RISO
Snapshot of
Success

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*Lynda Bennett,
Operations Supervisor,
BCITimaging*

British Columbia Institute of Technology

BCIT
CANADA'S PREMIER POLYTECHNIC

The British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) is one of Canada's largest post-secondary institutes, producing polytechnic education to approximately 16,000 full-time students and 32,000 part-time students. For over forty years, BCIT has offered programs with a variety of levels of certification covering a broad scope of technologies and trades, including information technology, engineering, and health sciences.

The printing services department at the institute is called BCITimaging and is the centralized resource for the production of higher volume documents for all six BCIT campuses. Applications range from course modules, forms, and brochures to name tags, business cards, stationery, and varied specialty items.

Lynda Bennett is the operations supervisor of BCITimaging.

To handle the volume and variety of time-critical print jobs, she knows her department requires the right equipment for the right application. There are no offset presses – all devices are digital. Among them are two Canon imageRUNNER 110s for high-speed monochrome applications that require finishing, as well as four Konica Minolta bizhubs (two 500s and two 650s) for higher-end full color jobs. In addition, there is a Kodak 1200i wide format device for poster and banner printing. And then there is RISO. The department enjoys three separate RISO print devices: MZ790 and RZ390 digital duplicators, and an HC Series high-speed printer. At one time, higher volume spot- and full-color print jobs needed to be outsourced. Not any more. By keeping those jobs in house, "We have saved between $50,000 to $75,000 per year with our RISO printers and duplicators," Ms.

Bennett is proud to say.

At a speed of up to 150 two-color pages per minute, the RISO MZ790 digital duplicator handles most of the applications that require BCIT's two-color logo. RISO, Inc. custom-formulated a special ink color to match the institute's blue logo. MZ790 applications include heavyweight table tent cards, window envelopes, and multi-up notepads. They also use their MZ790 to print all of the letterhead for the various campus departments.

At 130 pages per minute, the RZ390 is mostly used for longer run-length black and white jobs, with a heavy workload of carbonless forms. Lacking the heat fusing process required by electrophotographic MFPs, RISO's digital duplicators handle carbonless forms with extreme reliability and productivity. A short run of 150 sets of 3-part

forms can typically be printed in less than five minutes with no paper jams.

Right next to the RZ390 sits the RISO HC Series high-speed inkjet printer. This product handles much of the higher-volume full color work at BCIT*imaging* and is a real workhorse. In a little over two years since it was installed, the HC has produced over two million impressions, with average volumes reliably surpassing 75,000 per month.

While many very-high quality color jobs are produced on the 50- and 65-ppm bizhub MFPs, Lynda Bennett directs the bulk of her color volume to the RISO HC inkjet printer. "It's much faster and more cost efficient than toner-based devices," she says. One unique HC application is textbooks. Numerous books with full color photos and graphics are printed beautifully on the RISO inkjet printer and then perfect bound and sold in the campus bookstores. Another is campus maps, which were previously outsourced in run lengths of 25,000 to 40,000. These full color fold-over pocket maps are now produced in house on the RISO printer in less time and at a fraction of the cost.

Like any inplant print operation, BCIT*imaging* recognizes that the institute's faculty, staff, and students are its customers who expect and deserve outstanding service. To serve these customers effectively, Ms. Bennett knows her department must provide quick turn-around and quality documents at a competitive cost. She takes satisfaction in knowing that her two RISO duplicators and one high-speed inkjet printer can perform reliably even in the most demanding production environment.