

Definition of the Capacity of a X-Ray Film Processor

Stating the number of films per hour to be processed never defines exactly the capacity of a processor, although the proper capacity of the processor is important for the customer to keep pace with the amount of X-Rays produced, to maintain the workflow in the x-ray department and not to tie up staff in the darkroom.

In tenders, very often the amount of films/hour requested, are stated in “numbers of films at average sizes”. This is insufficient as it allows the bidder to choose a rather small size as the “average size” and does not allow comparing the various offered processors.

Even to specify a number of films/hour at a defined size, can lead to misinterpretations.

The only parameter, which will enable the purchaser to make a correct evaluation of the received bids, is:

Film Transport Speed (cm/min) at a defined processing cycle time (90 sec for dry to dry)

The MEDIPHOT – units offered by us, have the following Film-Transport Speeds at max. Film Widths at 90 sec cycle time:

MEDIPHOT	900E:	69 cm/min	Max width of film:	36 cm
	943:	100 cm/min		43 cm
	902:	125 cm/min		43 cm
	903:	175 cm/min		43 cm

For the further evaluation of our offer we may state the following definitions and explanations:

- 1.) Cycle Time:**
(sec or min) Edge to edge of the film, dry to dry, the lower the cycle time, the faster the access to the processed film. Modern X-Ray films are designed for 90 sec. Some (mammography film) should be processed at extended proc. cycle, which needs variable speed on processor (various cycles preprogrammable).
- 2.) Transport Speed:**
(cm/min) The higher the speed, the faster the access to the processed film. The higher the speed, the less waiting time for the operator when feeding a series of X-Rays (normally more than one exposure is taken during one medical investigation).
Important for angiographic investigations where a series of 20 and more films, big sizes 35x35, are taken. The higher the speed, the higher the price of the processor!
- 3.) Max. width of processor:** Speed and max. width do have an impact on the capacity.
Film should always be fed into processor with the larger side across to utilize the max. capacity.
The wider the max. width, the more small films can be fed side by side.

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