

Canon imagePROGRAF iPF680/685

Outstanding 24" Color Wide Format
Technical Printer



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Delivering excellent AEC graphics output and faster tested speeds than competitive devices, the Canon imagePROGRAF iPF680 has won BLI's Winter 2015 Pick for Outstanding 24" Color Wide Format Technical Printer. "The imagePROGRAF iPF680 is just the latest of several other models in Canon's technical wide format line to prove highly productive in BLI's tests," said David Sweetnam, head of BLI's European Research and Lab Services. When printing a 12-page Arch D-size DWF file at the standard 600-dpi setting, the unit delivered at an impressive 69- and 67.5 pages per hour in color and black, respectively. And its performance when printing BLI's wide format job stream, which simulates real-world printing to a shared wide format device by sending multiple technical documents of different formats at once, was much better than that of its competitors.

In addition to its outstanding productivity, several other factors contributed to the iPF680's selection as a Pick. The unit, which received BLI's Highly Recommended rating, proved highly reliable, giving a flawless reliability performance in its 2,500-square-foot lab test. BLI analysts also cited its excellent paper handling capabilities. Users can select from 49 different media types on the control panel, including a range of papers for architectural and engineering print applications; gloss, satin and matte papers of varying weights for photographic print applications; and films, backlit and self-adhesive materials for sign and banner printing. And via Canon's Media Configuration Tool, users can add more media types, and customize up to 13 different device settings—such as printhead height and cutting mode—for each type. Plus, the unit's well-designed output stacker can be positioned as a flat sheet collection stacker that neatly collects up to 30 prints face down and in order.

Other strengths of iPF680 are its ease of use, the ability for ink tanks to be replaced without interrupting a job in progress, and its support for Canon's iPF Direct Print & Share utility. This file storage service enables engineering- and other technical professionals to share and print files via the cloud, eliminating the need for more time-consuming and restrictive methods of file sharing.

BLI tested the iPF680 (MSRP, \$2,495); however, the iPF685 (MSRP, \$3,195), which adds a hard drive, shares the award. Two other Canon wide format devices also won 2015 Picks in their respective categories.

"Canon is excited and honored to receive three 2015 Wide Format Pick Awards," said Rich Reamer, director of large format product marketing for Canon U.S.A.'s Business Imaging Solutions Group. "The Canon team has worked hard to develop and launch products like the iPF680, iPF780 and iPF785 that provide our customers exceptional quality when printing large format prints. We will continue to focus on ease of use, reliability and exceptional quality in order to maintain positive customer experiences."

About BLI Pick Awards

With its Pick awards, which are announced once a year for wide format devices, BLI gives special recognition in each category to those products that provided the most outstanding performances in BLI's exhaustive lab tests.

BLI's awards stand alone in that they are based on a rigorous battery of lab tests that takes approximately two months to complete. The evaluation includes an extensive durability test that is unique among office product evaluations and uniquely qualifies BLI to assess reliability, a critical factor for buyers and IT directors.

Other performance attributes evaluated include ease of use, media handling, productivity and image quality, among others. Each product that successfully passes BLI's lab test earns BLI's Recommended or Highly Recommended seal and a BLI Certificate of Reliability, and the best performers qualify as Pick award contenders. Consequently, a BLI Pick is a hard-earned award that buyers and IT directors can trust to better guide them in their acquisition decisions.

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