

2007 Pick of the Year

Outstanding Small Workgroup Color Multifunction Printer, Spring 2007

PICKS of the YEAR



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An ideal choice for users looking to consolidate color print, copy and scan functions, the Xerox Phaser 8560MFP/D provided an admirable performance in BLI's tests and has earned a Spring 2007 BLI "Pick of the Year" award for "Outstanding Small Workgroup Color Multifunction Printer." Delivering strong reliability, remarkable output quality and excellent ease of use, the Phaser 8560MFP/D completed its 42,500-impression durability test without requiring any service or experiencing a single misfeed.

With a manufacturer-rated speed of 16 ppm for both color and black in the default Enhanced mode (or as fast as up to 30 ppm for both in Fast Color mode or up to 10 ppm for both in Photo mode), the Phaser 8560MFP/D produces very good color and black output. Business graphics in both print and copy modes were characterized by eye-catching colors and sharp details. Photographic images were also good overall, with natural-looking colors. In print mode, characters were dark and sharp, with no toner overspray. Line art was characterized by fully formed circles, consistent line thickness and diagonal lines that exhibited minimal evidence of stair-stepping. Solids showed consistent toner coverage and above-average density readings.

Marlene Orr, senior printer analyst for BLI, stated, "The Xerox Phaser 8560MFP/D uses solid ink technology to produce output that is ideal for any general business environment. And with a cost per page that's competitive with comparable color laser and business-class inkjet devices, it offers very good overall economy. What's even better is that the simple design of this multifunction printer makes routine maintenance effortless."

Without a doubt, a key strength of solid-ink technology is the outstanding ease of replenishing supplies, which consist only of the four ink sticks that are extremely easy to replace. This is in contrast to laser/LED units, which may require four toner cartridges and in some cases four drums, as well as additional consumable parts. The unit also offers outstanding ease of setup and use, featuring a well-designed and user-friendly control panel with an easy-to-navigate menu system. Further contributing to its overall ease of use are its highly automated setup procedures and the good feedback provided to users at their workstations.

Another noteworthy aspect of the unit's performance is its productivity, which garnered "Excellent" ratings in color print and copy mode, as well as black print mode; black copy productivity was very

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good overall. In fact, the Phaser 8560MFP/D's efficiency in color and black modes in BLI's job stream, which replicates typical office usage in a multi-user environment, is the second highest and the highest, respectively, compared to legal-size color laser/LED printer-centric MFPs tested to date. Additionally, the unit recorded the fastest first-print-out times for the TIFF and PDF test files of competitive models.

"Xerox will continue to expand and refresh our line of affordable color MFPs to meet customers' needs," said Paul Gleason, vice president of marketing and channel development for the printer and A4 business unit of the Xerox Office Group. "The Phaser 8560MFP solid ink multifunction printer builds on our award-winning solid ink portfolio and provides easy to use, high quality color, with scan and fax capability, that help businesses work faster and more efficiently. We are honored to receive this 'BLI Pick' award as this reaffirms our commitment to value for our customers."

With an estimated retail price of \$1,999, the Phaser 8560MFP/D is priced approximately 50 percent less than the average for comparably equipped color multifunction printers in this speed range and its cost per page is slightly lower than average. The Xerox Phaser 8560MFP/D is highly recommended by BLI for small workgroups with monthly print volumes of up to 10,000 impressions.

About BLI's Picks of the Year

Twice a year with its "Pick of the Year" awards, BLI gives special recognition in each category to those products that provided the most outstanding performances in BLI's exhaustive lab tests.

BLI's awards stand alone in that they are based on a rigorous battery of lab tests that takes approximately two months to complete and includes an extensive durability test, during which each unit is run at the manufacturer's maximum recommended volume. BLI's durability test is unique among office product evaluations and uniquely qualifies BLI to assess reliability, which is a critical factor for buyers and IT directors, given that virtually all of the products are designed for use on networks.

In addition to assessing reliability, in terms of the number of service calls and PM (preventive maintenance) calls required, as well as misfeed frequency, BLI's comprehensive evaluation includes an assessment of copy and print quality, productivity, ease of use and economy, as well as connectivity issues such as feedback to workstations, administrative utilities, print drivers, multitasking and scanning solutions. In the case of document scanners, performance attributes evaluated include reliability, image processing features, ease of use, media handling, productivity, file size and value, among others. Each product that successfully passes BLI's lab test earns BLI's "Recommended" or "Highly Recommended" seal and a BLI "Certificate of Reliability" and qualifies as a "Pick" award contender. Consequently, a BLI "Pick of the Year" is a hard-earned award that buyers and IT directors can trust to better guide them in their acquisition decisions.

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