Searching for a Book Scanner at the Ohio History Connection

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Where we started
What we did next

Developed a selection committee with staff members from the right departments

Developed a list of requirements

**Hardware**
- 600 dpi
- 24-bit color
- Book cradle (built in or optional)
- Glass plate
- 16 x 24 – 44 x 60 scanning area

**Software**
- User friendly
- Quick image capture
- Allows for batch processing
- Image editing
- Book curve correction

Visited other sites
- OU
- OSU
- CML
- Cott Industries
What we did next

**Evaluated products from 3 companies** per internal policies and procedures

**Atiz BookDrive Pro** ($17,500)
- Vendor based out of CA
- Visited the Columbus Metropolitan Library to demo BookDrive Pro
- Cameras purchased separately through B&H Photo

**Bookeye 4 V1A** ($34,500 base price)
- Vendor based out of FL
- Visited the Ohio University Preservation Lab to demo the V1A

**Zeutschel OmniScan OS 12002 A2 and 12000 A1**
- Vendor based out of MD and CA
- Purchased microfilm duplicators from this vendor in FY14
- Demo of the 12002 A2 was held at the Center ($34,00 base price)
- Visited Cott Systems (Worthington) to view a demo of the 12000 A1 scanner ($39,900 base price after discount)
Which did we choose? All 3!
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So far, we’ve been very happy with the purchases!

Zeutschel
• Pro: Excellent image quality and fast, efficient scans
• Con: Learning curve to master

Atiz
• Pro: Quick process to capture entire books
• Con: A bit of set-up needed with each scan job—takes time to learn the steps

Bookeye
• Pro: Great image quality for patron/research needs, and adjustable prior to printing
• Con: Slightly buggy software, and updates have been needed
Things to think about

Visit other scanners before purchasing!
• These trips were very helpful for our team. We were able to speak candidly with the other organizations to learn what they liked/disliked about the equipment and what they may not have needed to purchase in the long run
• When we were on the fence about the Zeutschel, seeing an actual user demo the product turned out to be more helpful than the sales demo

Size of equipment
• Table we purchased was not the table we thought we were purchasing
• Confirm that no product numbers are switched along the way!
• This error made the height of the scanner higher than the ceiling, which forced us to put it in a different location
Things to think about

Do you need a new computer?

• To meet the system requirements for our new machines, we needed to purchase 2 new computers
• Vendor may have requirements that you need to meet and that they may be able to sell to you
  • Watch the cost though – we were able to purchase the same computer for $2000 less than what the vendor was charging

IT

• One vendor had issues with our network security... or so they thought
• Issue ended up being on the vendor’s end, but it took 2 days of back and forth with our IT staff for them to figure out the issue was with an item they’d installed
• This required the vendor to come back a few weeks later to conduct a full training