

Thermal 3 Exposure Head

Firmware Version 1.03.xx Release Notes

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Revision History

Revision	Date	Author	Comments
A	17 Nov 2006	Ken Dyck	Created for TH3 firmware V1.03.08. Based on file 719-00711A-A.

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1. GETTING STARTED

For full details on how to install the firmware, see "Thermal 3 Firmware Installation Procedure".

Note: This document does not provide specific information about any host platform.

Formatting conventions used in this document:

- All references to monitor commands are in `courier font`. Monitor commands for the exposure head are preceded by the `TH2 >` prompt and monitor commands for the host are preceded by the >> prompt.
- All references to NVS parameters are in *italics*.
- All references to scripts are **bold**.

2. LASER SAFETY PRACTICES

To use this document, you *must* have attended an exposure head introductory course given by the Kodak service training department, product specialist, or engineering support team. You must be familiar with the necessary safety precautions when working with a thermal head.

DANGER: *Never operate the host device with the write laser beam on and a door open. Do not use the service bypass jigs to bypass the door interlocks.*

3. RELATED RESOURCES

- Thermal 3 Firmware Installation Procedure: **TechPlanet** > **Output** > **Heads** > **Thermal 3 Head > Installation** (http://techplanet.creo.com/output/heads/thermal_3/nav/install.htm)
- Thermal 3 exposure head firmware: **TechPlanet** > **Output** > **Heads** > **Thermal 2 Head > Control/settings > Firmware releases** (http://techplanet.creo.com/firmware/CTP/Head/Thermal3/versions.htm)
- Thermal 3 exposure head controls and settings: **TechPlanet** > **Output** > **Heads** > **Thermal 3 Head > Control/settings** (http://techplanet.creo.com/output/heads/thermal_3/nav/control-set.htm)
- Service Shell: **TechPlanet** > **Output** > **Service Tools** > **Service Shell** (http://techplanet.creo.com/output/service_tools/service_shell/nav/v2-x/index.htm)
- Controlled Releases: **TechPlanet** > **Output** > **All CTP Devices** > **Control/settings** (http://techplanet.creo.com/output/computer_to_plate/all_ctp/nav/control-set.htm)

4. PROBLEMS FIXED

This section lists problems that have been fixed in latest thermal 3 firmware version 1.03.xx.

4.1 Fixed a sporadic error turning the write laser off

All exposure heads and hosts have been developed with the expectation that turning the write laser off doesn't require a significant amount of time. In an attempt to improve the laser lifetime, Thermal 3 turns the write laser off by ramping down the write laser current. As a result, turning the write laser off for Thermal 3 can require seconds.

Very sporadically, the delay exceeds five seconds, which causes an error turning the write laser off. To fix the problem, an internal timeout was increased from five seconds to twenty seconds to ensure that there is sufficient time to ramp down the write laser current.

This fix was implemented in Thermal 3 firmware version 1.03.07.

4.2 Clamp focus system delay

Engineering lab tests have revealed a potential problem with the autofocus tracking system on heads that have a longer than expected system delay. The tracking error has not been seen in the field to date and has not been reproduced under normal operating conditions. However, since the potential for tracking errors exists on some heads, a fix has been provided in firmware version 1.03.08.