

## PANASONIC KV-S5055C

Released earlier this year, the KV-S5055C is a high-speed A3 departmental scanner that is a finalist in the DM Awards

(Workgroup/Departmental Scanner as well as Hardware Product of the Year). It features a raft of design innovations including 'ToughFeed', a set of features intended to make scanning as trouble-free as possible.

The ToughFeed paper feeding mechanisms reduce the risk of damaging documents, while ensuring accurate scans every time. The scanning glass is protected by the use of various cleverly positioned sensors which detect stapled pages and automatically interrupt the scan process.

An ultrasonic sensor is used for double feed detection, which again results in an immediate stop. A large DFS (Double Feed Skip) key on the main control panel allows the user to resume scanning where a detected double feed is not a problem, e.g. for envelopes or documents with other paper attached such as receipts or post-its.

A highlight of the ToughFeed system is the roller mechanism design itself: the paper feed roller separates from the paper each time a sheet is fed, reducing the likelihood of drag and double feeds, and improving the useful life of the roller itself. A separate double feed prevention roller applies controlling pressure when paper 'sliding' (caused by build up of toner or carbon on the rollers) is detected.

The KV-S5055C also boasts highly sophisticated self-cleaning capabilities. A brush prevents dust build-up on the scanner glass, while an ingenious ionizer



creates an ion-filled 'breeze' that flows through the paper path, neutralising any electrical charge on the documents, and stopping them from carrying dust into the mechanism.

The clamshell design allows direct and straightforward access to the entire paper path, so that a user can clear paper jams, clean the unit, or replace rollers easily without having to call a service technician.

Workload-wise, the Panasonic is aimed at a daily duty cycle of up to 10,000 scans, and scan speeds are certainly more than adequate for departmental use: 90ppm (180ipm) for A4 200dpi scans. The ADF will hold 200 sheets, and handles mixed batches of different sizes and thicknesses of paper. For specialist requirements such as ECG forms or continuous stationery, the KV-S5055C will comfortably scan a document up to 100 feet in length if necessary!

Panasonic's own Image Capture Plus software makes light work of the scan process. It includes remarkably simple drag-

and-drop reordering of pages within a scan batch, and a single click to send scans as an email attachment. Images can be saved to all the usual formats including TIF, BMP and JPG, as well as searchable PDF/PDF-A.

Image processing is sophisticated yet intuitive, with most functions automated: orientation, crop, de-skew, double page separation, background colour smoothing, punch hole removal, colour dropout (for OCR) and blank page removal. The scanner can also automatically recognise colour and black-and-white documents within a batch and treat them accordingly, saving on file sizes, while 'Multi-streaming' allows a single scan to be saved in two different formats simultaneously, e.g. for immediate transactional use and long term archival.

The KV-S5055C can be seen in action at ImagingXtra's scanning demonstration suite, and the Newcastle-under-Lyme distributor boasts unbeatable prices on this and other Panasonic devices.

**More info:** [www.imagingxtra.com](http://www.imagingxtra.com)

## VERDICT

Distributor ImagingXtra is describing the KV-S5055C as offering 'production scanning at a departmental price', and the contention is hard to fault. This is a robust high-speed device featuring a host of compelling feed/handling innovations