



2006 Pick of the Year

*Most Outstanding Monochrome MFP
Printer Line of 2006*

Lexmark International, Inc.



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Offering an extensive line of monochrome multifunction printers that earned more “Highly Recommended” ratings and “Pick of the Year” awards than any other vendor during the 2006 testing year, Lexmark International, Inc. has been named the winner of BLI’s award for “Most Outstanding Monochrome Multifunction Printer Line of 2006.”

Presented once each year, BLI’s “Outstanding Printer Line of the Year” awards recognize the vendors whose product lines have proven to be the best in their respective categories. After subjecting scores of office printers ranging from monochrome and color personal printers to large workgroup and multifunction models from every major vendor to BLI’s unique battery of laboratory tests, BLI’s highly experienced staff of test technicians and editors make a selection. Among the many factors considered by BLI in selecting a “Line of the Year” recipient are reliability, overall economy, print quality, ease of use and setup, productivity, administrative utilities and feedback to user workstations. For a vendor to be in the running for these awards, at least one product from its low-, mid- and high-volume categories must have been lab tested by BLI. The product lines that clearly stand out against those of other vendors are awarded this prestigious recognition.

For consistently outstanding performance in BLI’s testing, Lexmark’s monochrome multifunction printers were the clear choice for “Monochrome Multifunction Printer Line of the Year.”

Said Marlene Orr, BLI’s senior printer analyst, “Lexmark’s design for its multifunction printers is among the best we’ve seen on products of this type. The control panel is very easy to use, with an uncluttered appearance and all of the functions represented by clearly labeled icons with names that are easily recognized by copier users. In addition, the scanner is fully integrated into the device and, of course, these multifunction printers have the high degree of reliability and excellent print quality we’ve come to expect from Lexmark.” Lexmark devices are also easy to use for their standard print functions, thanks to the very graphical print drivers that are nearly identical in layout and appearance. Also enhancing ease of use is a status window, accessible through the PCL or PostScript print drivers, which provides very good feedback via pop-up messages and icon alerts for a variety of warning and error conditions.

Added BLI Senior Test Technician Tony Maceri, "Lexmark's monochrome multifunction printers consistently perform well in our lab testing. These devices offer great reliability and productivity, but even better, they are very easy to use, thanks to their large back-lit control panels, which allows users to easily program functions and view help messages." Like other recently introduced Lexmark products, the company's new multifunction models have a convenient USB port that allows walk-up users to print files from or scan files to a USB flash drive; this functionality can be disabled by the administrator if desired.

BLI Senior Test Engineer Paul DePaolo said, "Not only are Lexmark's monochrome multifunction printers solidly-built workhorses, but also include an impressive array of standard security features." These include encryption; the ability to disable various functions and to set up accounts using MarkVision to restrict access to various functions; and IPSec, which uses encryption to secure communications over IP (Internet protocol) networks. DePaolo continued, "Not only that, but these network-friendly devices are easy to set up, and the MarkVision Professional software makes managing Lexmark and other devices on the network very easy."

In the 2006 calendar year, BLI tested seven multifunction laser printers from Lexmark's line of monochrome products and all of them were outstanding performers in BLI's testing. Six of the seven products received "Highly Recommended" ratings and "Pick of the Year" awards in their respective categories, while the seventh product earned a "Recommended" rating. Four of the products were awarded Fall 2006 "Picks," while the other two products—the X646dte and the X854e MFPs—earned Spring 2006 "Pick" awards.

These award-winning devices include the 45-ppm X642e, which was awarded a Fall 2006 "Pick" award for "Outstanding Mid-Size Workgroup Multifunction Printer" in the desktop category; the 50-ppm X646ef, which earned a Fall 2006 "Pick" award for "Outstanding Mid-Size Workgroup Printer" in the console category; and the 35-ppm X850e and the 45-ppm X852e, which received Fall 2006 "Pick of the Year" awards in the large workgroup multifunction category. Recipients of Spring 2006 "Pick of the Year" awards were the 50-ppm X646dte, which was named "Outstanding Mid-Size Workgroup Monochrome Multifunction Printer," and the 55-ppm X854e, which was named "Outstanding Large Workgroup Monochrome Multifunction Printer." All of these devices excelled in their respective categories. Finally, the X342n, tested in November 2006, is a 27-ppm desktop multifunction device that offers standard network printing, copying, scanning and faxing; the X342n received BLI's "Recommended" rating.

"Lexmark's entire lineup of monochrome multifunction products was refreshed in 2006, giving customers in both small offices and large enterprises access to leading-edge multifunction technology to help increase productivity and reduce costs," said Paul Rooke, Lexmark executive vice president and president of its Printing Solutions and Services Division. "This award demonstrates Lexmark's position as a technology leader in the printing industry."

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