



TECHKON SpectroPlate







# TECHKON SpectroPlate – Plate Measurement Device Printing plate measurement right on the spot

# Why measurements on printing plates?

Today in the age of Computer-to-Plate it is obvious: Without quality control in pre-press, there is no guarantee for quality in print. Thus the measurement of the right dot transfer on offset printing plates is a key segment of comprehensive process control in the printing industry.

However, measurement is only useful if the appropriate measurement technology is applied. Some years ago using densitometers on printing plates was common practice. But densitometers are designed for measuring on printed papers leading to limits when reading on plates.

At present, plate measurement devices based on microscopic image capture and processing are the established standard. TECHKON SpectroPlate unifies all advantages of this modern measurement technology in a compact hand-held instrument.

# How does SpectroPlate work?

The measurement accuracy of a plate-measuring device is determined by the quality of the optical system and the performance of the image processing algorithms. SpectroPlate meets the highest standards in this respect. The sample is illuminated uniformly with spectral broadband light. The microscopic im-

age is captured by a precision optical lens system and a high resolution CMOS color matrix sensor with high dynamic range. The processing of the detailed color image is performed by a powerful graphic signal processor and sophisticated imaging algorithms. All relevant quality parameters for correctly manufactured printing plates are shown on the LC-display.

# Versatile in use

Thanks to the excellent image capture quality and the ingenious graphic calculations, SpectroPlate can read precisely any screen size and screen technology: FM, AM or Hybrid screen. The spectrally white illumination and dynamic color evaluation permits reading all kinds of plate types and coated surfaces.

But it is not only plate reading where SpectroPlate shows its strengths. The multifunctional device handles dot measurement on film as well as on printed paper in CMYK print excellently.

# Portable Microscope

SpectroPlate lets you see things normally hidden to the human eye. It shows the raster dots on a film or a printing plate in large magnification on the device display or optionally on a computer screen. It lets you visually judge printing plates and

A specific strength is the image transfer of uncompressed highresolution files to the PC where they can be stored, edited or sent over the internet. Geometric sizes of dots or lines can be retrieved in micrometer- or mils-dimensions.

# Software SpectroConnect

The supplied Windows software connects the device to a PC. Measured values and transfer curves are displayed and stored. The display of comparisons to target values, the data export to Microsoft Excel<sup>™</sup> and the compatibility to RIP-applications are additionally useful functions of SpectroConnect. An exceptional feature is the enlarged view of the microscopic images.





# Versions and functions

SpectroPlate is available in three different types of performance packages: The entry-level model Start is designed for dot percentage measurements on all popular types of printing plates, film and CMYK print. The Expert version additionally features the recording of complete transfer curves and the possibility to analyze geometric objects within the device. The All-Vision model is able to measure supplementary low-contrast, processless printing plates.

The Start version can easily be upgraded to an Expert model by a post-purchase upload from the PC. All-Vision functionality is achieved by a hardware expansion. All three types can easily be connected to the Windows software SpectroConnect which is included in the package.

 $All\ devices\ are\ factory-calibrated\ to\ a\ highly\ accurate\ reference\ printing\ plate\ resulting\ in\ high\ long-term\ absolute\ accuracy\ and\ an\ excellent\ inter-instrument\ agreement.$ Additionally, time-consuming calibration procedures prior to measurements are obsolete.

• % dot percentage • Screen angle in ° • Screen frequency in I/cm and Ipi

Same functions as SpectroPlate Start and additionally. • Dot % transfer curve • Dot gain transfer curve • Geometric analysis • Memory for 100 data sets • Average measurement

#### SpectroPlate All-Vision

Same functions as SpectroPlate Expert and additionally: • Measurement of chemistry-free, processless plates with very low visible contrast

Software • SpectroConnect requires Windows 7, 8 or 10.

Contents • Measurement device SpectroPlate • Charging console with white standard and AC adapter with universal plugs • Carrying case • USB cable • CD with software SpectroConnect • Manual with ISO 9000 compliant certificate

### **Specifications**

Calibration

Screen ruling range

Measurable media

Measurement technology High-precision optical system with high resolution digital Memory

film in transmission and reflection, printed paper CMYK

100 data sets (only Expert and All-Vision) camera and digital image processing Repeatability ± 0.5 %

1024 x 1024 pixels, 16 million colors, RGB uncompressed Display High-contrast, backlight LC graphic display, 240 x 160 pixels, Image capture 1 x 1 mm, direct positioning with viewfinder, Measurement aperture 16 gray levels, contrast ratio adjustable

real-time image preview captured in LC graphic device display Power supply Rechargeable NiMH battery, controlled recharge via charging Light source Homogeneous spectral-broadband LED illumination console with AC adapter, 100 - 240 V, 47 - 63 Hz, up to 10.000 Measurement time

Approximately 1 second per measurement measurements per battery charge, battery level control USB Factory-made calibrated permanently, white standard in Communication Port

530 grams charging console Weight Measurement range dot % 0.0 - 100.0 %

65 x 65 x 190 mm (approx. 2.6 x 2.6 x 7.5 inches)

AM: 30 - 150 l/cm, 75 - 380 lpi; FM: 10 - 70 microns System requirements for TECHKON software Offset printing plates - CtP and conventional,

Windows 7, 8 or 10; 32- and 64-bit, minimum: IBM-compatible PC with Intel Core Duo processor or comparable processor, 4 GB RAM, 2 USB ports

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