

Adjusting 1660 Printers for DV Film Variation

Technical Brief

Overview

EP-1660™ and NP-1660™ printers can be adjusted to compensate for small density variations between DirectVista™ Film lots to maintain consistent image quality.

Description

Codonics DirectVista Film is manufactured in large batches, called “lots.” Occasionally there are lot-to-lot variations in film density. Codonics EP-1660 and NP-1660 printers can be adjusted to compensate for such variations; this adjustment ensures printing consistency from lot to lot, so image settings will not need to be altered.

Using the Film Type Setting

The most effective way to compensate for lot variation on the EP-1660 and NP-1660 is the FILM TYPE setting. Each box of DirectVista Film has a label that reads “Type *nnn*” where *nnn* is the film type. Adjustment for lot variation is done by modifying the FILM TYPE setting located in the front panel MEDIA menu. The *nnn* number from the film package label is the film type that should be entered into the printer’s front panel.

To change the FILM TYPE setting, use the <Setup> key to enter the front panel menus and select or enter menu options; press the <Down-arrow> or <Up-arrow> keys to cycle through selections or menu options. To exit the menus, press <Down-arrow> or <Up-arrow> until EXIT appears, then press <Setup>.

For the EP-1660, the menu sequence is as follows:

SETUP → MEDIA → FILM TYPE → *value*

For the NP-1660, the menu sequence is as follows:

SETUP → MEDIA → (GRAY) DV → FILM TYPE → *value*

EP-1660 Requirements

Use of the FILM TYPE setting requires that the proper software be installed on the EP-1660. The EP-1660 must have a flash version of 3.4.2 or higher. The Front Panel menu sequence for viewing the flash version number is:

SETUP → SYS INFO → FLASH: *value*

NP-1660 Requirements

Use of the FILM TYPE setting requires that the proper soft-

ware be installed on the NP-1660. For software releases 2.2.6 through 2.3.2, the “NP-1660 Update for DV Film Types 010-019” (Codonics Part Number 020-011-028) needs to be installed. For releases after 2.3.2, these film type options will be preinstalled. Software releases prior to 2.2.6 will not support FILM TYPE settings other than 000. The Front Panel menu sequence for viewing the release number is:

SETUP → SYS INFO → REL#: *value*

When releases 2.2.6 through 2.3.2 are properly updated, the release number will be appended with a two-digit code, e.g. 2.2.6-01.

Important Notes for EP’s and NP’s:

- ◆ Note: Use of the FILM TYPE setting improves printing consistency, however it is **not** required.
- ◆ Note: When changing the FILM TYPE settings from 000 to 010-019 for the first time, the GAMMA, CONTRAST, and DMAX settings may need to be adjusted.
- ◆ Note: Film shipped from Codonics before October 15, 1999 will not be labeled with a film type. For such film, a FILM TYPE setting of 015 should be used.
- ◆ Note: The “NP-1660 Update for DV Film Types 010-019” does not need to be reinstalled with each package of film; the software for the new film types is saved on the NP-1660.
- ◆ Note: The NP-1660 front panel will not prevent an invalid or nonexistent film type from being selected. Only FILM TYPE setting 000 should be used without the update and only FILM TYPE settings 000 and 010-019 should be used with the update.
- ◆ Note: The NP-1660 FILM TYPE setting should only be changed when the front panel reads “READY” and there are no prints queued.

Technical Support

Please direct questions on this product to Codonics’ Technical Support or Sales staff at:

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