As the micrographics industry has matured, all manufacturers have moved to accepted industry standard photographic characteristics such as speed, contrast, resolution and granularity. Our in-house testing has shown that few adjustments are required to achieve desired photographic results with Imagelink Film and Chemical products provided by both Kodak and Agfa. While conversion is expected to be a "drop in" it is always a good idea to perform a quality check and or step test of the cameras prior to starting live production.

For converting processing, then cameras, film writers or duplicators follow this procedure:

We recommend converting in the following order:

1) Convert Processor without making any setting changing wherever possible, especially for table top processors. Specific consult may be required for deep tank processors but copying what is already done is a good starting point.

2) run a film test on the camera, writer or duplicator

3) process the film test sample

4) check the density on the processed film sample

5) change exposure if the density is not within limits

For converting cameras, film writers or duplicators without changing chemicals follow this procedure:

1. run a film test on the camera, writer or duplicator
2. process the film test sample
3. check the density on the processed film sample
4. change camera exposure if the density is not within limits
5. if chemicals are changed later, use process control strips to verify process density aims are being met.
6. Below we have highlighted Tech Tips that will help in the process of conversion. We would encourage you to review all Tech Tips as they have gone through revisions. For additional information or questions, please send emails to quality@epminc.com and also see Tech Tip # 019 EPM business and product support for additional contact information

Tech tips can be found at: http://www.epminc.com/support/tech-tips?view=docman

Processor chemical conversion:

All table top film processors (Agfa FP, Imagelink Archive Processor, Kodak Prostar, Fuji AP) users should only use Imagelink Archive Chemistry, no concentrate. No changes should be made on the processor settings (keep Imagelink Archive and Prostar processors at 100F or 37,8 Celsius).

All Deep Tank Processors users should use their current dilution ratios when possible but control density values should be verified before starting production. Adjustments may be required to match results. Please consult quality@epminc.com with any specific questions.

For additional information on Processor conversions:

See Tech Tip# 037 - What if. Processor control trouble shooting guidelines

See Tech Tip# 114 - Conversion Procedure for Deep Tank Processor Chemistry

See Tech Tip# 117- Conversion Procedure for Table Top Processor Chemistry

See Tech Tip# 118- Imagelink Microfilm Processing Chemicals (Europe and Asia Pacific Regions)

Application specific recommendations:

Reference Archive Films

- Verify exposure in the archive writer that provides aim density of 1.0 +/- .05 with lower and upper limits of 0.90 to 1.10 respectively.

See Tech Tip # 089 - Density Range Explanation for the Kodak Archive Writer

See Tech Tip# 115 – How to change the exposure setting on the Imagelink Archive Writer

Imagelink HQ/HD and FS/HS Camera films

- Verify that internal processor is in control or ask service provider to verify they are in control prior to processing a step test. Run film tests on camera using a white target or customer preferred reference targets and send for processing and quality control check. If the quality control targets do not meet background requirements then customer should adjust exposure conditions (table top processors) or may choose to adjust processing conditions on deep tank processors with variable temperature or transport speed. It is highly recommended however to maintain process control results and adjust camera exposures only. An FE may be required to adjust some cameras, see Tech Tips and Operator manuals.

See Tech Tip# 34- Typical density & resolution guidelines

See Tech Tip# 43 - Imagelink MICROFILMS USED IN KODAK MICROFILM CAMERAS

See Tech Tip# 99 - List of Operator Manuals

See Tech Tip# 116 - Core-Reel Cross Reference List

Direct Duplicating film 2468/3468 to Imagelink Dir Duplicating film

- Run a short step test varying exposure on the duplicator and determining exposure that provides a 0.05 to 0.15 density above Din for a clear area of the master film.

Duplicating film 2462 to IMAGELINK POS MICROFILM

- Some exposure change on the duplicators maybe required. In most cases it would be an exposure decrease (faster duplication speed).

DR COM Film to Imagelink Ecopos 305 Film

- It is required to change to Imagelink Ecopos Chemistry when converting to Ecopos 305 films. For processing EcoPos 305 film EPM offers the following chemicals as liquid concentrates:

Imagelink EcoPos 305 Developer (1:2 dilution)

Imagelink EcoPos 305 Fixer (1:2 dilution) or Imagelink G3343c Fix (1:3 dilution)

- The Ecopos chemicals are available in container: 4 x 5L with a dilution ratio of 1+2.
- They are particularly suitable for all deep tank processors.
- Starting point processing conditions are: Temperature: 37C (99 F)
- Dwell time: 30 seconds
- With automatic replenishment a recommended starting point is 250 ml/meter of 105 mm film processed. Replenishment must be adjusted to maintain a constant Dmax.
- Set the processor up to get an initial background density of between 2.2 to 2.4. It may start at the low end of this range but will settle down towards 2.4 after processing several rolls of film.
- Check and make sure that Dmin is less than 0.08
- Proceed with camera tests to determine what exposure to use on the COM recorder

Additional comments:

- Initial startup conditions may be different than settled down seasoned process.
- Dmin may start slightly higher but usually improves with additional film processed.
- To “season” the process run waste film thru the processor without exposure or replenishment, top off developer before starting production.