

*For immediate release*

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**SPENCERLAB PRINTER TEST SUITE ENHANCED WITH VERSION 4.1**

**Enhancing Analysis and Benchmarking of Digital Printer Performance**

**Melville, NY, October 2008** — The *SpencerLab* Digital Color Laboratory today announced availability of the updated version 4.1 of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite. This free update – which includes additional test files, image profile enhancements, and increased file format and print size options – extends the breadth of the current release with enhancements that cover the Consumer, Photographic, SMB/Office/Enterprise, Graphic Arts, and Large Format market segments. The latest update of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite is available to licensed users for immediate access at [www.spencerlab.com/MySpencerLab](http://www.spencerlab.com/MySpencerLab).

As successor to the *de facto* industry standard *Color Hardcopy Quality Factors (CHQF)*, the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite further facilitates the test and analysis of color print quality. Incorporating *Hardcopy Quality Enhancement*, the Suite includes a focus on high-quality monochrome printing. Also added were test files to facilitate comparative consumable yield/cost-per-print as well as throughput speed performance benchmarking. This update of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite continues the refinement and expansion of a high-end, quality test tool for the digital printing industry. “*SpencerLab* is committed to providing our Printer Test Suite community with up-to-date evaluation tools for testing and analyzing digital imaging products”, said Catherine Fiasconaro, *SpencerLab* Operations VP and Director of the Laboratory. “This update incorporates user feedback, as well as *SpencerLab’s* own internal testing requirements; all have been implemented and validated in recent *SpencerLab* testing”.

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– *SpencerLab* Operations VP & Director

**AVAILABILITY**

The version 4.1 update is available at no charge to current licensees of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite 4.0, as part of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite Version 4 released in earlier this year. For information on how to become a licensee of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite, visit [www.spencerlab.com](http://www.spencerlab.com).

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**BACKGROUND**

Assisted by over a dozen key industry sponsors, *SpencerLab* has applied its expertise in Print Quality, Throughput Speed Performance, Toner/Ink Yield and associated Cost-per-Print to the development and refinement of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite. Since its 1990 introduction, the prior *CHQF* Test Suite had become generally accepted as a *de facto* standard to facilitate the evaluation of Print Quality. Test files in the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite complement recent and forthcoming ISO/IEC standards (*SpencerLab* has been a continuing participant in their development).

More than a dozen firms sponsored development of the suite in order to have access to more meaningful measurement tools and standards, including Adobe, Canon, Eastman Kodak, EFI, Hewlett-Packard, Konica Minolta, Lexmark, Océ, Okidata, Toshiba, Xerox, and Ziff Davis Enterprise. Although sponsorship of the development of the *SpencerLab* Printer Test Suite does not require use of *SpencerLab's* testing services or methodology, many licensee sites are using the suite on a continuing basis.

**ABOUT THE SPENCERLAB DIGITAL COLOR LABORATORY**

Approaching its 20th anniversary in the industry, Spencer & Associates Publishing, Ltd. has earned an international reputation for expertise in the areas of Color Print Quality and Consumable Yield. *SpencerLab* Digital Color Laboratory, an independent testing division of Spencer & Associates Publishing, Ltd., is recognized as a leader in unbiased, third-party digital color printer/MFP testing. Leading vendors have relied on *SpencerLab* to provide Color Print Quality, Cost-per-Print, Throughput Speed, and Usability benchmarking for a variety of printing technologies – inkjet, laser, solid inkjet, LED, dye sublimation, and many others. *SpencerLab* provides leadership in quantitative and qualitative product comparisons – test and evaluation services and compliance certifications, benchmark test software/hardware, and focus group management.

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