

Excerpt Industry Report on
Low Cost Color Capture Devices

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When color makes the difference



CONSULTANCY REPORT

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Introduction

Devices for measuring color are usually quite expensive but in the last 10 years low cost devices with specific functionalities entered the markets and new developments are added every year. The price ranges from €/ \$ 50 – 700. The devices carry alluring names like Nix, Muse, Nano, Capsure, Node, Cube, Helper etc. For businesses that need to take decisions related to these devices this report is essential to get a head start on this topic.



The report (36 pages) offers a comprehensive overview with comments of 18 (groups of) low cost color measuring devices. We name them Low Cost Color capture Devices or LCCD's. In the appendices, we offer more detailed comments for some of the devices. The first appendix focusses in detail on 9 devices based on a spreadsheet and several pages with comments. The second appendix handles on the light sources (LED's) in the LCCD's and the third appendix offers an argument guidance for a purchase consideration. The fourth and last appendix gives a comparative test of 5 popular devices: Nix, Capsure, Node, Muse and Nano based on a hundred fan deck colors.

Next to text, graphs, tables and pictures, all extra info, references and data is added in hyperlinks.

The report is available for € 1500.

Table of contents

The reports contain four parts: Main Section plus four appendices.

Main section: comprehensive report containing 21 A4 pages

Summary

1. Introduction Low Cost Color Capture Devices (LCCD's)
2. Features of LCCD's
3. List of devices with comments
4. What are the targeted users & markets (as far as known)?
5. How to get reference collections?
6. The LCCD's from a paint company's perspective
7. Description of the separate report: How is CTC testing the devices?

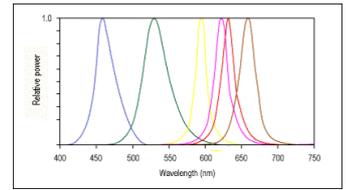


First Appendix: overview and explanation of color fan deck finders

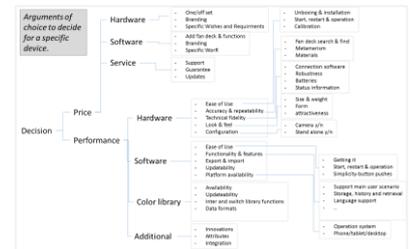
1. Summary and introduction
2. Available Color Collections
3. Ease of Use
4. Functionality
5. Explanation Technology principles used in LCCD's
6. Explanation accuracies and precision

Second Appendix: Appendix: LEDs used in color measuring equipment.

1. Introduction
2. The basics op LEDs in color measuring equipment
3. Different types of color measuring equipment and the use of LEDs

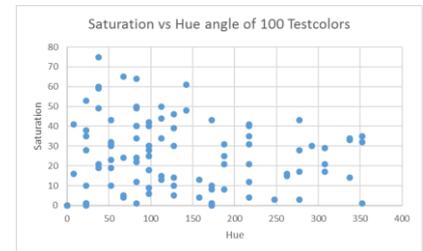


Third Appendix: offers a price/performance decision diagram used in discussions when a company considers to purchase a fleet of LCCDs.



Fourth Appendix: gives an comparative test between the Capsure, Nano, Nix and Node based on measurements of a hundred measured colors. The success rate of these devices is given and explained.

Device	Good results (%)	Accepted results (%)	Total Success Rate
Capsure	95	4	99
Nano	95	3	98
Nix	95	3	98
Node	95	3	98



Description

Part of Summary of main section: This report offers an overview of a category of color capture or characterization devices that entered the markets in serious numbers as of 2005. First a general description is given and next a historical overview of the developments in this category. In chapter three is explained how the instruments are used succeeded by their main features. In chapter 5 a list of 18 types of LCCDs is given including their manufacturers and internet links. In the next chapter a number of users and 12 markets are mentioned.... *read further*

Part of Summary of the first appendix (overview): In this appendix/report we give an overview of a number of low cost color devices that are able to find a measured colored in a certain fan deck. You could call them fan deck searchers or finders. These devices are handy in daily practice for e.g. painters, designers and architects. The prices... *read further*

Part of Summary of the second appendix (LEDs): LED light sources: In order to view color the presence of a light source is indispensable i.e. no light source – no color. The color of the light source influences the color of the object that it illuminates and is determined by the so-called Spectra Power Distribution (SPD) of the light source. The SPD describes how... *read further*

Part of Summary of the third appendix (decision): Nowadays companies that would like to provide their personnel (like sales reps) and/or customers with an LCCD may have a choice out of a range of devices. Guiding the process to come to a decision requires dealing with a list of arguments. The diagram beneath... *read further*

Part of Summary of the fourth appendix (diagram): LCCD's are primarily meant to be used for finding the closest match between the measured color and the color in a fan deck. The success of these instruments depends on their accuracy, precision, inter instrument agreement and certainly the accuracy of the on board fan deck. But the user actually does not care about underlying aspects, the only thing that counts is the success rate. CTC did a test with 4 popular devices... *read further*