



Konica Minolta's bizhub® i-Series Honored with Better Buys 2020 Innovative Product of the Year

New Color MFPs Recognized for Innovative Features that Foster Collaboration within a Mobile Office

RAMSEY, NJ, March 31, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc. (Konica Minolta) is proud to announce its new bizhub C360i Series has earned Better Buys 2020 Innovative Product of the Year in its color MFP category.



Better Buys evaluates products both individually and compares them against the competition on a range of criteria, including unique features, value to the customer and price. Konica Minolta's bizhub C360i series was one of only a handful of vendors chosen for this honor.

The bizhub C360i is part of the larger MFP i-Series portfolio. Designed to empower digital workflows more simply and securely, the new i-Series features a modern user interface with a fresh new look boosted with high-performance operation. The simple and intuitive menu layout is built to minimize the number of touches, followed by quick response functionality, so things get done faster. This new generation of bizhub color office units caters to the needs of businesses by servicing as a secure, smart technology hub to augment office connectivity.



“The bizhub i-Series is a significant milestone in office print technology. They serve as smarter printers that connect the workplace more effectively and securely, and we're honored to be recognized by Better Buys,” said Kevin Kern, Senior Vice President, Business Intelligence Services and Product Planning, Konica Minolta. “The wide breadth of capabilities, coupled with best-in-class service, ignite new opportunities for productivity and innovation towards the future of work.”

Konica Minolta recently announced the expansion of its bizhub i-Series with the launch of three new color A3 MFPs. The new bizhub C450i, bizhub C550i and bizhub C650i offer a choice of 45ppm, 55ppm or 65ppm print speeds, respectively, and boast the same fresh, contemporary exterior design as the current bizhub i-Series models. With great usability features, such as the intelligent media sensor that detects media weight and automatically corrects the media setting, they provide uninterrupted use, while optimizing print quality. They replace the popular and highly successful bizhub C458, bizhub C558 and bizhub C658 models - enhancing Konica Minolta's offering in the segment with the addition of extended smart capabilities that embrace the way businesses are evolving.

“The bizhub C360i Series represent Konica Minolta's innovative new line of devices that encourage more collaboration and streamline workflows,” said Melissa Pardo-Bunte, Editor, Better Buys. “It has strong features, such as the customizable touchscreen interface, upgraded security and scalable finishing.”

Konica Minolta bizhub C360i Series Review

Good: 10.1" color customizable touchscreen, bizhub SECURE service, flexible paper handling.

Bad: Document feeders are only optional, however, Konica Minolta offers customers flexible types of ADF to choose from.

Bottom Line: New color MFPs with innovative features that foster collaboration within a mobile office.

Product Overview

Konica Minolta's new i-Series line of devices use Internet of Things (IoT) technology to streamline workflows and foster collaboration in a mobile workforce. The devices serve as a smart technology hub that combines all workflows into one place.

The i-Series boasts a 10.1" customizable touchscreen panel with an interface that works like a mobile device. Users can customize the interface with apps from Konica Minolta Marketplace. The devices also integrate with Workplace Hub, an all-in-one IT solution.

The i-Series line also includes upgraded security features that are compliant with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other security standards. With the bizhub SECURE service, Konica Minolta tailors security settings and features to a company's unique needs, such as a Solid State Drive (SSD) encryption and locked passwords.

The bizhub C360i series are A3 (11" x 17") color MFPs. They consist of three devices that offer standard printing, copying, scanning and optional faxing. The flagship product, the C360i (\$15,907), prints and copies at up to 36 ppm in black and color. It has a first-copy-time of 6.1 seconds in color and a maximum monthly print volume of 175,000 pages. The other two models are the bizhub C250i (\$11,002) and bizhub C300i (\$11,980), which print and copy at up to 25 ppm and 30 ppm, respectively.

All three devices include a quad-core CPU processor, 8 GB of memory and 256 GB SSD. PostScript and PCL printing languages are supported. USB and Ethernet are standard, while wireless connectivity is optional. Mobile printing is supported via the Konica Minolta Mobile Print app as well as AirPrint, Mopria and Google Cloud Print.

Konica Minolta continues to bring innovative features that help the workplace collaborate better and improve productivity. The bizhub C360i Series brings robust features, such as fast engine speed, flexible paper-handling and a customizable touchscreen interface.

Features

Paper handling: Paper handling starts with two 500-sheet paper trays and a 150-sheet bypass. There are additional paper options, such as a 500-sheet tray, a dual 500-sheet tray set (letter-size only), a 2,500-sheet large-capacity tray, and a 3,000-sheet large-capacity tray. The maximum paper capacity is 6,650 sheets.

There are two optional document feeders that both have 100-sheet capacity. One is a reversing document feeder and the other is a dual-scan document feeder (scans both sides of a page in a single pass). The dual-scan feeder scans up to 160 ipm. It also comes standard with a multi-feed

mechanism that detects whenever more than one sheet goes through the document feeder. It then stops the unit and gives panel guidance to fix the issue. The maximum paper size is 11" x 17" and duplexing is standard.

There's a standard 250-sheet output tray. There are also a few finishing options. First, there's a 50-sheet multiposition inner staple finisher with an optional 2/3-hole punch. Second, there's another finisher with 50-sheet multiposition stapling, however, it has a capacity of 3,300 sheets. Third, there's a booklet finisher that saddle stitches up to 20 booklets. There's also a three-sheet tri-fold option as well as a job separator.

MFP functions: There's a user box that allows users to store scanned documents on the SSD. Users can create up to 1,000 user boxes that hold up to 3,000 documents total. The scanning function supports scan to email, USB, user box, FTP, SMB, URL and WebDav. LDAP is also supported. Output file formats include JPEG, TIFF, PDF, compact PDF and XPS, to name a few.

The optional faxing uses a 33.6 kbps modem with JBIG compression. Color fax, IP fax and PC fax are standard.

There's also an optional Fiery IC-420 image controller. It has a 2.4 GHz processor, 4 GB of memory, and a 500 GB hard disk drive. Adobe PostScript, excellent workflow tools and color management tools are among its standard features. It also has other features that can add to productivity, like color profiles, hot folders and defined workflows. Users can build on these features with imposition software and professional color-control software.

Security features: Standard security features include user authentication, IP filtering, SSD data encryption and secure print, to name a few. Konica Minolta offers optional copy protection features as well as Bitdefender anti-virus solution.

- Automatic Document Feeder?
- Duplexing?
- Ethernet Connectivity?
- Wireless Connectivity?
- Mobile Printing/Scanning?
- Finishers?

Shortcomings

The automatic document feeders are only available as an option and not as a standard feature. However, Konica Minolta offers the flexibility of choosing the type of feeder whether it's a RADF, dual-scan or cover.

About

Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc. is reshaping and revolutionizing the Workplace of the Future™ with its expansive smart office product portfolio from IT Services (All Covered), ECM, Managed Print Services and industrial and commercial print solutions. It has been recognized as the #1 Brand for Customer Loyalty in the MFP Office Copier Market by Brand Keys for 12 consecutive years and is proud to be ranked on the Forbes 2017 America's Best Employers list. The World Technology Awards recently named the company a finalist in the IT Software category. Konica Minolta, Inc. has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index for seven consecutive years. It partners with its clients to give shape to ideas and work to bring value to our society.