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## Product Bulletin

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# CTP Media Qualification

## Thermal Media: Variety, Quality, Cost Savings, and Speed

Printers using Kodak<sup>®</sup> computer-to-plate (CTP) systems for commercial, packaging, newspaper, book, proofing, and flexographic applications benefit from the flexibility, quality, and cost-savings delivered by the wide range of thermal media qualified for use on Kodak CTP systems. The benefits of using thermal media on Kodak CTP systems include wider exposure and processing latitude, higher quality, and greater tonal stability, consistency, and repeatability.

## The Staccato Advantage

Kodak SQUAREspot<sup>®</sup> thermal imaging technology uses a unique 10,000 dpi laser, dynamic autofocus, and precision electronics to deliver the most efficient and precise exposure of thermal plates. This benefits the printer with measurably wider latitude for variations in processing and in the pressroom. This increased latitude can be leveraged by reducing waste, remakes, and plate wear, or by taking advantage of finer screens such as Kodak Staccato<sup>®</sup> screening. The benefits of Staccato screening are realized when Staccato-qualified media are used with Staccato screening best practices and the media's on-press requirements and standard operating procedures.

## Qualification Program

Using an established framework, the following characteristics were thoroughly tested and benchmarks were developed, enabling printers to maximize the capability of their Kodak CTP system.

- *Sensitivity assessment* determines the imaging speed of a given media and device combination. Depending on the sensitivity of the media, some media may not run at full device speed.
- *Screening assessment* verifies the maximum supportable screening. This is done by establishing exposure parameters that provide the best imaging latitude.
- *Slip-sheet removal and handling sensitivity assessment* determines slip-sheet removal compatibility and identifies the risk of emulsion marking during CTP automation and handling.
- *Additional requirements assessment* confirms whether there are any additional requirements for using the media.

The following table outlines the different levels of media qualification.

Qualification Status		Description
<b>1. Feasibility</b>	<b>Definition</b>	This level includes media that are unproven with Kodak thermal imaging. Information is confidential.
	<b>Proof of Concept</b>	Basic compatibility for creating an image has been demonstrated. This verifies that the power, energy, and wavelength requirements are compatible with Kodak thermal imaging technology to the extent that solid images can be created. A draft setup procedure is created.
	<b>Testing and Refinement</b>	A detailed investigation of exposure and processing latitude, handling characteristics for slip-sheet removal and scratch sensitivity are assessed. Maximum screening is established. Processing conditions should be well established by the media vendor. A finalized setup procedure is written.
<b>2. Beta</b>		The media images well in lab conditions, based on several batches of media. At least three beta sites are secured for a given configuration, defined by Kodak. Service support for the media may be limited, with escalation support provided by the product group. Imaging performance and device compatibility is verified. The customer and Kodak must sign a beta agreement that describes the terms of service support.
<b>3. Qualified</b>		The product is supported, but possibly with some restrictions, depending on the model. Media may not run at top device speed (depending on sensitivity) or media may not be compatible with CTP automation. The qualification status and estimated performance on a given device are available so that Kodak sales and service staff can set up and support the media.
<b>(Limited Qualification)</b>		This status is applied to a qualified media if it is determined that there are additional requirements as a result of increased service issues (such as increased scratch sensitivity and so on). Kodak publishes the qualification status.

## Qualified Thermal Media

The thermal media identified in the following tables are qualified or in beta and are in use to some extent on Kodak CTP systems. Please consult the detailed specifications for each media/device combination, because there may be screening, imaging speed, or media-handling limitations. All FM screening performance is based on SQUAREspot technology with Staccato screen sets. For further information about third-party screens, their performance, and the media qualified for use on specific CTP configurations, contact your local Kodak sales representative.

**Note:** *This is a general list of qualified media, not a specification. Media may not be qualified on all devices, depending on speed, automation, model, and screening features. Contact a Kodak sales representative for information about specific media/device performance. Customers must consult the media vendor directly for regional availability and on-press compatibility (such as inks, fountain solutions, and so on). This information is subject to change.*

<b>Media for Commercial and Packaging Applications</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Qualification Status, Media Type</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screening with SQUAREspot at 2400 dpi</b>
Kodak	Sword Excel™	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Sword Excel with UltraGrain	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Sword Excel /P45	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	Sword-J	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	Sword Ultra™	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 25
Kodak	Thermal Gold™	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	Electra Excel™ (US&C, LAR)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Electra Excel™ HRL or HRO (EAMER, APR)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	Electra XD™	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	DITP Gold™	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	PTP (US&C)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	PTP (EAMER)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	PTP (GAR)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	P0045	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0048	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	P0070	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0071	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0072	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	P0080	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	TCC-685 (LT-3R)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Kodak	TP-U	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	TP-R/LT-R	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	TCC 603	Beta. No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Kodak	TP-W	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Kodak	TN-R	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	TP-S	Chemistry-free	240 lpi; Staccato 25
Kodak	Thermal Direct™	No-process, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
2FF	TP-II	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Agfa	Thermostar P970	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Agfa	:Azura™	Chemistry-free, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Agfa	:Amigo™	No-preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25

Media for Commercial and Packaging Applications			
Manufacturer	Product Name	Qualification Status, Media Type	Maximum Qualified Screening with SQUAREspot at 2400 dpi
Agfa	:Ampio™	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Agfa	LT-2	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Agfa	:Energy	Beta. No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Agfa	:Energy Elite	No-preheat, positive	300 lpi; Staccato 25
Anocoil	830 T-Plate	No-preheat, positive	300 lpi; Staccato 25
Citiplate	CPM-7	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Citiplate	CPM-8	No-preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	Brillia LH-PSE	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	Brillia LH-PCE	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	Brillia LH-PJE	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)
Fuji	Brillia LH-PI and PIE	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Fuji	Brillia LH-NI	Preheat, negative	240 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	Brillia LH-PJ (US&C)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Fuji	Brillia LH-PA	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	HP-S (LH-PJ [Japan])	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Fuji	HP-F (LH-PJ2)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 10
Fuji	HP-L	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	HP-P	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 25
Fuji	HP-FA	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	ProT	No-process, negative	300 lpi; Staccato 25
IBF	Million	Beta. No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Ipagsa	Rubi T-50	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Ipagsa	Arte IP-21	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Konica	Replica NIR	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Nihon	Green N3	No-process	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Okamoto	JTP-1N	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 20
Presstek	Aurora™	Chemistry-free	240 lpi; Staccato 25
Presstek	AnthemPro™	Chemistry-free	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Presstek	PEARLDry™	No-preheat, negative, waterless	175 lpi; Staccato 40
Technova	Thermostar TN	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Toray	RL7 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	RG5 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato

<b>Media for Commercial and Packaging Applications</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Qualification Status, Media Type</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screening with SQUAREspot at 2400 dpi</b>
			25 with Konings processor)
Toray	VG5 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	LL7 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	LG5 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	MX7 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Toray	VH5 Waterless	No-preheat, negative, waterless	450 lpi; Staccato 20 (beta St 10)

<b>Newspaper and Book Applications: Trendsetter News 50C, 70C, 100C, 200C</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Media Name</b>	<b>Media Characteristics</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screen at 2400 dpi</b>
Kodak	E0078	No-process, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	PF-N	No-process, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	ThermalNEWS™	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	ThermalNEWS Gold™	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Kodak	P0047	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0048	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0070	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0071	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0072	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0073	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Thermal Gold	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Sword Excel	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Sword Excel with UltraGrain	No-preheat, positive	240 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	P0045	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Electra Excel (US&C, LAR)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Electra Excel HRL/HRO (EAMER, GAR)	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Electra XD	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	DITP Gold	Preheat, negative	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	TN-R	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	TP-R	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	Thermal Direct	No-process, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Agfa	:Amigo	No-preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Agfa	:Azura	Chemistry free, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Agfa	P970	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Anocoil	T-Plate 830	No-preheat, positive	300 lpi; Staccato 25
Citiplate	CPM-8	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	LH-PJ	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	LH-NI	Preheat, negative	240 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	HP-L	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Ipagsa	Rubi T-50	No-preheat, positive	450 lpi; Staccato 20
Konica	Replica NIR	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Southern Litho	Viper 830-n®	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36

# Product Bulletin



Southern Litho	Cobra 830-n <sup>®</sup>	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Toray	RL7 waterless	Waterless, negative	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	LL7 waterless	Waterless, negative	300 lpi; Staccato 20 (Staccato 25 with Konings processor)
Toray	MX7 waterless	Waterless, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 25

<b>Newspaper and Book Applications: Trendsetter News 50, 70, 100, 150, 200</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Media Name</b>	<b>Media Characteristics</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screen at 1200 dpi</b>
Kodak	ThermalNEWS Gold	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0047	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0048	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0070	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0071	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	P0073	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	ThermalGold	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	DITP Gold	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	Electra Excel (US&C)	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	Electra Excel HRL and HRO	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	TP-R (LT-R)	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Kodak	TN-R	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Agfa	P-970	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Anocoil	T-Plate 830	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	LH-NN	No-preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Fuji	HP-L	No-preheat, positive	200 lpi; Staccato 25
Konica	Replica NIR	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Southern Litho	Viper 830-n	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36
Southern Litho	Cobra 830-n	Preheat, negative	200 lpi; Staccato 36

<b>Spectrum Proofing Media</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Media Name</b>	<b>Media Characteristics</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screen at 2400 dpi (CMYK only)</b>
Kodak	Matchprint® Digital Halftone Proofing Media (MDHP)	Digital halftone proof	200 lpi; Staccato 20
Kodak	Matchprint® Digital Imaging Media	Digital halftone film	200 lpi
DuPont	WaterProof® thermal halftone proofing	Digital halftone proof	200 lpi; Staccato 20
Fuji	FujiFilm FinalProof TPM sheet media	Digital halftone proof	200 lpi; Staccato 20

<b>Media Primarily Used for Flexographic Printing</b>			
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Media Name</b>	<b>Media Characteristics</b>	<b>Maximum Qualified Screen at 2400 dpi</b>
Kodak	DITF film	Thermal film, flexography	175 lpi
Kodak	Flexcel NX	Thermal film, flexography	300 lpi; Staccato 25
Asahi	AFP™ (Asahi Flexo Plate)	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
FLINT Group	nyloflex®	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
FLINT Group	nyloprint®	Digital letterpress printing plate Contact your local Kodak Sales representative for device-specific requirements.	175 lpi
DuPont	Cyrel®	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
MacDermid	Digital MUST®	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
MacDermid	Digital EPIC®	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
MacDermid	Digital Rave®	Digital flexography printing plate	175 lpi
Precision Coatings (PCI)	LaserPoint II	Thermal film, flexography	120 lpi
Toray	Torelief®	Digital letterpress printing plate (currently in beta)	175 lpi

## About Kodak Graphic Communications Group (GCG)

The leading provider of graphic communications solutions worldwide, Kodak's Graphic Communications Group (GCG) offers image capture systems; professional color, copydot, and high-speed document scanning systems; inkjet printing and proofing systems; workflow and color management software; thermal imaging devices for film, plates, and proofs; high-quality proofing media, printing plates, and recording film; on-demand color and black-and-white printing systems; data storage products; and professional services. With corporate headquarters located in Rochester, N.Y., Kodak (NYSE: EK) has the largest global sales force and is committed to a digitally oriented growth strategy.

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