

Epson Knoware University Podcast Featuring the Perfection V200 Scanner August, 2007 Transcript

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Greg: It's going to be the first scanner you're going to find with a 4800 dpi optical resolution at \$99.

Margaret: One lucky podcast listener will win an Epson Perfection V200 scanner, just for listening to this podcast and scoring 100% on the podcast quiz. That's this month on the Knoware University podcast.

From Epson Knoware University in Long Beach, California, I'm Margaret with the Knoware University podcast for August, 2007, and on this month's podcast, you'll learn all about the new Epson Perfection V200 scanner and learn how you can win a V200. That's coming up at the end of today's show, so keep listening for all the details.

Epson, the inventor of the world's first single-pass 24-bit color scanner, all the way back in 1989, has been making top-notch scanners ever since. We've recently introduced an exciting new scanner, the Perfection V200. To find out more, I spoke to Greg, Epson's scanner expert.

Welcome to the Knoware University podcast, Greg.

Greg: Thanks for having me, Margaret.

Margaret: So, Greg, tell us a little bit about the V200.

Greg: Well, certainly, Margaret. This is our new consumer entry-level scanner. It's a \$99 product. And what's really great about that is at this price point, it's going to be the first scanner you're going to find with a 4800 dpi optical resolution at \$99.

Margaret: Wow! That is really high resolution for a very reasonable price.

Greg: Absolutely.

Margaret: And what benefit do I get out of having 4800 dpi?

Greg: Well, primarily what you're going to get out of that kind of resolution is the ability to scan very small media like film and negatives and mounted slides, at a high enough resolution to be able to enlarge them. So at 4800 dpi, for instance, you could take a 35mm slide and make a 13 by 19 print from it.

Margaret: Oh, wow, so that could be printed on something like our Stylus Photo 1400 or one of its sister machines.

Greg: Absolutely. So if you've got those great old slides you've inherited or maybe you took slides yourself at one point, you can scan those all in, get them digitized and make nice large-size prints out of the family photos or vacation shots, whatever it may be.

Margaret: Great. So besides slides, what else can I scan with this?

Greg: Well, obviously, this is a flatbed scanner so it has the versatility to scan photos, documents, three-dimensional objects even. The scanner has our patented 180-degree high-rise lid so you can lift the lid up, and not only does it lift up a few inches to allow large objects, but they can actually lay it flat next to the scanner, and put oversize objects directly on the scan bed.

Margaret: Oh, great.

Greg: This is especially important with our color restoration features. You know, our scanner has the ability to restore faded colors from photos and oftentimes those photos are stuck in albums. They've been in there 20 years and not only have they turned red but they're actually gummed up in the album. You try to take the picture out and it just sticks or it rips and curls up. So instead of trying to force the picture out of there and possibly ripping it, you can just lay the entire album flat

on the scan bed and scan the picture in the album. And it will make a digital copy with its color restored and keep the original in fairly decent condition.

Margaret: And that is exactly what I was just thinking of, because I have one of those albums where the pictures are just stuck and if I try to pull them out they're going to rip.

Greg: Exactly.

Margaret: Very good. That's a really nice feature. Now, so we have a transparency unit on this. We have the high-rise lid. I saw something about digital dust correction in the specs on this?

Greg: Yes.

Margaret: What is that?

Greg: Certainly. Digital dust correction is a technology we introduced last year, actually, and it's not unlike the dust correction you might find in other scanner products, except ours is a lot more intelligent.

Margaret: Okay.

Greg: Our digital dust correction will actually look at an image and only remove the dust in the areas where there is a lot of open space. So it actually analyzes the picture and tries to not remove dust in the busy areas of the picture.

Margaret: Because it would be less visible when you scan that?

Greg: It's going to be less visible and also you don't want to be removing things that are part of the picture. You don't want to be removing windows from buildings or blades of grass or leaves or something of that sort. So the digital dust correction mostly looks at open areas like sky or clouds and it tries to remove dust only in those areas. It's a very nice feature.

Margaret: That makes good sense.

(Jingle music)

Margaret: We'll hear more of our interview with Greg telling us about the new Epson Perfection V200 scanner in just a minute. Remember to listen carefully at the end of this podcast for instructions on how to enter the drawing for a V200 this month.

And be sure to take the online course this month on Knoware University. During August you can learn all about Epson's Back-to-School offerings. Four lucky Knoware University Students will win a Stylus CX7000F just by taking the Knoware University course and scoring 100% on the quiz.

One lucky podcast listener will also be entered in a drawing to win a Perfection V200 this month. Stay tuned to the end of this podcast for details on how to enter that drawing.

(Jingle music)

And now back to our interview with Greg, Epson's scanner product expert, at Epson headquarters in Long Beach.

So, Greg, when I was looking at the specs on this, I saw that it's a 48-bit scanner. What does that give me?

Greg: Well, 48 bits really is an industry standard which gives you a wide variety of colors that the scanner can actually recognize. It's about 68 trillion colors that the scanner can recognize.

Margaret: Wow.

Greg: So any little slight shade, not just like a normal blue but like a shade of blue or red or green, the scanner can recognize that. And most of the time you're scanning from 48 bits to 24 bits because 24 bits is more of the standard recognized by most applications and such, unless you're using a high-end imaging application like Photoshop.

Margaret: Okay.

Greg: But a 48 to 24 bit conversion, what it basically does is just looks for the best possible colors from that 48-bit palette and brings those down to the 24-bit palette and gives those to you in your final image.

Margaret: So it uses the appropriate colors for the image.

Greg: Exactly. More true-to-life colors.

Margaret: Great. And what kind of software comes in the package with this?

Greg: Well, the scanner includes the Epson Scan Driver with our Epson Easy Photo Fix Technology for color restoration, the digital dust correction and such. It also includes the ABBYY FineReader Sprint Plus OCR software for automatically taking typed documents, scanning them and putting them back into editable text in a word processing program.

Margaret: Okay.

Greg: As well as the ArcSoft PhotoImpression program for doing your image editing, image correction, and such like that. And then your electronic reference manual.

Margaret: Wow. So you're got a 48-bit, 4800 dpi scanner plus all that software for \$100 or under \$100?

Greg: And the 35mm transparency adapter built right into the lid.

Margaret: Wow. That really is a lot for the money.

Greg: Cool, isn't it?

Margaret: It is. You mentioned that Easy Photo Fix comes in the driver with this and I know some of our podcast listeners have probably heard about that before, but for those who haven't heard about it, what is that exactly?

Greg: Well, Easy Photo Fix is an exclusive Epson technology we built into our Epson scan driver. You can find it in just about every one of our scanners. It consists of a couple of great features. Number one is color restoration. With one click in the scanner driver, you can take a faded photograph that's turned red, green or yellow with age and remove that color cast automatically without having to try to rebalance the colors yourself in an imaging program. Also you have the digital dust correction for automatically removing dust from both film and prints. We also have grain reduction for when you're scanning a negative or a slide and it's a kind of film with a lot of grain in it that can automatically soften the grain feature there. And these are all part of it. It's all one-click applications. Also backlight correction where if you have an image that was taken with too much light in the background and not enough in the foreground, it can kind of rebalance out the light and bring some more light to the foreground.

Margaret: Oh, great.

Greg: The nice thing about these features, too, is they can all be – most of them can be interchanged with each other, so you can do digital dust correction and color restoration or backlight correction and color restoration – anything to help you bring an old photograph back to a more reasonable or good-looking photograph.

Margaret: Great. So for a novice scanner user, it's a really easy way to fix those old photos that don't look so good anymore.

Greg: Right, and most of these features, too, you can see automatically in the Epson preview window when you're pre-scanning the image.

Margaret: Good. So you're not just blindly doing these corrections.

Greg: Exactly. You can see the color restoration, you can see the backlight correction take effect. You can't see dust correction. That actually has to wait for the scanning process, but you get the idea.

Margaret: Great. Well, that's all really great information on this. Now, as you probably know, Greg, every month we give away a prize to one lucky podcast listener. This month that winner will get a Perfection V200 scanner just for scoring 100% on the Knoware University podcast quiz.

Greg: Oh, cool. Awesome. Well, make sure you score 100% then.

Margaret: That's right. Well, thank you so much for your time today, Greg. I really appreciate you being here.

Greg: Thanks for having me, Margaret.

(Jingle music)

Margaret: Remember, you still need to take this month's podcast quiz in order to qualify for the drawing for the Perfection V200 scanner for podcast listeners.

Visit the final exams section located in the Student Center of Knoware University. On the final exams page you'll see a special quiz listed for the August 2007 podcast, right below the link for the regular Knoware University quiz on Epson's Back-to-School products. Score 100% on the podcast quiz and you're entered to win the Perfection V200 that's just for podcast listeners.

Well, that's it for this month's Knoware University podcast. Join us next month for another new Knoware University podcast with another Epson product expert and more chances to win great Epson products.

Until then, this is Margaret from Epson. Thanks for listening in and thanks for selling Epson.

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