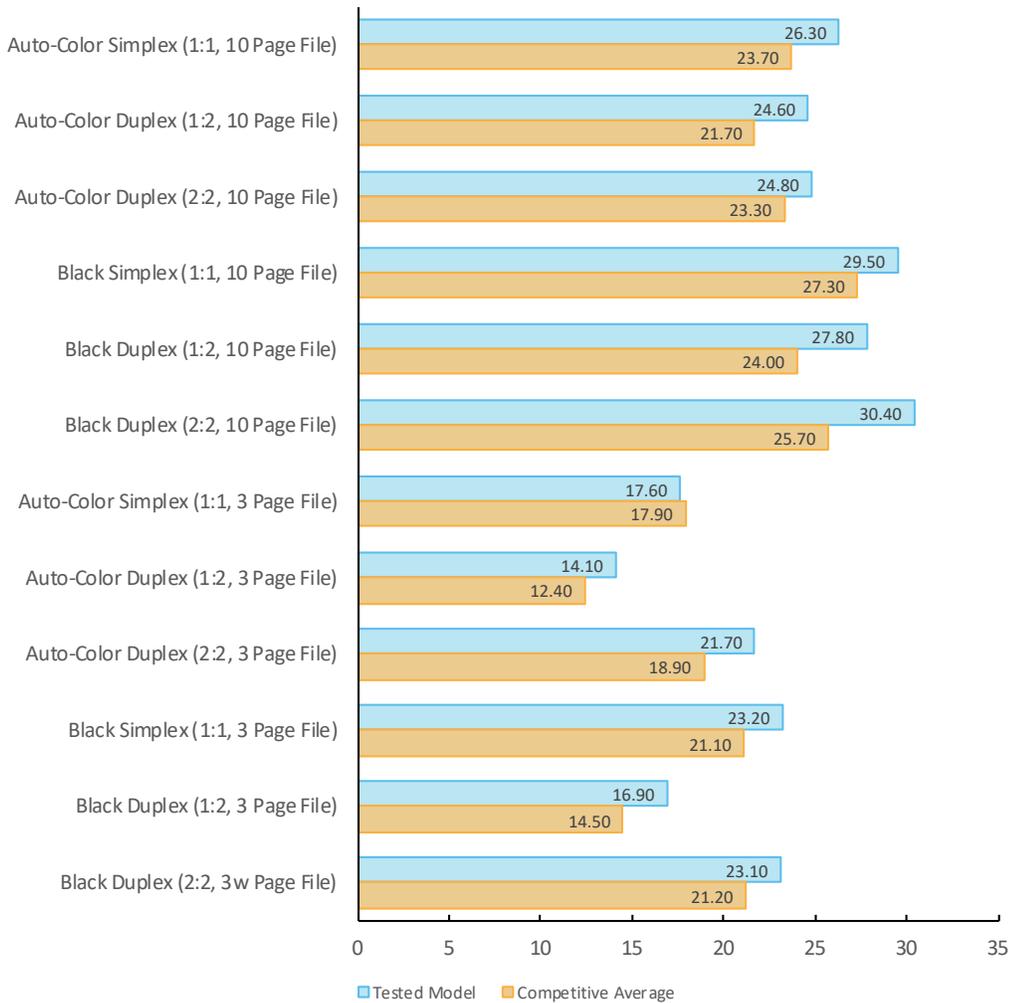
First-copy time is measured as the time it takes for a single copy to completely exit the device when a copy is made from an original placed in the document feeder and on the platen.

### Single-Set Copy Speed (in CPM)



Single-set copy speed is tested using 3-page and 10-page mixed-color and black documents. Timing begins as the start button is pressed, pages are scanned through the document feeder and timing ends when the last page of a single-set of the document exits the device.

### Average Copy Speed (in CPM)



Copy speed is tested using 3-page and 10-page mixed-color and black documents. Buyers Lab obtains the overall speed by averaging the tested speed for each run length (1, 5 and 10 sets).

**POWER CONSUMPTION**

Not Tested

Because the unit was field tested, Buyers Lab technicians could not calculate annual power consumption.

**Environmental Features**

Specified capable of running recycled paper (30%/50%/100% post-consumer content)	Yes
Instant/Quick Fusing	Yes
Duplexing	Yes
Toner-save mode	Yes
RoHS compliant	Yes
Toner cartridge recycling program for this product	Yes
Ability to program features such as duplexing and auto shut-off over entire fleet	Yes
What tool can be used to do this?	INA
<b>Eco-Label Certifications</b>	
ENERGY STAR	Yes
Other	ECMA-370/The Eco; EPEAT level pending

INA: The vendor declined to provide this information  
 NA: Not applicable

## SUPPORTING TEST DATA

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**Test Environment:** This product was tested in Buyers Lab's environmentally controlled US test lab, which replicates typical office conditions.

**Test Equipment:** : Buyers Lab's dedicated test network, consisting of Windows 2008 and Microsoft Exchange servers, Windows 7 workstations, 10/100/1000BaseTX network switches and CAT6 cabling.

**Test Duration:** A single product is tested for two months, five weeks of which consists of a durability test during which the product is run at its manufacturer-rated maximum monthly duty cycle, with 25 percent of the test volume comprised of copy jobs and 75 percent comprised of print jobs. Buyers Lab's daily test usage is designed to replicate real-world use over an eight-hour workday, and as such includes a mix of various-size documents, simplex and duplex modes, and a mix of short, moderate and long run lengths, and on/off cycles, throughout the day. The durability evaluation also includes testing of the document feeder/scanner in simplex and duplex modes for an additional 10 percent of the monthly maximum volume, evenly divided over the course of the test.

**Tested Configuration:** Field tested KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci; lab tested KYOCERA TASKalfa 3253ci base unit, plus Finisher DF-7110, Document Feeder DP-7130, and PF-7110 paper feeder.

**Test Procedures:** Buyers Lab's lab testing includes both Buyers Lab proprietary and industry-standard test procedures and documents. In addition to a visual image quality evaluation, optical density of primary color (CMYK) solid fill output is measured using a densitometer, and color gamut and consistency are evaluated using a color spectrophotometer. The reliability test is conducted using Georgia Pacific and Boise paper in the US, and UPM, Data Copy and Mondi paper in the UK. In both labs, 30 percent of the paper is recycled. The media used for image quality testing is Georgia Pacific Printing Paper (24 lb., 96 brightness) in the US and UPM Future ImageTech 100gsm in the UK.

**Competitive Average Model Group:** The analysis in this report compares the tested device to a group of all other currently available like models (e.g., color vs. color, copier-based vs. copier-based) in the same speed range (5 ppm up and down from the speed of the tested device) with support for the same media size. For test performance categories, the results are compared with those of currently available tested models in the group, whereas for feature set and pricing, the comparison is made against all currently available models in the group, whether tested or not. The pricing analysis is for devices comparably configured with accessories and the most common options.

**Note:** This report is based on Buyers Lab testing one representative test sample at a specific point in time. Buyers Lab is not responsible for differences in performance that may be the result of lot-to-lot variation, changes in production and machine modifications implemented by the manufacturer, service issues or any other reason beyond Buyers Lab's control. Test unit serial #: KM652780.

**About Keypoint Intelligence - Buyers Lab:** Keypoint Intelligence is a one-stop shop for the digital imaging industry. With our unparalleled tools and unmatched depth of knowledge, we cut through the noise of data to offer clients the unbiased insights and responsive tools they need in those mission-critical moments that define their products and empower their sales.

For over 50 years, Buyers Lab has been the global document imaging industry's resource for unbiased and reliable information, test data, and competitive selling tools. What started out as a consumer-based publication about office equipment has become an all-encompassing industry resource. Buyers Lab evolves in tandem with the ever-changing landscape of document imaging solutions, constantly updating our methods, expanding our offerings, and tracking cutting-edge developments.

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# CERTIFICATE OF RELIABILITY

Awarded to

**KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci\***



RANDY DAZO, GROUP DIRECTOR,  
OFFICE TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES

JANUARY 2020

DATE

\*Reliability, image quality, and scan productivity results are based on the performance of the KYOCERA TASKalfa 3253ci, which uses the same engine.

This is to certify that when subjected to a 125,000-impression Buyers Lab durability test, the KYOCERA TASKalfa 3553ci proved to be a highly reliable product.

**BUYERS LAB**

THE LEADING INDEPENDENT GLOBAL DOCUMENT IMAGING PRODUCT TEST LAB

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