Kodak

iNnovation Series Scanners

Guidelines for demonstrating iThresholding with Kodak 3520 Scanner

September 2003 A-61508

Perfect Page now with iThresholding

Overview

More of the challenging documents that stopped work in the past – including those with highlights and low contrast – are now sailing through without the need for manual adjustments. Perfect Page scanning with iThresholding handles more of these tough imaging problems automatically. Often with the same, or better, readability than the original document.

Perfect Page with iThresholding captures images and optimizes them at full processing speed. Edges are sharper. Images are deskewed. OCR read rates are excellent. And, in many cases, file sizes are small, too.

ATP (Adaptive Threshold Processing) – separates the foreground information in an image (i.e., text, graphics, lines, etc.) from the background information (i.e., white or non-white paper background).

Adaptive Thresholding works on grayscale scanned images and outputs a bi-tonal electronic image. Its strength lies in the ability to separate the foreground information from the background information even when the background color or shading varies, and the foreground information varies in color quality and darkness. Different types of documents may be scanned using the same image processing parameters and results in excellent scanned images. If mixing documents of different colors, paper qualities and textures and print quality, the Adaptive Thresholding features optimize each image automatically.

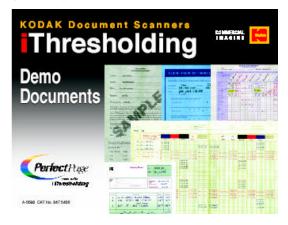
What is iThresholding?

iThresholding is an enhancement of Kodak's Perfect Page Scanning. iThresholding reduces presorting, rescans and postimage processing by automatically adjusting for highlighting, low contrast and light-weight paper situations that previously required manual adjustments.

Perfect Page with iThresholding captures images and optimizes them at full processing speed. Edges are sharp, images are deskewed and borders removed without loss of information. Imaging problems that iThresholding can solve are: bad photocopies, multi-shaded documents, dot-matrix images, low contrast originals, and carbonless forms.

Demo documents

The iThresholding Demo Document Kit includes 5 blue folders (A-5698). Each folder contains 6 demo documents.

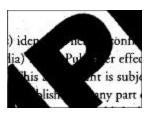


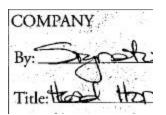
- Copyright document (white background)
- Copyright document (gray background)
- Questionnaire (blue background)
- Shipping Ticket
- Expense Report
- General Ledger

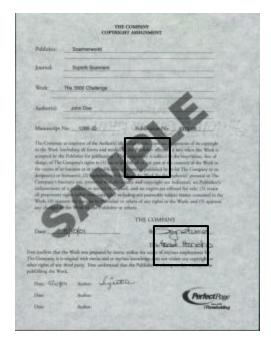
The following images were scanned from a *Kodak* Scanner with iThresholding at 200 dpi. Areas of the documents have been highlighted to illustrate the benefits of iThresholding.

Copyright document (white background)

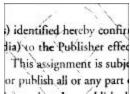
With Adaptive Threshold Processing (default)

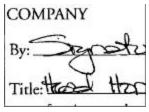






With iThresholding





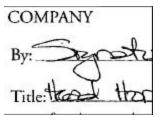
NOTE: With ATP you can't read the text under "SAMPLE" and there is more noise and speckling in the document.

Copyright document (gray background)

With Adaptive Threshold Processing (default)



With iThresholding

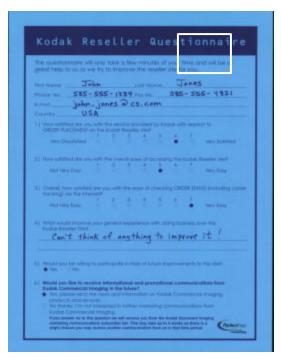


NOTE: Image is black, unreadable.

Questionnaire (blue background)

With Adaptive Threshold Processing (default)



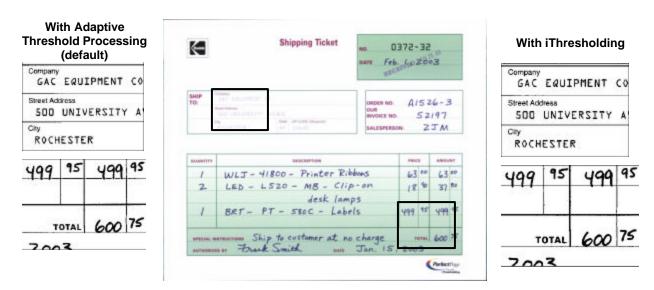


With iThresholding

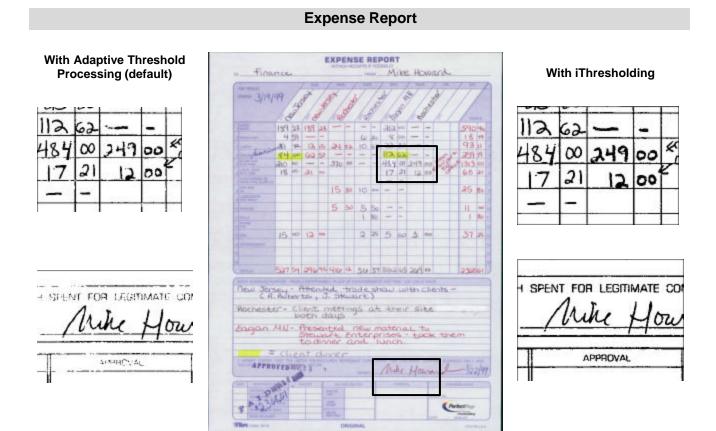


NOTE: Image is black, you are unable to read anything.

Shipping Ticket (green)

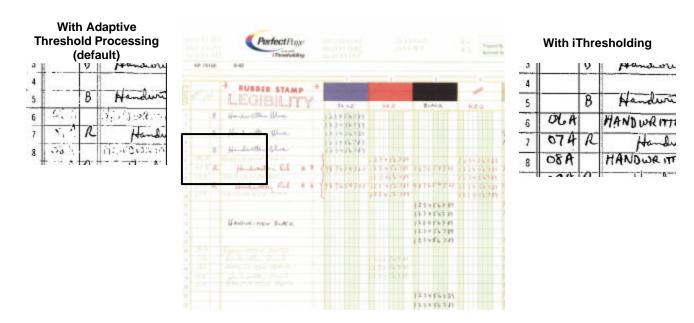


NOTE: Either image processing works well for this document.



NOTE: With ATP characters are broken and unreadable.

General Ledger



NOTE: With ATP characters are broken and unreadable.

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Set-up instructions for demonstration with 3520 Scanners

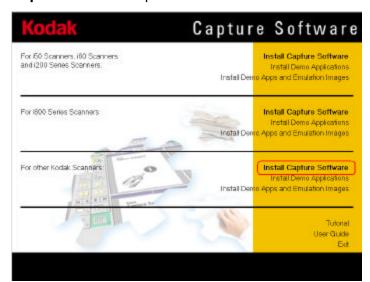
Use the instructions below to set-up iThresholding demonstrations with *Kodak* Capture Software for the *Kodak* 3520 Scanner. Demonstrations can be performed using an attached 3520 Scanner or in Capture Software emulation mode.

When demonstrating iThresholding with a 3520 Scanner, you need to have *Kodak* Capture Software, Version 6.0 or higher installed on your PC. Follow the instructions below to install this version.

- 1. Install Capture Software, Version 6.0 on your PC.
 - If downloading from the Kodak website (www.kodak.com/go/capturesoftware), select the link for Demo Software for 3000/4000 Series Scanners.



 If installing from a Capture Software CD, select the Install Capture Software option For other Kodak Scanners:



 Run the iThresholding_Demo_Apps_for_3520 executable (.exe file) located in the root directory on the iThresholding CD. In addition, this file can be downloaded from the Kodak website (www.Kodak.com/go/CSDemoApps). This will install the iThresholding demo applications and emulation images in your current installation of Kodak Capture Software for IL or DS Scanners.

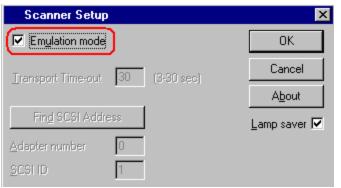
Demonstrating iThresholding in emulation mode

Demonstrating iThresholding in emulation mode may only be done using *Kodak* Capture Software for IL and DS Scanners.

 Start Capture Software (in the Kodak Capture Software for IL and DS Scanners program group) and be sure Emulation mode is enabled.

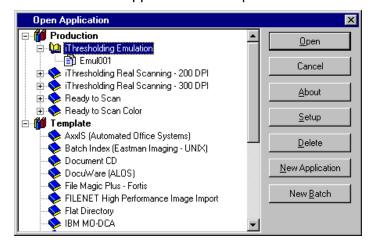
To enable Emulation mode:

1. Select **Setup** from the **Scanner** menu and check **Emulation** mode.

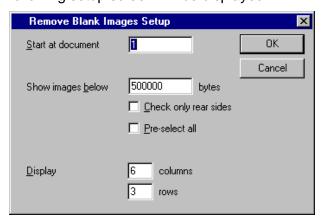


NOTE: If you enabled Emulation mode, you must restart Capture Software.

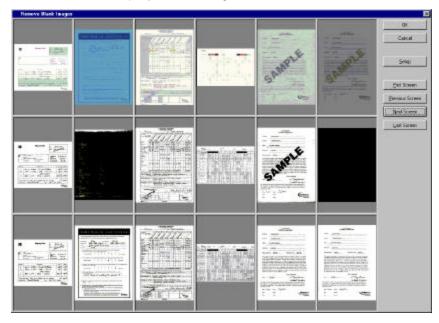
2. From the Open Application window, select the iThresholding Emulation demo applications and open the Emul001 batch.



- 3. From the main Capture Software window, click the green Scan button. For the iThresholding Emulation demo application, there will be 18 emulation images displayed:
 - 6 color images
 - 6 bi-tonal images scanned with the default threshold and contrast settings
 - 6 bi-tonal images scanned with the new iThresholding settings
- 4. Select **Remove Blank Images** from the **Batch** menu. The following setup screen will be displayed:



5. Click **OK** to display all 18 images on the same screen.

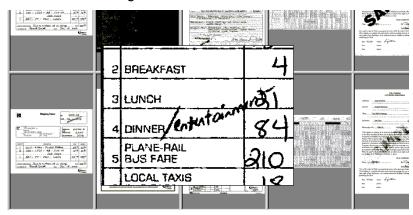


Notice the differences between the standard ATP scanned images and images scanned with iThresholding. The color images provide a reference to the original paper document.

To show some of the benefits of iThresholding up close:

 Click and hold the right mouse button on any image. The Capture Software magnifying glass becomes activated. While still holding down the right mouse button, move the mouse to view any portion of the magnified image.

NOTE: See the section entitled "Demo documents" for more information regarding highlighting the differences between documents scanned using the default Adaptive Threshold Processing and iThresholding settings.



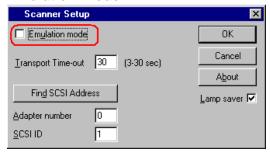
- 6. Using the magnifying glass, compare the same ATP image (2nd row) with the iThresholded image (3rd row).
- 7. When finished, click **Cancel** from the Remove Blank Images screen. The following message is displayed, **Do you want to quit without removing the blank images?**
- 8. Click **Yes** to return to the main Capture Software screen.

Demonstrating iThresholding with a 3520 Scanner attached

 Start Capture Software (in the Kodak Capture Software for IL and DS Scanners program group) and be sure Emulation mode is disabled.

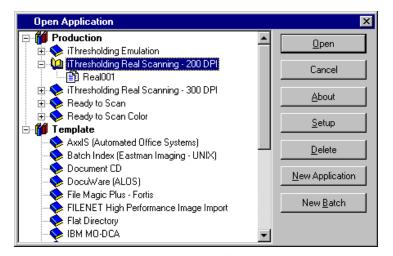
To disable Emulation mode:

1. Select **Setup** from the **Scanner** menu and uncheck **Emulation mode**.



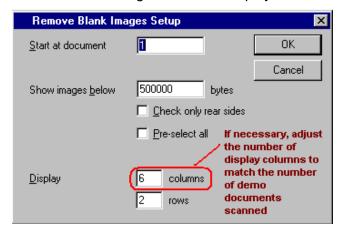
NOTE: After installing the iThresholding_Demo_Apps_for_ 3520, Capture Software will be in Emulation mode. If you disabled Emulation mode, you must restart Capture Software.

2. From the Open Application window, select one of the iThresholding Real Scanning demo applications and open the *Real001* batch.



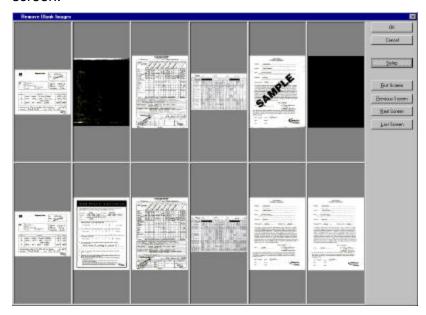
- 3. Using the **200 DPI Deskew Simplex** page setup, scan the iThresholding demo documents (6 pages) twice.
 - Use the default Threshold setting of 90 and scan the demo documents.
 - Click on iThresholding (Threshold setting will be 255) and scan the demo documents again.
 - When finished, reselect the Page Setup and set the Threshold value back to 90.

4. From the Batch menu, select **Remove Blank Images**. The Remove Blank Images screen is displayed:



NOTE: Make sure the number of Display columns matches the number of iThresholding demo documents that were scanned. By default, the number of Display columns will be 6 to match the total number of the demo documents. If you decide to scan a subset of the demo document set, then adjust the Display columns setting accordingly.

5. Click **OK** to display all of the scanned images on the same screen.

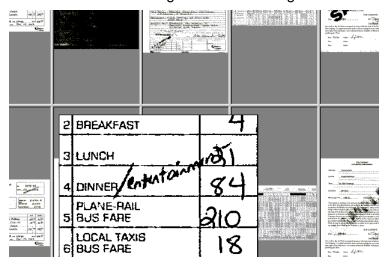


Notice the differences between standard ATP scanned images and images scanned with iThresholding.

To show some of the benefits of iThresholding up close:

 Click and hold the right mouse button on any image. The Capture Software magnifying glass becomes activated. While still holding down the right mouse button, move the mouse to view any portion of the magnified image.

NOTE: See the section entitled "Demo documents" for more information regarding the differences between Adaptive Threshold Processing and iThresholding.



- 6. Using the magnifying glass, compare the same ATP image (1st row) with the iThresholded image (2nd row).
- 7. When finished, click **Cancel** from the Remove Blank Images screen. The following message will be displayed, **Do you want to quit without removing the blank images?**
- 8. Click **Yes** to return to the main Capture Software window.

Comparison tables

The following tables compare 200 dpi (Table A) and 300 dpi (Table B) scanned image files sizes for the 6 demo documents using iThresholding at different contrast settings.

The variables that affect scanning are:

- Different results are possible from scan to scan and from scanner to scanner.
- The age of the lamps in the scanner.
- Lamp warm-up time.
- Frequency of calibration.
- Condition of the documents being scanned.
- Content in documents being scanned.

Table A − 200 dpi

Demo Documents	Kodak 3520D iThresholding (Threshold: 255) Contrast: 50	Kodak 3520D Default ATP Threshold: 90 Contrast: 50	Fujitsu 4097/VRS	Fujitsu 4099/VRS	Fujitsu 4860C/VRS	Bowe B&H 8125D Spectrum/VRS
Copyright White	37K	95K	178K	151K	35K	94K
Copyright Gray	34K	2K	51K	36K	27K	31K
Questionnaire	34K	15K	28K	29K	31K	31K
Shipping Ticket	20K	15K	42K	15K	14K	47K
Expense Report	57K	49K	64K	120K	54K	59K
Ledger	161K	121K	165K	159K	133K	170K

Table B – 300 dpi

14010 2 000 ap.										
Demo Documents	Kodak 3520D iThresholding (Threshold: 255) Contrast: 50	Kodak 3520D Default ATP Threshold: 90 Contrast: 50	Fujitsu 4097/VRS	Fujitsu 4099/VRS	Fujitsu 4860C/VRS	Bowe B&H 8125D Spectrum/VRS				
Copyright White	56K	312K	383K	551K	68K	289K				
Copyright Gray	50K	2K	92K	97K	43K	93K				
Questionnaire	49K	37K	44K	50K	48K	54K				
Shipping Ticket	38K	44K	108K	137K	23K	133K				
Expense Report	105K	128K	119K	284K	105K	122K				
Ledger	296K	247K	282K	295K	270K	275K				

Frequently asked questions

What is iThresholding?

With the new iThresholding feature, both bi-tonal brightness and contrast are automatically adjusted for each individual document in any scan order. iThresholding analyzes the entire gray scale image to optimize the conversion to bi-tonal. iThresholding renders high quality images from a large range of low- to high-contrast documents using minimal or no user intervention.

iThresholding benefits:

- Reduces pre-sorting, rescans, and post-image processing.
- Delivers cleaner, sharper image at full speed.
- Auto deskew and auto cropping combine with iThresholding to maximize throughput.

What kind of improvement can I expect with iThresholding features?

Using the iThresholding feature will result in an overall improvement in productivity, since you can scan a wider range of documents without intervention, often with a smaller file size.

Are there times when iThresholding should not be used? Using iThresholding is not recommended when scanning documents containing photographs. For these applications, you may wish to use dithering or error diffusion.

Does iThresholding work for color images?

iThresholding is designed to work with bi-tonal images only.

Do I need to update my current version of *Kodak* Capture Software or my application software to get the benefit of these new features?

Capture Software: Version 6.0 (and higher) is designed to support the iThresholding features of the 3520 Scanner. If you have a software service agreement (or are under warranty) you are eligible to receive the upgrade to Capture Software 6.0 as a benefit of your service agreement. You must call Kodak Service to receive the upgrade.

Other Application Software: New ISIS and TWAIN drivers have iThresholding as a binarization option (in the binarization dropdown menu). If your application works directly with the ISIS or TWAIN GUI (graphical user interface), then you can use iThresholding. However, if you have created your own custom interface under programmatic control, you will have to update your application to access the new feature.

Miscellaneous

Supporting documentation

A-5563 – Scanner 3500/3520 Sell Sheet

A-5697 – Brochure – "Introducing iThresholding, new feature of Perfect Page scanning"

A-5698 – iThresholding Demo Documents

See the Kodak website (www.kodak.com/go/PerfectPage) for additional information on iThresholding.

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