

For Immediate Release

St Ives, Cambridgeshire, UK

6th October 2008

Colortrac announces an affordable new SmartLF Ci 40 large format technical document scanner

- * Provides a new lower price point for cost conscious AEC & CAD users in the post credit-crunch world
- * Easy, instant-on, walk-up scanning, copying and printing across a drawing office network
- * Innovative single roller media transport technology with intuitive face-up document loading & unique front ejection system

Colortrac Ltd has announced its fourth generation contact image sensor (CIS) large format scanner range, the SmartLF Ci 40 Series. These high definition (HD) 40" technical document scanners are designed to provide AEC, CAD and GIS professionals with instant-on, walk-up scanning and copying direct to the drawing office network via Gigabit Ethernet or fast USB2 connection.

As the leading innovator in cost-effective wide format scanning, Colortrac designed the new SmartLF Ci 40 to be easy to operate with selectable local language controls while also providing industry-leading performance and excellent value for money. Using the latest 2D LED CIS technology, the SmartLF Ci 40 scanner range captures the finest details of technical drawings and maps in bright colors, or monochrome, producing crisp, sharp images accurately at high speeds (up to 3.3ips color and 10ips B&W).

The recommended list price of the entry-level 600dpi optical resolution SmartLF Ci 40m (monochrome) scanner including SmartLF All-in-One scan & copy software is a very competitive \$6,725.

The SmartLF Ci 40's new design features provide intuitive face-up, front-loading of documents with a unique front ejection system that distinguishes it from traditional multiple roller, front-feed, rear exit large format scanners. Colortrac acquired the ANA Tech Scanner Division from Intergraph Corporation in 1999 and the SmartLF Ci 40 utilizes media handling technology first developed by ANA Tech in the 1990s for their high-end, super accurate Eagle GIS scanners. Colortrac's "back to the future" approach, re-purposing proven mechanical design concepts with the latest CIS sensor and digital electronics, has resulted in the 21st Century's first radical innovation in large format scanning.

Unlike other conventional scanners with multiple rollers, the SmartLF Ci 40 uses a single, precision-engineered drum or Advanced Single Roller Paper Transport system. Documents are gently but firmly drawn through the scanner by this unique solid roller technology to provide reliable feeding of flexible originals, including very thin newsprint, while preserving delicate documents that can be problematic for traditional wide format scanner designs. SmartLF Ci 40 scanners are optimised for high speed, accurate

scanning of large format flexible paper documents such as maps, CAD drawings, blueprints, engineering schematics, well logs and any other technical documents with fine image details and lines.

The SmartLF Ci 40's image sensors are mounted in a segmented injection moulding suspended within the hood of the scanner. The shape of this sub-assembly gave rise to Colortrac's description as the "clamshell". The "clamshells" job is to position the scanned document closely around the drum and maintain optimum contact between it and the CIS to improve image accuracy and focus. Colortrac also has worked closely with its supplier to perfect new custom designed CIS modules with 2D LEDs that strobe bi-directional RGB light onto the original from both sides of the rod lens array. This unique design innovation improves the light levels incident on the document being scanned and results in superior quality images with reduced shadows and wrinkles caused by folds or creases in the original.

Peter de Winter-Brown, Colortrac Sales and Marketing Director, said "Our SmartLF Ci 40 scanners are the latest in a long line of innovative product roll outs from Colortrac. The SmartLF Ci 40 is an entirely new product design that is intended to expand the market for large format scanners. SmartLF Ci 40 is easier and more intuitive to use than earlier wide format scanners and creates new, lower price points and operating costs for value conscious buyers in the post credit-crunch world."

"As an environmentally aware company, we are striving to minimise the impact of our activities world-wide and offer SmartLF products with lower power requirements designed to comply with international energy saving standards. SmartLF Ci 40 is the lightest, most transportable A0 / E size scanner today - it weighs just 48.4 lbs (22 kg) - and benefits from our flexible and easy post sale model upgrade policy that allows our customers to buy the scan solution they need today without sacrificing their ability to enhance their scanner's features and performance as and when their future needs change."

"We believe owners of a Colortrac SmartLF Ci 40 solution will become more profitable by avoiding the expense and delays when outsourcing scanning and copying jobs and, by bringing scanning and copying applications in-house, have more control and be more competitive by offering clients a more responsive value added service."

The SmartLF Ci 40 range was shown for the first time on the Canon booth at the Drupa 2008 show in Dusseldorf Germany during May and June.

The SmartLF Ci 40 is:

- * A high quality monochrome, greyscale and color technical documents scanner
- * Designed to scan all standard technical drafting media up to a maximum paper thickness of 0.012" or 0.3 mm.
- * Designed for compliance with international energy saving standards
- * Ready to work right from power-on, with no warm-up and no waiting
- * A high productivity solution with scanning speeds of up to 3.3ips color and 10ips monochrome
- * Designed for a long and reliable working life
- * Easy-to-set-up via high speed USB 2.0
- * Network-ready Gigabit Ethernet connection for fast transmission around a drawing office
- * The lightest, most transportable A0 / E size scanner today - it weighs just 48.4 lbs (22 kg)
- * Supplied with SmartLF All-in-One ready-to-run Scan and Copy software
- * User friendly with local language selection and control panel overlays
- * Uniquely upgradable from one model to another via exchange of email

See: www.colortrac.com

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About Colortrac ...

Founded in 1989 and based in St Ives, Cambs, UK, a region of British excellence in science and technology, Colortrac Ltd is the leading innovator in professional wide format color scanners and image acquisition software solutions. As the first manufacturer to recognize the individual merits of CIS and CCD image sensor technology, Colortrac has pioneered value for money large format professional scanning solutions. Colortrac's fourth generation of SmartLF color scanners and software are uniquely positioned to meet the demand for both price and performance across the full spectrum of scanning applications, from the demanding Graphics Arts market to practical, productive CAD, GIS, EDM and FM technical document scanning. Colortrac Ltd has subsidiary offices in Beijing and Suzhou, P.R. China and in Golden, Colorado, USA.