How to use Cyclone Phosphor Imager

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1) Exposing blots to the storage phosphor screen:

   Wrap the sample material in plastic wrap, lying flat. Place the phosphor screen, imaging side (white side) down, on top of the sample. Expose the screen for several to 24 hours.

2) Loading the storage phosphor screen:

   Before loading the storage phosphor screen, make sure to turn off all direct lights, particularly fluorescent lights. Open the clamps on the scanning carousel by turning the handle located on the underside of the carousel to lift the gripper bar away from the drum body. Carefully insert one taped end of the screen, under the open clamp and close the clamp by using the handle. Then, the other end. Be sure that the white side face away from the drum. Load the carousel down over the center spindle completely. Close the scanner lid.

3) Scanning the storage phosphor screen:

   Open the OptiQuant software by clicking on its icon on the desktop. Click on the "Instrument" button to open the program. Draw a rectangle in the scan area to indicate the portion of the screen that you want to scan. Choose one of the four available image resolution (150 dpi, 200 dpi, 300dpi and 600 dpi) from the drop down list. Click on the "Start" button to begin the acquisition.

4) Display Option:

   You can adjust the display of image intensity on the computer screen with controls in the Display Options toolbox. The Display Options toolbox is normally positioned at the right side of the application window. Adjust the image by moving up or down the control bars.

5) Crop the image:

   When you choose the Crop Image menu item from the *Transform menu*, position the cursor where you want the upper left corner of the image to start. Click and hold the left mouse button and drag the cursor to the lower right corner of a rectangle to include the area you want to keep.

6) Export the image:

   Select an *export file type* from the drop down list. There are three graphic file formats available. The (.bmp) and (.tif) are used for display and presentation only. The (.gel) is used for display, presentation and quantitation. Then, save it to your target file.