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User report by UBTC Japan to the experience with the automatic book scanner ScanRobot®

In 2015 UBTC bought the automatic book scanner ScanRobot® from the company TREVENTUS Mechatronics GmbH. Very high expectations were connected with this acquisition regarding the scanning quality and scanning speed.

The ScanRobot® is used for a wide range of different books for different customers.

Experience with the ScanRobot® from TREVENTUS Mechatronics GmbH

Material to be scanned

The ScanRobot® is used for all different kind of books. Hard cover, soft cover, old and new books. The books we scan in our scanning service have different paper quality and paper thickness. In short: The material scanned is heterogeneous in terms of the book dimensions and properties. All books from the different projects are scanned.

Scanning speed

UBTC uses the ScanRobot® already for a long time. With its flexibility the ScanRobot® allows that a wide range of books regarding the dimensions, paper quality, thickness and binding can be digitized. The actual scanning time of course depends on the books themselves. The physics alone means that the scanning speed is higher for small books than for large ones.

With this versatility, a high throughput can be achieved with the ScanRobot® over a long working period.

The throughput can be increased by following the good tips and tricks that the Treventus team provides during training. Pre-sorting the books by size and quality allows to increase throughput.

With increasing experience of the operators, the book set-up time becomes shorter and therefore the throughput higher. Our experience shows that the process of book exchange and adapting the settings for a new book can be lowered to ~ 1 minute.

Scan technology

The scanning and page turning technology of the ScanRobot® allows to scan very close into the fold. This is important for books whose binding does not allow a wide opening. Even though we did not expect to have many of such books in the projects. The more books we scanned, the more such books we encountered in the individual projects.

The ScanGate^{T®} software

The software ScanGate® provided by TREVENTUS allows to control the ScanRobot® and also to do image processing. The approach of image processing is very different to the other software products on the market. But this different approach solves some problems that often come along with image processing in mass digitization. Due to this different approach the handling is a bit unfamiliar at the beginning. Nevertheless, only a short familiarization period is needed thanks to the clear user interface and structure. Once you get used to the handling, the software can show its strengths. This increases the output quality and speeds up the processing as a whole.

Transportation / relocation

Between some projects a relocation of the ScanRobot® was necessary. This is in general not complicated. The fact that the image capturing unit of the ScanRobot® is very stable and the illumination quality it is quite independent from the location itself a calibration on the new location often seems not to be necessary. Nevertheless, the calibration is done due to the recommendations of Treventus and because it is very easy and with a time of 1-2 minutes very fast.

Support and reaction time

Support is a very important part when investing in a high-end product. Until now we did not need support very often and mainly regarding the software ScanGate®. But when we had a support case the reaction time of TREVENTUS was within 24hrs. Although we have a time shift of 7 hours to Treventus the issues or questions were usually solved either with these 24 hours or 2-3 working days.

Summary

The acquisition if the ScanRobot® from the company TREVENTUS Mechatronics GmbH allows UBTC to perform high quality scanning service and deliver high quality final result. The quality of the scans, the product in general and the support meets the expectations of UBTC.

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