

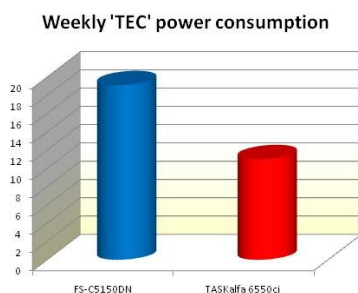


for some tasks it's inescapable: bigger really is better

'Convergence' can reduce your organisation's overall power consumption by replacing several smaller devices with fewer, larger ones.

When power matters

If your organisation's goals include reducing power consumption, one of the most effective strategies is 'convergence': replacing numerous small devices with a few larger ones. Where document systems are concerned, today's high-end systems have more efficient power consumption profiles than smaller devices.



Reduce power consumption by 42%

Using the weekly workloads stipulated by Energy Star's TEC rating¹, a high-performance modern multifunctional would consume 42% less power than a series of stand-alone printers when printing the same number of pages.

Larger machines also bring with them a number of other options not available on smaller printers.

A strategy, not a dictat

Like all strategies, convergence should be deployed appropriately.

Care should be taken to ensure the larger devices being proposed are adequately energy-efficient. There are still high-speed multifunctionals on the market that would consume proportionally more power than a series of small printers.

Secondly, convergence does not mean all personal printers have to be removed. There are still valid reasons for deploying personal printers - security, convenience for key executives, efficiency in remote locations, etc - and these considerations should be taken into account.

Convergence should be deployed with care.

¹ Energy Star's TEC (Typical Energy Consumption) rating suggests the amount of power a device will consume during a normal week's activity. The faster the device, the higher the workload.

The 42% saving is based on a series of Kyocera FS-C5150DN colour printers and one Kyocera TASKalfa 6550ci producing 10,560 pages, the TEC weekly workload for the TASKalfa 6550ci.

More details of Energy Star's TEC rating can be found at www.eu-energystar.org/en/database.shtml.

Larger, faster systems bring a wealth of added benefits that can transform external reputations and internal productivity.

The added bonus

Standardising on larger devices brings a host of additional advantages over and above reduced power consumption:

- Larger printers are faster printers, meaning everybody's documents are produced more quickly
- Larger printers offer accessories such as finishers for hole-punching, stapling and booklet folding, or high-capacity paper feeders for large print runs
- Larger printers often feature advanced control panels that make it easy to manage stored documents and forms
- The cost difference between large printers and multifunctionals can be small enough to make the jump logical, opening up a new world of document management, copying, scanning, etc.
- Larger printers and multifunctionals usually incorporate the intelligence to integrate with cost-control and security application suites such as Equitrac and PaperCut.



Cost considerations

Although larger devices offer a much lower cost-per-page than smaller models, the capital cost of a single high-volume device is usually many times higher than a group of desktop models.

The cost has to be assessed against the extra productivity gained from a much faster, more capable system.

Standardisation and managed services can be release resources and budget.

A managed and standardised deployment

Convergence presents organisations with two strategic opportunities:

- Standardising on a single brand enhances staff familiarity and productivity, increases reliability and reduces the burden on your IT resources
- A fleet refresh can be the perfect time to employ an out-sourced managed print service, entirely removing the burden of document systems from your IT department and reducing costs significantly

Also in this series...

Overnight power consumption: switching machines off at night can be the simplest route to dramatic power savings.

Daytime power consumption: careful configuration can help to dramatically reduce power consumption during daytime quiet spells.