

SilverFast's main advantages in comparison to Adobe Photoshop

The emphasis is on: *SilverFast is complementary to Photoshop*. It is the ideal complement although looking closely at the two, we realize that 95% of all image publishing is image optimization and not retouching work or artistic effects. This means SilverFast's functionality is applicable for 95% of all work concerning images while Photoshop gets the rest of only 5%.

1. Scan Software Concept

SilverFast controls the scanner so the full dynamic range (up to 48 bit) is being used. What the scanner has not seen, Photoshop cannot bring it back! It needs to be understood that any gradational correction (application of gradation curves, such as brightness or contrast changes) leads to loss of shades (creates gaps visible between shades in histogram), which is loss of details in a picture.

2. Preview Concept (High-End Concept)

All corrections can be done in real-time. Several commands are downloaded to the scanner as a single instruction reducing the number of operations on the same pixels. Scan or Jobmanager execute the final processing. There is no wait needed during the actual correction work.

3. Working with 48 bit Data --- SF HDR

Photoshop is very slow with larger files - there is no good *Auto-Adjust* for 48bit scanner files, while SF Auto-Adjust handles raw perfectly.

In Photoshop every operation is processing all pixels. The larger an image, the longer the processing, where a customer has to wait. With SF HDR loading of very large files with HirePP, the speed advantage against Photoshop becomes clear (1GB+ about a second in SF HDR and minutes in Photoshop).

SF unique Features / Photoshop has none of them!

4. **Quicktime Tutorial Movies and ScanPilot** - inside the application help to learn the work flow and teach how to use each function
5. **NegaFix** - optimized processing of negative film with 120+ profiles
6. **Auto-Adjust (with Ai)** has image types for adjustment to different extremes
7. **Color-Cast-Removal slider** (smooth control for removal of color casts)
8. **MidPip 4** - SF can remove up to four different color casts (e.g. mixed light condition)
9. **3-part Histogram** - simultaneous flexible editing of highlights-midtones-shadows in all 3 RGB channels
10. **Selective Color Corection with ACR** (color correction and semi-automatic color restauration) SF recognizes colors (to be corrected by a click) - important for beginner and prosumer
11. **SC2G - Selective Color to Gray** - ideal to convert colors to grayscale (B&W)
12. **USM** - SF USM works in luminance channel - PS also influences saturation
13. **Jobmanager** - Easy to process lots of images with different settings, etc.