

This training course provides service technician training for the PE-MF4/PE-P4 series.

The differences between this series and the previous PE-MF3/PE-P2 series are also explained.

Revision History

- Version1.2 (Revised 9th Apr. 2014)

Slide 12:

Updated Monthly Average Print Volume MF4a:0.7K prints MF4c:0.8K prints P4a:0.4K prints P4c:0.5K prints

- Version1.1 (Revised 17th Feb. 2014)

Slide 10: Long (High Yield) AIO will be available for NA, EU, AP, CN models.



This section provides an overview of the machine, and the options that can be installed.



Pe-MF3a was 16 ppm.

Pe-MF3a/P2a were GDI models.

Memory specs are changed from PE-MF3/P2.

Built-in Wireless LAN is a new feature. It was not available in previous models.





Duplex can be used for printing and copying. In some earlier models in this series, duplex could not be used for copying.











Based on ISO 19798

Revised 17th Feb. 2014

- Long (High Yield) AIO will be available for NA, EU, AP, CN models.



The waste toner tank is the same as the one that is used for previous models in this series.

Waste toner tank yield measurement based on 5%, 3P/J, 50% color ratio

Color ratio: 50% means that half the jobs are black-and white, and half are color

Compatible with Pe-P1, Pe-MF1, Pe-MF2, Pe-P2, and Pe-MF3



Same as the PE-MF3/P2 series.

Revised 9th Apr. 2014

-Updated version MF4a:0.7K prints MF4c:0.8K prints P4a:0.4K prints P4c:0.5K prints

-Previous version

Monthly Average Print Volume MF4a, P4a: 0.65K prints MF4c: 1.1K prints P4c: 0.8K prints



This section provides an overview of the main specifications and explains improvements over the previous models in the PE series.





Same as PE-MF3, except where mentioned.

Why is 1st copy time so much slower than the 1st print time?

Scanner initialization and movement to the start position takes more time.

Duplex printing cannot be done for thick paper (more than 90 g/m²).

Printing on OHP transparencies is not possible.



PDL for PE-MF3a: DDST (GDI)



These specs are the same as PE-P2, except where mentioned.



PDL for PE-P2a: DDST (GDI)







If the machine power is kept on, the fusing unit will idle every 24 hours to prevent damage to the hot roller. But if the machine is turned off with pressure still applied, the hot roller could deform.









Service Manual – 5. System Maintenance Reference – Firmware Updating









Service Manual – Preventive Maintenance



PE-MF4c/P4c has an expected life of 180k.



The expected yield of these parts is 90k.





Service Manual, Appendix 5: Machine Swap







Operating Instructions - 1. Getting Started - Guide to Components

1. Top Cover: Open this cover to replace the print cartridge.

2. Control Panel: Contains keys for machine control and indicators that show the machine status.

3. Power Switch: Use this switch to turn the power on and off.

4. Stop Fences: Pull up this fence to prevent paper falling off when printing a large amount of paper at a time. The fence can be adjusted at the A4/Letter or Legal size position.

5. Standard Tray: Delivered sheets are stacked here with the print side down.

6. Standard Tray Extension: Use this to support sheets that come out curled after they are printed. Flip open the extension by pushing down on the end that is toward the rear of the machine.

7. Top Cover Open Lever: Open here to replace the print cartridges.

8. Front Cover: Open this cover to replace the waste toner bottle or remove jammed paper.

9. Tray 1: This tray can hold up to 250 sheets of plain paper.

10. Bypass Tray: Load paper here sheet by sheet.


Operating Instructions - 1. Getting Started - Guide to Components

1. Front Cover Open Lever: To open the front cover, pull this lever on the right side of the machine.

2. Cable Cover: Remove this cover when connecting cables to the machine.

3. Ethernet Port: For connecting the machine to the network using a network interface cable.

4. USB Host Interface: Use a USB cable to connect the digital camera to the machine. You can print images directly from a digital camera, without having to connect to a computer.

5. USB Port: For connecting the machine to a computer using a USB cable.

6. Power Socket: For connecting the power cord to the machine.

7. Rear Cover: Remove this cover when loading paper longer than A4 in Tray 1.



Operating Instructions – 1. Getting Started - Guide to Components

1. ADF (Auto document feeder) Cover

2. Output Tray for the ADF: Scanned sheets are fed here.

3. USB Flash Disk Port: Insert a USB flash disk for using the Scan to USB function or connect a digital camera using a USB cable for PictBridge printing.

4. Control Panel: Contains a screen and keys for machine control.

5. Front Cover: Open this cover to replace the waste toner bottle or remove jammed paper.

6. Bypass Tray: Load paper here sheet by sheet.

7. Input Tray for the ADF: Place stacks of originals here. They will feed in automatically. This tray can hold up to 35 sheets of plain paper.

8. Extender for the ADF Tray: Extend these when placing paper longer than A4 in the input tray for ADF.

9. Cover for the Exposure Glass: Open this cover to place originals on the exposure glass.

10. Exposure Glass: Place originals here sheet by sheet.

11. Standard Tray/Top Cover: Printed paper is delivered to this tray. Up to 150 sheets of plain paper can be stacked here. Open this to replace the print cartridges.

12. Front Cover Open Lever: To open the front cover, pull this lever on the right side of the machine.

13. Tray 1: This tray can hold up to 250 sheets of plain paper.

14. Tray 2 (option): This tray can hold up to 500 sheets of plain paper.



Operating Instructions – 1. Getting Started - Guide to Components

1. Stop Fences: Pull up this fence to prevent paper falling off when printing a large amount of paper at a time. The fence can be adjusted at the A4/Letter or Legal size position.

- 2. Cable Cover: Remove this cover when connecting cables to the machine.
- 3. G3 (analog) Line Interface Connector: For connecting a telephone line.

4. Ethernet Port: For connecting the machine to the network using a network interface cable.

- 5. USB Port: For connecting the machine to a computer using a USB cable.
- 6. External Telephone Connector: For connecting an external telephone.

7. Rear Cover: Remove this cover when loading paper longer than A4 in Tray 1.

8. Power Socket: For connecting the power cord to the machine.

9. Button for Sliding the ADF: Press to slide the ADF towards the rear of the machine and hold it in that position, if paper output to the output tray is difficult to retrieve.

10. Power Switch: Use this switch to turn the power on or off.







1. Print Cartridges: Install the print cartridges from the machine rear, in the order of cyan (C), magenta (M), yellow (Y), and black (K). Messages appear on the screen when print cartridges need to be replaced, or new ones need to be prepared.

2. Fusing Unit Lever: Lower both the left and right levers when you print on an envelope.

3. Fusing Unit: Fuses toner to the paper. You might have to move this unit to check for or remove jammed paper.

4. Waste Toner Bottle: Collects toner that is wasted during printing.

5. Transfer Unit: You need to remove this when you replace the waste toner bottle.



Operating Instructions – 1. Getting Started See the operation manual for details.



Operating Instructions - 1. Getting Started

See the operation manual for details.

Note the following.

1. [Stop/Start] key: Press this key to stop receiving incoming data from the computer.

2. [Job Reset] key: Press this key to cancel a job that is currently being printed or received.



- 1. Laser Optics Housing Unit
- 2. Print Cartridge (AIO) AIO means 'All-in-one'
- 3. Development Roller (AIO)
- 4. Paper Exit
- 5. Fusing Unit
- 6. Fusing Lamp
- 7. Duplex Path
- 8. Transfer Roller
- 9. Registration Roller
- 10. By-pass
- 11. Paper Feed Roller
- 12. ITB (Image Transfer Belt) Unit
- 13. OPC (AIO)
- 14. Tray 1
- 15. EGB/Controller





- 1. Paper path from tray 1
- 2. Duplex path
- 3. By-pass tray
- 4. Paper path from tray 2 (optional)



- 1.Color AIO Motor
- 2.Black AIO Motor
- **3.Duplex Motor**
- 4. Transport/Fusing Motor
- 5.Registration Clutch
- 6.Paper Feed Clutch
- 7. Agitator Motor
- 8.ITB (Image Transfer Belt) Contact Motor



- 1.Color AIO Motor
- 2.Black AIO Motor
- 3. Duplex Motor
- 4. Transport/Fusing Motor
- 5.Registration Clutch
- 6.Paper Feed Clutch
- 7. Agitator Motor
- 8.ITB (Image Transfer Belt) Contact Motor



This machine uses four AIOs and four laser beams for color printing. Each AIO contains a drum, charge roller, cleaning brush, blade, development roller and mixing auger.



The charge that is applied to the image transfer roller pulls the toner from the drum to the transfer belt.

Four toner images are put on the paper at the same time.



Toner transfers from the image transfer belt to the paper when the paper is fed between the image transfer belt and transfer roller. After transfer, the paper separates from the image transfer belt, because of a discharge plate immediately after the transfer roller.



The TM sensor board contains three TM sensors (one at the left, one at the center, and one at the right). The center TM sensor detects the density of the sensor patterns on the transfer belt. The TM sensor output is used for process control and for automatic line-position adjustment, skew, and color registration adjustments for the latent image.

MUSIC: This is the internal process used by the machine to automatically correct for color registration errors (to make sure that the colors are deposited in the exact positions on the transfer belt).



Process control uses these components:

Central TM (Toner Mark) sensors

Temperature/humidity sensor at the rear right of the machine. This is used to determine whether the conditions have changed significantly enough so that process control must be done.

Process control flow

1. TM sensor correction (Vsg adjustment)

The center TM sensor checks the bare transfer belt's reflectivity and the machine calibrates the TM sensors.

2. Development bias control

The machine makes a 7-gradation pattern on the transfer belt for each toner color. The pattern has 9 squares (the sequence is as follows: 7 yellow squares, 7 cyan squares, 7 magenta squares and 7 black squares). Each of the squares is 10 mm x 17 mm, and is a solid-color square. To make the squares, the machine changes the development bias and charge roller voltage. The difference between development bias and charge roller voltage is always the same.

The center TM sensor detects the densities of the 7 solid-color squares for each color. The machine calculates an appropriate development bias from this data.

This process takes about 33 seconds to be completed.

3. LD power control

For LD power control, the machine does the same sequence described in "2 Development bias control". Finally, the machine calculates an appropriate LD power.

4. MUSIC (Mirror Unit Skew and Interval Control)

The machine uses the TM sensors to measure sample lines deposited on the ITB, and corrects color image registration adjustment based on the sensor readings. Sample lines are made on the left, center and right of the ITB. This process takes about 22 seconds to be completed.



There are three execution modes: a) Development Bias Control and MUSIC (approx. 55 seconds), b) MUSIC only (approx. 22 seconds), c) No Execution

The one that is used depends on conditions as described below.

1. Initial

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically immediately after the power is turned on, if one of the following conditions occurs.

1) New AIO detection

2) New ITB (Image Transfer Belt) unit detection (after transfer unit life counter is reset with SP mode)

3) Environment (temperature and humidity) change detection.

MUSIC starts automatically immediately after the power is turned on (there is toner amount control) if conditions other than described above occur.

2. Recovery from Sleep Mode

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically when the machine comes back from energy saver mode, if one of following conditions occurs.

Same as 1), 2), 3) for 1. Initial.

MUSIC starts automatically (there is toner amount control) when the machine comes back from energy saver mode, if the previous MUSIC was done when there was a high temperature inside the machine.

3.Immediately after the front or top cover is closed

No adjustment is done when the front or top cover is closed, if one of following conditions occurs.

- 1) After paper jam detection and New AIO detection
- 2) New ITB unit detection (after transfer unit life counter is reset with SP mode)
- 3) No environment change

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically when the front or top cover is closed, if conditions other than described above occur.

4.Ready status:

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically when the machine stays in the ready condition and the environment has changed.

5.Before a job:

MUSIC starts automatically before a job if the previous MUSIC was done when there was a high temperature inside the machine and a specified time has elapsed.

MUSIC starts automatically before a job if the machine is turned on in a low temperature condition and a specified time has elapsed.

6.Page end:

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically between pages when the machine detects an environment change.

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically between pages when the machine has copied/printed 200 pages since the previous process control.

Toner amount control and MUSIC interrupt a job and start automatically between pages when the machine has copied/printed 250 pages since the previous process control.

MUSIC starts automatically between pages when the machine has copied/printed 100 pages in the same job since the previous process control.

MUSIC starts automatically between pages when the polygon motor has been rotating for 180 seconds.

MUSIC interrupts a job and starts automatically between pages when the polygon motor has been rotating for 300 seconds.

7.Job end:

Toner amount control and MUSIC start automatically after a job when the machine gets a request to execute the toner amount control and MUSIC.

MUSIC starts automatically after a job when the machine gets a request to execute MUSIC.



MUSIC (Mirror Unit for Skew and Interval Correction). MUSIC is also called Automatic Line Position Adjustment.



The EGB boards for the P4 and MF4 are identical.

The controllers for the P4 and MF4 are not identical, but use many common parts.



Service Manual – Replacement and Adjustment – Electrical Components – EGB (Engine Board)



Serial Number:

You must ask your supervisor how to input this number.

LSU Adjustment:

Input the values from the sheet that comes with the laser optics housing unit.

What does Transfer Belt Adjust do?

The new transfer belt may not be exactly the same length as the old one. With this SP mode, the machine calibrates the motor speed for the new belt (the speed is checked with a TM sensor pattern).

Fuser SC Detect:

This is normally OFF.

If you turn this ON, the machine will issue SC559 and stop working if three consecutive paper jams occur in the fusing unit. Then, the technician must visit the machine and reset the SC code and check the fusing unit.

If a sheet of paper feeds correctly, the counter is cleared – the SC only appears if there are three consecutive jams on three successive sheets.

2nd Transfer Front/Back:

Normally all settings are 0.

You may need to change the settings in unusual environmental conditions, for example if the humidity is low.

Color Registration

Performs the MUSIC adjustment

Check that MUSIC was done successfully.

See 'After you Replace the Laser Optics Housing Unit' for details on this.



Service Manual – Appendix 3. Troubleshooting Guide – Service Call Conditions There is no SOM (Smart Organizing Monitor) in this series.



Service Manual – Troubleshooting – Image Problems



These mechanisms are the same as in the RM-MF1 series. The previous models in this series used a CCD scanner.











This is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.



This machine uses two LDB units and one polygon mirror motor to produce latent images on four OPC drums (one drum for each color toner).

There are two hexagonal mirrors. The polygon mirror motor rotates the mirrors clockwise and each mirror reflects beams from LD unit.

The laser beam from the LD unit - C/M is directed to the F θ lens at rear side by the polygon mirrors. The laser beam from the LD unit - K/Y is directed to the F θ lens at front side by the polygon mirrors.

Laser exposure for magenta and cyan starts from the left side of the drum, but for yellow and black it starts from the right side of the drum. This is because the units for magenta and cyan are on the other side of the polygon mirror from the units for yellow and black.

The machine has one laser synchronizing detector board (LSD) as shown above. The board detects four colors. The LSD detects the start of the main scan.






MUSIC is done at the times explained in the process control section of the course.













Steps 3 to 7 are a repeat of slide 1 of this procedure, except that we use the numbers from the excel file, and not from the printed sheet that comes with the unit.





The mechanism is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.



The term AIO means 'All-in-One'. All image creation components are in one easily-replaceable unit.

Each AIO consists of the waste toner tank, print cartridge, development unit, and PCU. This gives the user easy replacement procedures and helps to make the engine module more compact.

The waste toner bottle is smaller than other full-color printers because the waste toner from the OPC is collected in the waste toner tank of each AIO.



Difference from previous model: There is only one cleaning blade for the charge roller in this new model.



The color AIO motor drives the central gear, as shown in the diagram below.





The high voltage supply board, which is at the left side of the machine, applies a dc and ac voltage (at a constant current) to the roller. The ac voltage helps to make sure that the charge given to the drum is as constant as possible.

The machine automatically controls the charge roller voltage when process control is done.



Difference from previous model: There is only one cleaning blade for the charge roller in this new model.

We will see the toner transport belt on the next slide.



See the next slide for more about the waste toner tank.

There is another toner collection mechanism for the image transfer unit, and a separate collection bottle. This is explained in another section.





This mixing mechanism prevents toner hardening and uneven image density in the outputs.



This machine uses mono-component toner, with no carrier, so a TD sensor is not necessary.



This system is used instead of a quenching lamp.



These two figures are stored in the memory chip in the AIO.

Toner near-end: If you change from the default 200 sheets, the near-end detection point is moved earlier (in the case of 300 sheets) or later (in the case of 100 sheets)

How to change the 200-sheet limit to 100 or 300?

User tools > System settings > Notify Toner Almost empty > Sooner (100) Normal (200) Later (300)





This is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.



The paper end sensor detects whether paper is installed in the tray and whether the tray is set in the machine.

This machine does not have a tray set sensor.

This machine also does not have automatic paper size detection.

The machine determines the paper size from the on-off timing of the registration sensor.

If the paper type which is selected at the PC does not match the paper size measured by the registration sensor, the machine issues a paper jam alert and stops the motors.



The clutches are shown in blue.







A projection at the right side of the tray set location releases the lock lever when the tray is installed in the machine.









This is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.









Because of this mechanism, the life of the transfer belt is longer (it is not necessary for the transfer belt to touch the color PCUs when the machine makes a black and white print).

However, if the customer selects "Off" with the "ACS" setting, the four OPC drums always touch the image transfer belt.




We will see more about the waste toner collection mechanism for the ITB later in this section.



In some places, you will see the term '2nd Transfer'. This refers to what the paper transfer roller does (transfer from belt to paper).



The right end of the transfer unit is attached to the terminal from the high voltage power supply when you close the front cover.





If the bottle is not set or if it is full, an error message appears on the LCD.

Waste toner overflow and bottle set sensors: These are for the waste toner bottle that collects toner from the transfer belt. The waste toner from the drums is collected inside each AIO.



Normally, the life of the transfer belt unit is the same as the life of the machine. It should only be necessary to replace this unit if it becomes defective.

What is the Transfer Belt Unit Life Counter (Reset Transfer Unit)?

The resistance of the belt changes during its life. The machine automatically compensates for this by adjusting the transfer voltage. For a new belt, the life counter must be reset so that the machine applies the correct voltage for a new belt.

What does Transfer Belt Adjust do?

The new transfer belt may not be exactly the same length as the old one. With this SP mode, the machine calibrates the motor speed for the new belt (the speed is checked with a TM sensor pattern).



Transfer Roller Unit: Contains the paper transfer roller







This is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.



Springs always apply the correct pressure to the nip between the pressure roller and hot roller. When releasing the pressure release levers, the pressure roller moves away from the hot roller. If a paper jam occurs in the fusing unit, releasing these levers make it easy to remove jammed paper.

Pressure release levers: Also known as the envelope levers in this machine, because they are used to release pressure between the fusing unit rollers when envelopes are used.

The hot roller has a thin wall.

With a thin-wall hot roller, it can be difficult to pull paper off, so stripper pawls are added (the previous model did not have these). A solenoid operates these pawls (see the next slide).

A cleaning roller removes toner/dust transferred from the pawls to the hot roller





Normally this lever should be up.

A larger gap is needed for envelopes, which are thicker than paper.

Lower the lever to increase the size of the gap between the hot roller and pressure roller. This prevents jams and wrinkling when printing on envelopes.

Raise the lever to reduce the gap for all other print jobs.









Fusing Temperature Control - 3/3			RICOF imagine. chang
 This chart shows the fusing temperature and print speed for each mode setting. Environment temperature greater than 16°C. 	Paper	Speed	Temp
	Thin (60 to 65g/m2)	1	170°C
	Plain (66 to 74 g/m2)	1	173°C
	Middle thick (75 to 90 g/m2)	1	177°C
	Recycled	1	177°C
	Plain /Middle thick/ recycled	1	177°C
	Color paper	1	177°C
	Preprinted	1	177°C
	Letterhead	1	177°C
	Prepunched	1	177°C
	Thick 1 (91 to 105 g/m2)	1/2	160°C
	Thick 2 (106 to 160 g/m2)	1/2	165°C
	Cardstock	1/2	165°C
	Bond	1/2	160°C
	Envelope	1/2	196°C





Lab tests: Fusing idling mode 2 should be enough in most cases

Menu – Machine Settings – High Humidity Mode













This is the same as the PE-MF3/P2.



- 1. Side Fence
- 2. Paper End Sensor
- 3. Paper Feed Roller
- 4. Relay Sensor
- 5. Relay Roller
- 6. Friction Pad
- 7. Paper Height Lever
- 8. Bottom Plate
- 9. Rear Fence





The next slide shows what happens after you put the tray in the machine.







G849 Service Manual – Replacement and Adjustment – Paper Feed Unit – Friction Pad



The End