
Multimedia systems and equipment - Colour measurement and management - Part
8: Multimedia colour scanners (IEC 61966-8:2001)

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 61966-8

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

May 2001

ICS 33.160.60; 35.180

English version

**Multimedia systems and equipment -
Colour measurement and management
Part 8: Multimedia colour scanners
(IEC 61966-8:2001)**

Systèmes et appareils multimédia -
Mesure et gestion de la couleur
Partie 8: Numériseurs couleur
(CEI 61966-8:2001)

Multimediasysteme und -geräte -
Farbmessung und Farbmanagement
Teil 8: Multimedia-Farbscanner
(IEC 61966-8:2001)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2001-04-01. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

CENELEC

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels

Foreword

The text of document 100/192/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 61966-8, prepared by IEC TC 100, Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 61966-8 on 2001-04-01.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented
at national level by publication of an identical
national standard or by endorsement (don) 2002-01-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting
with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2004-04-01

Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.

Annexes designated "informative" are given for information only.

In this standard, annexes A, B and ZA are normative and annex C is informative.

Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61966-8:2001 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

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Annex ZA (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-845	1987	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) Chapter 845: Lighting	-	-
IEC 61966-2-1	1999	Multimedia systems and equipment - Colour measurement and management Part 2-1: Colour management - Default RGB colour space - sRGB	EN 61966-2-1	2000
CIE 15.2	1986	Colorimetry	-	-
ISO 5-4	1995	Photography - Density measurements Part 4: Geometric conditions for reflection density	-	-
ISO 9241-8	1997	Ergonomic requirements for office work with visual display terminals (VDTs) Part 8: Requirements for displayed colours	EN ISO 9241-8	1997
ISO 12641	1997	Graphic technology - Prepress digital data exchange - Colour targets for input scanners calibration	-	-
ISO 13655	1996	Graphic technology - Spectral measurement and colorimetric computation for graphic arts images	-	-
ISO/CIE 10527	1991	CIE standard colorimetric observers	-	-

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC
61966-8

First edition
2001-02

Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management –

Part 8: Multimedia colour scanners

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE

W

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT – COLOUR MEASUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT –

Part 8: Multimedia colour scanners

FOREWORD

- 1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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- 3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical specifications, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
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- 6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this international standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 61966-8 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
100/192/FDIS	100/218/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

IEC 61966 consists of the following parts, under the general title: Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management:

- Part 1: General¹
- Part 2-0: Colour management in multimedia systems¹
- Part 2-1: Colour management – Default RGB colour space – sRGB
- Part 2-2: Colour management – Extended RGB colour space – sRGB64¹
- Part 2-3: Colour management – Default YCC colour space – sYCC¹
- Part 3: Equipment using cathode ray tubes
- Part 4: Equipment using liquid crystal display panels
- Part 5: Equipment using plasma display panels¹
- Part 6: Equipment used for digital image projection¹
- Part 7-1: Colour printers – Reflective prints – RGB inputs¹
- Part 7-2: Colour printers – Reflective prints – CMYK input¹
- Part 7-3: Colour printers – Transparent prints¹
- Part 8: Multimedia colour scanners¹
- Part 9: Digital cameras
- Part 10: Quality assessment – Colour image in network systems¹
- Part 11: Quality assessment – Impaired video in network systems¹

Annexes A and B form integral parts of this standard.

Annex C is for information only.

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The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2003. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this standard may be issued at a later date.

¹ To be published.

INTRODUCTION

This introduction is intended to distinguish the field of application of ISO 12641 and IEC 61966-8.

In order to standardize the calibration procedure for input scanners used in the printing and prepress industry, ISO 12641 was published in 1997. This part of IEC 61966 targets colour scanners for multimedia applications by providing characterization data necessary for colour management in open multimedia systems. It characterizes any multimedia colour scanners for consumer use, typically being connected to personal computers so as to capture colour images and display the colour information, either locally or distributed worldwide.

In such applications, colour management is important. Any red – green – blue data should have their colorimetric attributes clearly specified. The characterization data reported from this part of IEC 61966 will be used for the calculation of equipment specific colorimetric characterization so that colour management in open systems can be conducted.

The capture of colour information in a prepress input scanner usually assumes that the source is a positive film (transparent) original. The second most common type of original is positive photographic printing paper (reflective). Recently, prepress input scanners can support various types of reflective originals in addition to printing paper and can also capture an image directly from a negative film, although this is not yet very common. Due to these circumstances, ISO 12641 was established for prepress digital data exchange corresponding to transparent and reflective originals. However, a standard colour target for transparent film negative originals has not yet been established.

Spectral sensitivity characteristics of prepress scanners are not derived from the calculation based on a special colour system or the spectral distribution of printing ink; but are base signals relatively close to the three primary colours (red, green, blue) acquired for calibration purposes. The characteristics of the prepress input scanners are guaranteed by the experience of the operator or the sophistication of the colour processing application so that subtle variations among the colours appear in the printed result. In fact, printing and prepress scanners have many settings that are made available to professional users, and the operator can control the input scanner characteristics in a non-linear fashion to suit their objectives. In older input scanners, these controls were part of the stand-alone scanner system itself. For the scanners of the printing industry, these controls are typically part of the colour processing application software which processes the signals after capture and transfers them to the general purpose computer (workstation or server). In other words, a highly experienced and skilled operator can adjust the settings to freely change scanner characteristics such as tone and colour separation as he desires. Furthermore, scanner characteristics can be changed to correct and compensate for the characteristics of the original image target, such as colour fogging, as well as absorb them, and the operator can even change scanner colour separation conditions (typically cyan, yellow, magenta and black) in anticipation of the later printing process so as to obtain the most feasible printed result. As such, on the site of the prepress scanner, good colour separation (reproduction) is and has been dependent on the skill of the operator.

All prepress input scanners show variation in colour sensitivity characteristics depending on types, manufacturers, manufactured time and condition. Prepress input scanners tend to show less variation than other general-purpose multimedia colour scanners because of their usage in critical colour capturing in a closed system in comparison with the worldwide open system such as the Internet. There has never been an attempt to standardize the colour characteristics of prepress input scanners put on the market by different manufacturers.

However, it is demanded that the printing process should produce essentially the same results from the same original regardless of the input scanner used. This demand has been accomplished by the skill of the operator. For this reason, the process of scanning, including colour processing for the raw data, should involve the human operator, and the total system be considered as one system. In this human-machine interaction system, the characteristics can be understood as unified or standardized.

Under these circumstances, and in consideration of the actual work process, ISO/TC 130 (Graphic technology) has established a method using a colour target as stipulated in ISO 12641 for prepress input scanner calibration that includes functions capable of handling colour changes accompanying local distortions in colour regions. These targets for both positive reflective material (photographic printing paper) and positive transmission material (photographic film) are implemented by the photographic manufacturers on their specific materials of their particular products.

Multimedia colour scanners for general use which are much less expensive in comparison with prepress input scanners, are available for small office/home office personal computers. Targets for scanning are not specified as in prepress input scanners. Images of natural objects such as the petals of violets, green plants or human skin will be most important. As many of the users of multimedia colour scanners are not colour experts, it is preferable to have an automatic system requiring minimal adjustment. The manufacturers of this type of colour scanner do not provide colorimetric specifications of the red – green – blue data obtained from their scanner on one hand. On the other hand, the data obtained from the multimedia colour scanner are easily compressible and compatible to the World Wide Web and anonymous users will use the colour information in colour reproduction without having available the specific features of the original generator.

Prepress scanners have been used for many years in the printing and prepress industry and an environment has already been created in which only prepress scanners meeting certain critical criteria are selected. This being the case, there is no need for a new evaluation of prepress input scanner performance. In such an environment, however, the maintenance of input scanner quality is important and it is necessary and sufficient to calibrate a scanner using the appropriate target. The internationally standardized target in ISO 12641 exists for this purpose.

However, open multimedia systems and composing equipment creates a new environment different from the conventional printing industry, and the colour scanners used for multimedia systems have not undergone a similar evaluation process in related industries. In the multimedia environment, it is assumed that multimedia colour scanners will be used for a variety of purposes. This means that the initially assumed environment will vary and the functions required for individual multimedia colour scanners will also vary. In other words, the multimedia colour scanners supplied to the market and bought by general users might be designed for different purposes and will not all assure the same quality and characteristics. This will not be the case if multimedia colour scanner specifications are unified in the future; however, there is currently no movement in this direction.

Therefore, it would be a great advantage to the general user, if he could evaluate the characteristics of the multimedia colour scanner he is about to buy and judge whether it suits his purpose. In other words, knowing the colour reproduction characteristics of each scanner before making a decision, would allow the user to select a multimedia colour scanner having characteristics suited to his purpose.

While there is hope that scanners used in a multimedia environment will undergo critical evaluation in the market over time, the ability to quantitatively evaluate the colour reproduction of such multimedia colour scanners would be of direct benefit to the critical issue of colour management that we now face.