

Review: The new OPEX Velo 6000 Series

Most production scanners chase documents per minute as their headline capability. The OPEX Velo 6000 Series powered by InoTec takes a different approach. Rather than focusing solely on throughput, Velo has concentrated its engineering on handling difficult, mixed and awkward document batches and with minimal operator intervention.

Representing the first major product family line to emerge from the partnership between OPEX Corporation and Germany-based DATAWIN GmbH, manufacturer of InoTec scanners, the Velo 6000 Series combines proven production scanning technology with OPEX's expertise in document automation. The result is a range comprising the Velo 6150, 6180, 6210 and 6250, models which differ primarily in scanning speed (from 150ppm to 250ppm) while sharing the same core hardware platform and document handling capabilities.

With the opportunity to put the Velo 6210 through a live demonstration, Document Manager Magazine was keen to discover whether the engineering behind the new OPEX-InoTec partnership lives up to the claims.

From the outset, it is clear that the R&D team have placed a heavy focus on handling a remarkably wide variety of document types while reducing operator intervention. This is particularly important for organisations processing mixed batches every day, and in sectors such as heritage and archiving, or those who need to digitise delicate documents.

ENGINEERED FOR CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION, BUT OFFERED FROM A DESK SPACE

Sitting neatly on a regular desktop, the Velo 6210 is capable of scanning up to 210ppm. Built for continuous

operation, 24/7, with an unlimited daily duty cycle, the scanner feels like a production-class device without demanding the floor space associated with many high-volume scanners.

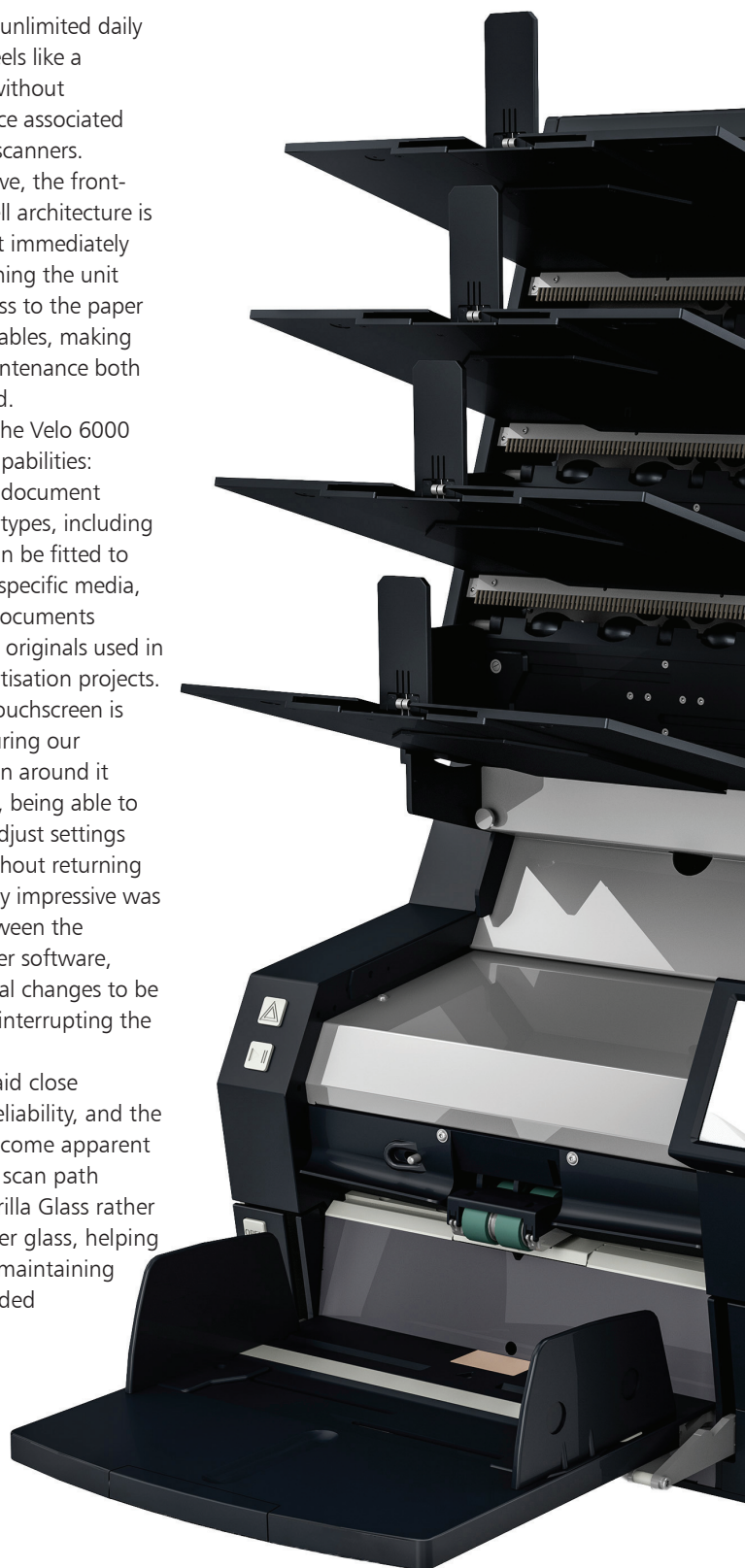
From a design perspective, the front-loading, top-exit clamshell architecture is one of the scanner's most immediately noticeable features. Opening the unit showed us excellent access to the paper path, rollers and consumables, making routine cleaning and maintenance both quick and straightforward.

It also supports one of the Velo 6000 Series' more distinctive capabilities: configurable and flexible document handling. Different roller types, including optional silicon rollers, can be fitted to optimise the scanner for specific media, from everyday business documents through to more delicate originals used in archival and heritage digitisation projects.

The seven-inch colour touchscreen is equally well executed. During our demonstration, navigation around it proved easy and intuitive, being able to monitor scanning jobs, adjust settings and respond to alerts without returning to the host PC. Particularly impressive was the close integration between the touchscreen and the driver software, allowing many operational changes to be made on the fly without interrupting the scanning workflow.

Engineering has also paid close attention to long-term reliability, and the engineering decisions become apparent almost immediately. The scan path incorporates durable Gorilla Glass rather than conventional scanner glass, helping to resist scratches while maintaining image quality over extended periods of use.

At Document Manager Magazine we've long questioned why this isn't a more common upgrade across





production scanners, as it offers a clear advantage in reducing wear but still delivering consistent image quality.

The range also features an integrated metal detection system capable of identifying staples and paper clips before they reach the imaging area. The emphasis with this range is on protecting both the scanner and the documents passing through it, which in turn reduces the likelihood of unnecessary downtime and costly damage.

DOCUMENT HANDLING: DESIGNED FOR DOCUMENT VERSATILITY

But where the Velo 6000 Series really stands out is in its document handling.

At the heart of the document handling design is a gentle belt-driven transport system. Rather than relying solely on rollers to move documents through the scan path, the belts gently transport pages through the scanner once they have entered the transport mechanism. The result is controlled, consistent handling across an impressive range of media. Sleeves for the most delicate documents can largely be dispensed with.

Equally impressive is the ability to "tune the feed" according to the documents being scanned. You can adjust feed pressure and swap different roller materials, including optional silicon rollers for more delicate originals. Together, these features allow the

scanner to be configured for everything from everyday office documents to glossy media, laminated sheets, envelopes and particularly heavy card up to 800gsm. We saw laminated materials and unusually thick documents being handled confidently.

During the demonstration, the optional intelligent four-tray sorter proved particularly effective, automatically directing documents to different output trays based on pre-defined workflow rules such as barcodes, separator sheets and paper size. For organisations processing mixed batches, this has the potential to significantly reduce manual sorting after scanning.

The scanner also incorporates five programmable ultrasonic sensors, allowing double-feed detection to be tailored to suit mixed document batches. Rather than applying a single detection profile to every job, operators can configure the sensors to accommodate more challenging media while maintaining document integrity throughout the scanning process.

A PERFECT ARCHIVING SCANNER

One particularly interesting capability is the Velo's suitability for heritage and archival digitisation.

While few organisations purchase a production scanner specifically for archive work, the ability to slow scanning speeds significantly, adjust feed pressure and fit



that broadens the potential applications of the Velo 6000 Series beyond traditional document capture.

MOVING FROM HARDWARE TO AUTOMATION SOFTWARE

Velo hardware is complemented by extensive software compatibility.

Support for both TWAIN and ISIS ensures straightforward integration with existing document management and capture environments, while the optional Velo Scan+ capture suite, provides organisations without an established capture a platform that blends seamlessly as a comprehensive scanning solution.

Workflow automation is another strength. Barcode recognition, blank-page detection and paper-size recognition can all be used to separate documents automatically, while the optional four-tray sorting system adds another level of intelligent output management for more complex capture environments.

Image processing is performed largely within the scanner itself, reducing reliance on host PC resources while delivering consistently high-quality images. As organisations increasingly adopt Intelligent Document Processing and AI-driven document extraction, that emphasis on producing clean, accurate images before they reach downstream systems becomes increasingly valuable.



silicon rollers, creates opportunities for handling fragile historical documents that would normally require much more specialised equipment. OPEX showed us how, in certain circumstances, books

with the spine removed can be scanned, further extending the scanner's versatility for preservation and digitisation projects.

It is an unusual capability within a mainstream production scanner and one

VERDICT

We believe that the OPEX Velo 6000 Series is far more than a fast production scanner. Its real strength lies in the engineering versatility behind its document handling, combining robust construction, thoughtful operator-focused design and exceptional media versatility into a single platform. Whether processing routine business records, mixed document batches or more specialist archival material, it consistently demonstrates a level of flexibility that many competing scanners struggle to match.

For organisations looking beyond headline scanning speeds and seeking a production scanner capable of adapting to real-world document capture challenges, the Velo 6000 Series deserves serious consideration.