

For immediate release

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SpencerLAB PRINTER TEST SUITE – UPDATE TO VERSION 4.3

Enhancing Analysis and Benchmarking of Digital Printing Performance

Melville, NY, 09 November 2010 — The *spencerLAB* DIGITAL COLOR LABORATORY has announced the latest update, version 4.3, to the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE. This update is available for immediate access at www.spencerlab.com/MySpencerLab. If you are a current licensee of the Suite, this update is included with your annual subscription – **at no charge**. Licensees of the Test Suite will realize significant benefits with use of the 4.3 update.

As with previous versions, this update of the Test Suite continues the refinement and expansion of this high-end, quality test tool for the digital printing industry. The *spencerLAB* commitment to providing users with a comprehensive tool for print quality analysis and printer benchmarking has resulted in 21 new test files in various adaptations, including new Photo Book Print Quality test files and a new sub-suite, the Label Suite of test files.

New features and enhancements in the latest version of the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE include:

- File updates, including enhanced color correction of memory colors
- Addition of MS Office 2010 Open XML files
- Addition of Label Suite of test files
- Addition of 12" x 18" Photo Book Print Quality test files
- Addition of "Problem Photo" test files with common consumer photo impairments such as red-eye, poor sharpness and contrast, etc. for the evaluation of image enhancement/correction tools

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“... *SpencerLab takes another step forward in providing the digital imaging community with the most comprehensive and up-to-date set of tools for product testing and evaluation.*”

– *SpencerLab* Operations VP & Director

To celebrate the new update, *spencerLAB* is currently offering special, limited time discount opportunities through 31 January 2011: for current subscribers, 20% off the 2011 annual subscription fee; and for new licensees, 20% off the Test Suite with one-year of tech support and free updates.

“With this latest update, *spencerLAB* takes another step forward in providing the digital imaging community with the most comprehensive and up-to-date set of tools for product testing and evaluation. The updated *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE provides manufacturers, channel partners, resellers, and research facilities with upgrades and enhancements – addressing contemporary industry issues such as evaluation of photo correction software and label printing,” said Catherine Fiasconaro, Director of the Laboratory and Vice President, Operations. “We strongly encourage licensees to take full advantage of all the new features designed to enhance suite’s capabilities and the user experience.”

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The *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE consists of over three gigabytes of data, includes more than 80 test files (in over 200 adaptations, printing over 400 pages), and covers the full breadth of market segments, including: Consumer, SMB/Office/Enterprise, Photographic, Graphic Arts, Large Format and Production. The Suite has become a printing industry standard for print and image quality analysis. Files include black-and-white and color; color-managed RGB and CMYK; PostScript, PDF, and application formats; output sizes ranging from 4x6” through large format; and both U.S. and international page sizes.

AVAILABILITY

The version 4.3 update is available immediately at no cost to current subscribers of the *spencerLAB* Printer Test Suite – the update is automatically available at their *MySpencerLab* login page. For information on how to become a site licensee of the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE, visit www.spencerlab.com or e-mail suite@spencer.com.

BACKGROUND

Assisted by over a dozen key corporate sponsors, *spencerLAB* has shared its expertise in Print Quality, Throughput Speed Performance, Toner/Ink Yield and associated Cost-per-Print, and Reliability analysis in the development and refinement of the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE. Since its 1990 introduction as the *CHQF* Test Suite, it has become a generally accepted *de facto* standard in facilitating evaluation of Print Quality. Test files in the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE complement recent and forthcoming ISO/IEC standards (*spencerLAB* has participated in their development for nearly a decade).

More than a dozen firms sponsored development of Version 4 in order to share access to more meaningful measurement tools and standards. These have included Adobe, Canon, Eastman Kodak, EFI, Hewlett-Packard, Konica Minolta, Lexmark, Océ, Okidata, Toshiba, Xerox, and Ziff Davis Enterprise. Many of these sponsors as well as other major industry firms are using the *spencerLAB* PRINTER TEST SUITE, our testing services or methodology on a continuing basis.

ABOUT THE SpencerLAB DIGITAL COLOR LABORATORY

Celebrating more than two decades of industry service, Spencer & Associates Publishing, Ltd. has earned an international reputation for expertise in Color Print Quality and Consumable Yield/Cost-per-Print. *SpencerLAB* DIGITAL COLOR LABORATORY, its independent test division, is recognized as a leader in unbiased, third-party digital image testing. Leading vendors also rely on *spencerLAB* to provide Throughput Speed Performance, Usability and Reliability benchmarking for a wide variety of printing technologies – inkjet, laser/LED, thermal, and photographic, to name a few. *SpencerLAB* provides leadership in quantitative and qualitative comparisons – test and evaluation services, focus group management, compliance certifications, and benchmark test software/hardware.

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NEWS RELEASE