

Imacon Flextight X5 & 949 Scanners

AMS Self-Service Workstations Guide

www.nyu.edu/its/ams

The Hasselblad Imacon Flextight X5 and 949 are professional grade film scanners capable of scanning film in sizes from 35mm up to 4x5 at resolutions up to 8000 dpi. The Flextight virtual drum technology produces sharp scans by bending the film original and scanning on the apex of the bend along a glass free optical path.

If this is your first time using the Imacon scanners please ask an AMS Staff member for assistance before proceeding.

Availability

The Imacon scanners are available for reservation during the greater AMS hours. Please check the AMS website and the AMS reservation book available at the Advanced Media Studio counter for the list of hours. Reservations are encouraged as the scanners are often booked.

Film Types

Positive and negative films may be scanned in 35mm, 120mm, and 4x5 sizes. Specific holders are available for cut 120mm and 35mm standard sizes as well as short strips of film. Longer strips of film may need to be cut in order to fit in the scanners' film holder. Additionally, there is a special holder for mounted 35mm slides that bypasses the scanner's virtual drum mechanism, necessary because mounted originals are not capable of flexing.

Loading Film and Film Holders

Film holders for the Imacon scanners are available at the AMS counter and must be returned at the end of the reservation. Do not load holders or film until the scanner is on and fully warmed up. Pull down the tray on the front of the scanner and slide the holder, metal end first, between the metal guides until it snaps in place. To load film lift the top flap of the holder and place the film so that it is sandwiched between the metal bottom of the holder and the magnetic top flap. The film should be supported by all four sides of the holder.

FlexColor Software Operation

Before opening the FlexColor software turn the scanner on, if it is not already, by opening the front tray, removing any film holders from the scanner, and pushing the red button. Wait for the scanner to start up and then launch the FlexColor scanning software from the dock at the bottom of the desktop.

Load your holder and film; follow the directions in the previous section "Loading Film and Film Holders."

Begin by choosing the film holder loaded from the drop menu under "Frame Size." Frame size names are in the format

FRAMES x HEIGHT IN MM x WIDTH IN MM, for example the 6 frame strip holder for 35mm is named "6x24x36."

Specify the film type you are using under "Setup." There are presets for common color negative film types and a single preset for black and white negative, if using positive or transparency film choose the "RGB Standard" option. Also, verify that the "A" next to this drop down menu is depressed. Scanning while automatic frame detection is disabled may damage both your film and the scanner.

Pressing the preview button prompts the scanner to acquire a preview of the full frame window of the holder. Make a crop using the crop tool in the left hand tool bar and set a resolution and output size for the final scan. If preparing images for the Wide-Format Print service scan your file at the intended output size with the highest resolution FlexColor will allow.

Color corrections should be made with a crop inside the image area so that histogram information does not include the frame in the negative. Reset this crop to extend outside of the image when finished correcting. Levels style corrections are available in the "Histogram" window while curves are in the "Gradients" window.

When the image is ready to scan press the "Scan" button next to the "Preview" button at the top of the left navigation. This will open a "save as" dialog. Save the file to a folder on the desktop, scanning will begin when you hit "OK."

Transporting Files

Scans made on the Imacon scanners can be very large, up to a gigabyte or more. Please come prepared with media to take those files with you when you leave, preferably an external hard drive or DVD-R's. The self-service stations are routinely wiped clean of client files. The Advanced Media Studio is not responsible for files left on any of the Self-Service Workstations.