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New 416 Megapixel Scanning Back from Better Light

New Super10K-HS™ Scanning Back Generates
794 MB 48 bit RGB File at Native Resolution

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Better Light, the leading designer and manufacturer of large-format digital scanning camera backs, has announced the addition of a new digital scanning back to its SuperModel family that captures up to 416 megapixels of true RGB image data in every scan.

The combination of large high-resolution files, extraordinary detail and superb control of color and tones, has made Better Light scanning backs the device of choice for a wide variety of advertising, commercial, reproduction and archival applications since 1994.

Better Light scanning backs are widely acknowledged for capturing image quality superior to film or fixed-array digital cameras. Used on a 4x5 view camera or any device accepting 4"x5" film holders, the capture area is 72mm x 96mm (120mm diagonal), creating a huge pixel population with the scan movement of its tri-linear sensor. Each pixel receives pure red, green and blue data so there is no interpolation of color data, or typical digital artifacts, or moiré pattern issues to deal with in post-production.

The new Super10K-HS™ answers the call of museums and similar institutions for larger native file sizes. It has the ability to create a direct digital image at a native resolution of 10,200 x 13,600 pixels. This high resolution allows scanning of originals up to 34 x 45 inches in size at 300 pixels per inch without stitching or interpolation, and generates a 794 MB 48-bit RGB file size.

"This new file size capability will be of special interest to those portions of the art repro market that deal with large originals, and who demand very fine detail in reproducing line art, text, scrolls, and other subjects where absolute clarity is of maximum importance," said Better Light President Michael Collette.

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“A unique aspect of the increased resolution possible with the new Super10K-HS back is that its resolving power can exceed that of the camera lens. At its 100% resolution setting, the Super10K-HS captures 70 line pairs per millimeter with 60% contrast, which is higher than most lenses can deliver.”

The new Super10K-HS offers an ISO range from 64 to 1000, line times from 1/8th to 1/120th of a second, and a 40 GB (or optional 80 GB) internal hard drive for image storage. The unit provides 11 resolution settings that can be used to capture the perfect file size for each imaging project, independent of the selected ISO sensitivity. The camera is also ICC profile-compatible. The Super10K-HS is priced at \$22,995 and will ship at the end of March.

Each of the company's scan back models includes Better Light's ViewFinder™ camera control software, which allows the user to fine-tune exposure, ISO sensitivity, color balance and contrast, matching the subject, lighting and output conditions for a perfect digital image — like having a customized "digital film emulsion". Quality judgments are made based on a high-quality preview image on the monitor, prior to the capture of the large, high-resolution file. This software is provided for both Macintosh and Windows computers.

Better Light offers six models with image file size capability up to 1.1 GB (48-bit RGB). Priced from \$6,495, any model is upgradeable to a higher performance model, enabling the photographer to upgrade as requirements change. The product line covers the diversified range of photographic applications including commercial, catalog, still life, landscape, art reproduction, scientific and archival imaging.

More About Better Light:

Better Light digital scanning backs are used throughout the world in diverse applications for commercial, advertising, art reproduction, industrial and scientific photography. The company is respected as the worldwide leader in large format digital capture, creating outstanding high-definition images with delicate gradations, crystal clear highlights and perfectly neutral color. Better Light's exceptional customer service and support is respected throughout the industry.

It is widely acknowledged that Better Light scanning backs can produce image quality superior to any other digital camera technology or 4x5 film, and often superior to 8x10 film. Additional discussion about why a Better Light scanning back is able to deliver this high level of image quality is available on the Better Light web site.

New, Improved Better Light Hi-Speed USB Scanning Backs

Features & Benefits of the Super10K-HS™, Super8K-HS™ and Super6K-HS™

Patented Architecture For Faster Scans.

A redesigned Hi-Speed USB2 interface; the latest Kodak CCD technology; and Better Light's unique data handling and digital processing combine to produce superior color images in less than half the time required by other scan backs. The new "HS" Control Box with USB-2 connectivity has data transfer speeds that are four times greater than the speed of the unit's previous SCSI interface.

Single Sensitometric Curve For Image Tonal Characteristics.

Total control of curves and RGB pixel data allows exact translation of light levels to digital data values. No hidden curves that restrict data and limit user control of delicate highlights or shadow details.

Continuously Variable ISO Sensitivity.

ISO is adjustable in 1/10th f-stop increments from 200 up to 3200 (Super6K-HS™) to easily fine-tune the desired sensitivity level. Any ISO setting can be used at any resolution level without restriction.

Resolution Options To Control Scanned Image File Size.

Depending on the model, 11 to 18 resolution settings can be used to capture the perfect file size for each job, independent of the selected ISO sensitivity. Images can be saved as Raw, 48-bit or 24-bit RGB files.

Improved Data Integrity — No Sub-sampling.

Precision analog gain adjustments for each color are far more accurate than digital manipulations of captured data, and prevent posterization while minimizing noise in shadows. Better Light's pixel averaging for resolution settings under 100% increases pixel bit depth, which improves highlight blends, color gradations and purity of digital files.

Extremely Accurate Digital Focus Verification.

A built-in Focus Verification Tool provides quick, precision focus of the camera — a must for the high-resolution capabilities of a scanning back. Using the SuperView feature, a sample area of the image can be previewed at full resolution at the speed of a prescan.

Extraordinary Results With Any Continuous Light Source.

Daylight, Tungsten, Fluorescent, HID (High Intensity Discharge) or HMI lighting can be used for subject illumination. Select up to four neutral points in a scene to automatically set perfect color balance from highlights to shadow.

New, Improved Better Light Hi-Speed USB Scanning Backs

Product Summary for Super10K-HS™, Super8K-HS™ and Super6K-HS™

Super10K-HS™ — a 416 megapixel digital scanning back

Created primarily for flat-art reproduction applications, the Super10K-HS will capture uninterpolated, original files up to 10200 x 13600 pixels (794 MB 48-bit). Continuously adjustable ISO range of 64 - 1000 is available at any resolution setting. The Super10K-HS is ideal for printers, service bureaus, color labs, museums and others looking for the ultimate in art capture and reproduction. ViewFinder™ software provides exceptional control of all imaging characteristics prior to the final scan, creating a near perfect first generation digital file. ICC profile compatible.

Retail Price \$22,995

Super8K-HS™ — a 384 megapixel digital scanning back

The increased sensitivity of the Super8K-HS permits faster scans or use of less light. Continuously adjustable ISO range of 125 - 2000 at any resolution setting. Better Light's extraordinary image quality produces native resolution of 8000 x 10660 pixels (488 MB 48-bit file) and the Enhanced Resolution feature extends resolution options up to 12,000 x 15,990 pixels (1.1 GB 48-bit RGB file). The versatility of this camera is ideal for giclée printers, color labs, museums and others looking for a high-resolution camera system that can photograph flat or dimensional subjects in the studio, on location or outdoors for landscapes or buildings. ICC profile compatible.

Retail Price \$17,995

Super6K-HS™ — a 216 megapixel digital scanning back

The Super6K-HS is the fastest scanning camera insert available - with over twice the light sensitivity of any competing model. Continuously adjustable ISO range of 200 - 3200 permits use of less light, smaller lens aperture, or shorter scan times. The Super6K-HS captures up to 9,000 x 12,000 pixels (309 MB 24-bit RGB, or 618 MB 48-bit RGB file) in as little as 53 seconds. Adjustable resolution, wide color gamut, and outstanding dynamic range make these systems ideal for everything from landscapes to art reproduction. The Super6K-HS is widely used in commercial, advertising and catalog photography as well as scientific and industrial applications. ICC profile compatible.

Retail Price \$14,995

(see attached price and specifications chart for comparison of all Better Light models)



BETTERLIGHT
...simply better digital images

Digital Scanning Camera Inserts

	Model 4000E-HS*	Model 6000E-HS*	Model 6000-HS	Super 6K-HS™	Super 8K-HS™	Super 10K-HS™
Native Maximum Resolution @ 100% (48 bit RGB File) Image Size @ 300 ppi	3750 x 5000 (106 MB) 12.5" x 16.7"	6000 x 8000 (274 MB) 20" x 26.7"	6000 x 8000 (274 MB) 20" x 26.7"	6000 x 8000 (274 MB) 20" x 26.7"	8000 x 10600 (488 MB) 26.7" x 35.5"	10200 x 13600 (794 MB) 34" x 45"
Megapixel Rating	56 Megapixels	144 Megapixels	144 Megapixels	216 Megapixels	384 Megapixels	416 Megapixels
Enhanced Maximum Resolution @ 150% (48 bit RGB File) Image Size @ 300 ppi	N/A	N/A	N/A	9000 x 12000 (618 MB) 30" x 40"	12000 x 15990 (1.1 GB) 40" x 53.3"	N/A
Number of Resolution Options	5	8	8	12	18	11
Internal Hard Drive (in Control Unit)	40 GB**	40 GB**	40 GB**	40 GB**	40 GB**	40 GB**
FAST Pre-Scan Time	4 seconds	4 seconds	4 seconds	4 seconds	6 seconds	11 seconds
Minimum Scan Time at Full Image Size	22 seconds for 106 MB scan	35 seconds for 274 MB scan	35 seconds for 274 MB scan	53 seconds for 618 MB scan	100 seconds for 1.1GB scan	114 seconds for 794 MB scan
Adjustable ISO Range (1/10 f-stop increments)	100 – 1600 Daylight	100 – 1600 Daylight	200 – 3200 Daylight (new 2X CCD)	200 – 3200 Daylight (new 2X CCD)	125 – 2000 Daylight (new 2X CCD)	64 – 1000 Daylight (new 2X CCD)
Suggested User Price with Standard Warranty	\$6,495 U.S. includes 2-year warranty	\$9,495 U.S. includes 2-year warranty	\$12,995 U.S. includes 2-year warranty	\$14,995 U.S. includes 2-year warranty	\$17,995 U.S. includes 2-year warranty	\$22,995 U.S. includes 2-year warranty

Prices for United States only. Outside of the U.S. prices will increase with duty and freight charges.
Prices subject to change without notice.

Effective 2/1/2004 / rev.2/28/07

All models are upgradeable. Contact Better Light for details.

* E-Models are new scan backs using a recycled CCD.

** 80 GB hard drive is available at additional cost of \$200.00

BETTER LIGHT, INC. Precision Digital Imaging

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