

KYOCERA

Kyocera KM-2560

25ppm

Kyocera KM-3060

30ppm



Sum-up: *Affordable solutions for small-to-medium businesses and workgroups.*

The 25ppm KM-2560 (\$6,733) and the 30ppm KM-3060 (\$7,733) are updated versions of two older models -- the KM-2550 and KM-3050. These newer models come with copy, print, and scan functions standard. Fax functionality is still an optional feature.

Overview: The KM-2560 and KM-3060 are based on a single-board architecture with shared resources. An optional reversing document feeder (\$1,265) handles two-sided scanning, scans at 30ppm, and holds 75 sheets. These units also have improved security features, compliant with ISO standards, including network authentication and user-controllable filtering.

Both models feature standard shared memory of 512MB, upgradeable to 1GB. A standard 80GB hard disk is included. There's also a USB port that allows you to print PDF files stored on USB thumb drives. To facilitate operation, both models have a large color touchscreen.

Paper handling: The standard paper-feed system includes two 500-sheet paper trays, plus a 200-sheet bypass/multipurpose tray. That bypass tray can hold paper up to 110lb. index in weight. Additional paper capacity is available through purchasing a unit with two more 500-sheet paper trays (\$1,286). That's a maximum capacity of 2,200 pages. Stackless automatic duplex is standard.

These models offer two finishers. The first is an internal finisher that

has 30-sheet single-position stapling and a 500-sheet output capacity. List price is \$995. The second is an external finisher (\$1,400), also with 30-sheet single-position stapling, but with a 1,000-sheet exit tray.

Multifunctionality: The print function is based on an embedded controller powered by a 400MHz processor. As mentioned above, shared standard memory begins at 512MB and is upgradeable to 1GB. Both models offer full, concurrent multitasking, which allows users to simultaneously copy while faxing, for example. Kyocera's multi-send allows these models to scan a document and send the captured digital file to such destinations as your email system, a PC, or network folder in one operation.

The controller for both models comes with standard PCL, PostScript, and direct PDF printing. USB and Ethernet connectivity are standard.

The scan function offers color scanning, along with scan-to-PC, scan-to-email, scan-to-FTP, and TWAIN scanning and supports both PDF and TIFF file formats. The scan-to-email



Kyocera KM-3060 – Like most Kyocera models, this one has very good costs per page.

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feature includes LDAP support, which provides integration with corporate email address books. Kyocera has a feature called Document Box that allows you to store documents in a mailbox on the hard disk.

The optional fax function is based on a 33.6kbps modem with JBIG compression. There is no second fax line. However, LAN fax and Internet fax are supported by the fax option.

An optional Data Security kit is available offering encrypting and overwriting the hard drive.

Conclusion: The KM-2560 and KM-3060 are copier-multifunctionals that offer a choice of speed and optional fax capability. These are affordable models that deserve serious consideration. That's why we're awarding them our Editor's Choice Award.

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Vendor Profile

Kyocera America is the office equipment arm of the Japanese conglomerate Kyocera Mita, which is best known as a maker of advanced ceramics and electronics. Kyocera Mita was formed when Kyocera acquired Mita in 1999.

Unlike the other Japanese competitors featured in this guide, Kyocera is an office equipment specialist — its business is devoted solely to copiers, fax machines, multifunctional devices, and printers. Copiers account for the lion's share of its business.

The company currently makes its own models in speeds up to 80ppm.

One of the company's strengths is its use of Kyocera controller technology. The parent company has been in the printer business for years and has considerable expertise. Another Kyocera strength is operating costs, which are among some of the most attractive on the market due to its long-life photoconductors.

Kyocera brand: Kyocera has dropped the Mita name from its office products brand. Part of a global strategic rebranding effort, the "Kyocera" brand name is found on new products launched in the U.S. since January 2004.

Copystar brand: Kyocera Mita also sells its machines under the Copystar name, which is a secondary brand originally created for its smaller dealers. The Copystar models are, for the most part, identical to the equivalent Kyocera Mita ones and sell at the same prices (occasionally there are minor differences).

Distribution: Kyocera Mita sells its copiers primarily through dealers, though it has recently been expanding its direct organization and now has about 10 branches. It has more dealers than some of its rivals — approximately 400, compared to an industry average of about 350. However, many of these dealers are in smaller markets, and Kyocera Mita generally is not counted among the strongest players in the major-accounts market.

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