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# iQ-Chart Box

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User Manual

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

Important information: Read the manual carefully before using the device.

Inappropriate utilization may cause damages to the device, to the DUT (device under test) and/or other components of your setup.

Keep these instructions in a safe place and pass them to any future user.

## 1.1 Conformity

We, Image Engineering GmbH & Co. KG, hereby declare, that the iQ-Chart Box corresponds to the essential requirements of the following EC directive in its current version:

- Electromagnetic Compatibility - 2014/30/EU
- RoHS 2 - 2011/65/EU
- Low Voltage - 2014/35/EU

## 1.2 Intended use

The iQ-Chart Box is the ultimate solution for chart based camera testing with a most flexible illumination source at low space consumption. The testcharts (A460) can easily be exchanged with a mechanical rail system and due to the iQ-LED technology the used light spectrum can be adjusted in nearly any way. It includes a micro spectrometer and is controlled with the iQ-LED control software or via dip switches when not connected to a PC.

- Only suitable for indoor use.
- Place your system in a dry and constant tempered environment without any interfering light.
- The optimal ambient temperature range is 22 to 26 degrees Celsius. The maximum ambient temperature range is 18 to 28 degree Celsius.
- The optimal system temperature range, displayed in the software user interface, is between 35 and 50 degrees Celsius. The system has internal temperature management, if there is any error regarding the internal temperature, you will get a warning message and the system will automatically shut off to avoid any damage.

### 1.2.1 Departing from described setup

The following steps must be performed in the correct chronology to allow a frictionless commissioning. Departing from the chronology may lead to an incorrect working device.

1. Install the iQ-LED software
2. Connect iQ-Chart Box to power and via USB to the PC
3. Switch iQ-Chart Box on; the system drivers will now be installed
4. After drivers are installed completely start the software



### 1.2.2 USB connection

Only appropriate USB connection allows error-free operation of iQ-Chart Box. Use delivered USB cables. If you need to extend the USB connection to longer distances, please check if powered hubs/repeaters are necessary.

## 1.3 General Safety Information



### WARNING!

Some LEDs are emitting invisible light in the IR and UV near area.



- **Do not** look directly into the emitted light or look through the optical LED system.
- **Do not** look directly in the open sphere or light source when using high intensities or sequences with low response time.



- **Do not** open the device without any instructions from the Image Engineering support team or when connected to the power supply.

## 2 GETTING STARTED

### 2.1 Scope of delivery

- iQ-Chart Box
- calibration device with spectrometer
- power cord USB cable
- control software
- calibration protocol

Optional equipment:

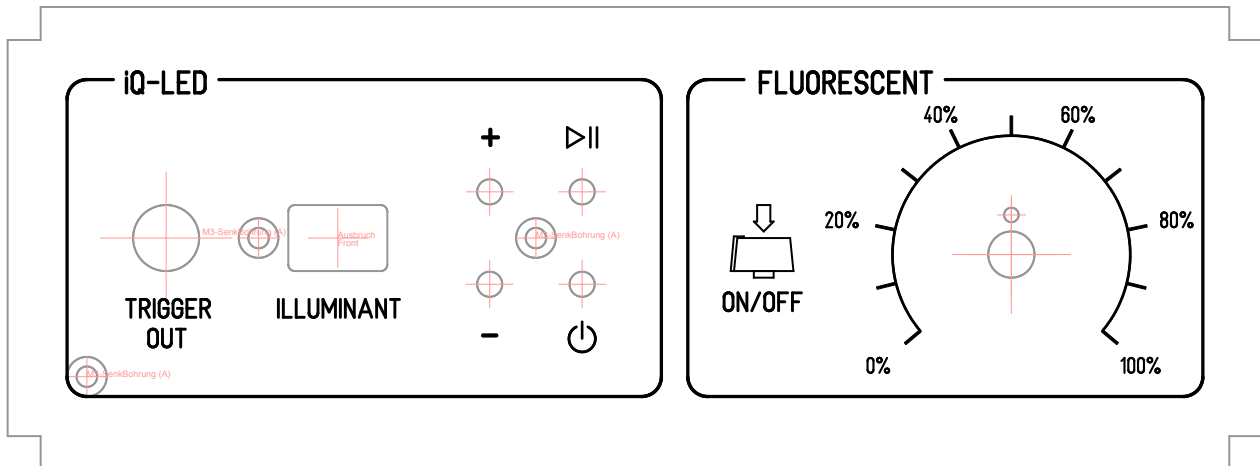
- **Rolling Cart**
- **iQ-Trigger:** The iQ-Trigger is a mechanical finger that can press the release button within 100ms. When working with touchscreens, exchange the solid fingertip for a touch-pen tip.



## 3 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS HARDWARE

### 3.1 Overview display and ports

- 1 x USB port for software control
- 1 x port for power adapter
- 1 x trigger output



Use the control panel to set different light settings for the iQ-LED's and the fluorescent tubes:

#### iQ-LED:

with the “+” and “-” buttons you can switch between 44 saved illuminants

numerical display to show the storage of the illuminants

with the play and stop button you can start and stop a saved light sequence with different illuminants (it is possible to save one sequence on the device)

with the power button, you can turn on and off the light

There are three pre-stored illuminants on your device (the intensity of each illuminant is shown in the acceptance protocol of your device):

- 1: illuminant A (default illuminant)
- 2: illuminant D50
- 3: illuminant D75

#### Fluorescent:

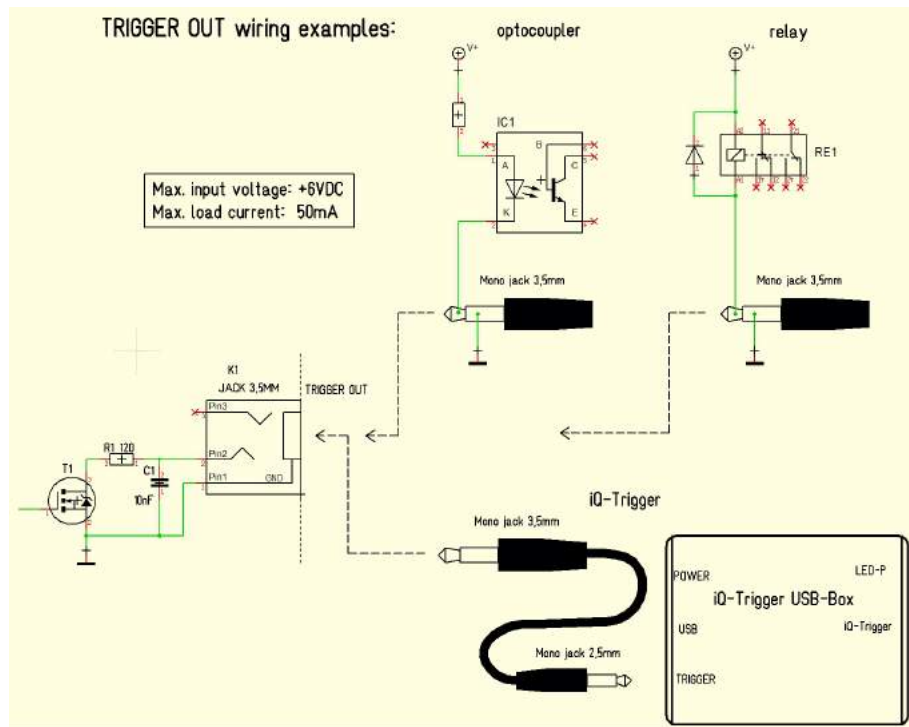
When pressing the rotary knob, you can turn on or off the fluorescent tubes.

While turning the rotary knob, you can set the intensity from low (0%) to high (100%).

Note: To store your own generated illuminants or sequences on your device, please follow the instructions in the iQ-LED SW user manual.



Wiring examples for the trigger output:



Trigger OUT wiring examples

The default duration value for the trigger output is 500 ms. This value can be modified with the iQ-LED API. A signal is sent out to the trigger output while changing the illuminants or the intensity of LED channels. It can be used to synchronize your test setup. For example with an iQ-Trigger. (See 2.1 optional equipment)

### 3.2 Connecting the hardware

1. Connect the power cord to the power supply on the back of iQ-Chart Box.
2. Connect the USB cable to the iQ-Chart Box and your PC.
3. Turn on the iQ-Chart Box; the power switch is located beside the power supply.
4. Connect the spectrometer to the PC using the USB cable. The system will install the spectrometer and iQ-LED drivers on your PC, this will take a few seconds.
5. You can check the installation in your hardware manager.



Hardware Manager: active iQ-LED and spectrometer



### 3.3 Illumination



Illumination devices

The iQ-Chart Box is equipped with the iQ-LED technology and fluorescent tubes to illuminate the testcharts. Both can be controlled via software or via dip switches directly on the device. Use the iQ-LED software to control the iQ-LED elements and the lightHEAD software to control the fluorescent tubes. For in-depth information on how to use the iQ-LED / lightHEAD software please see iQ-LED manual and lightHEAD-manual.

Note that only one type of fluorescent tubes is used in the iQ-Chart Box. Detailed information about the fluorescent type can be taken from the document [ZMP\\_58953\\_DULUX\\_L\\_24W\\_954\\_2G11.pdf](#).



ND filter

The fluorescent tubes are located at the top and bottom.

The iQ-LED elements at the right and left side of the front part of the iQ-Chart Box.

Both can be dimmed by a neutral density flap which will snap to magnetic parts either in its opening position (ND filter not used) or if it's closed (ND filter covers light source).



The iQ-LED software allows to set a compensation factor for the neutral density filters. Please set the factor in the iQ-LED software and read the chapter “3.1.3 Compensation factors” from the iQ-LED Software manual carefully when using the ND filter flaps.

The neutral density filter covers the spectral range up to 680 nm.

### 3.3.1 Calibration



Calibration device

Use the provided calibration device for iQ-LED calibration. Place the device inside the iQ-Chart Box like shown in the image above. Please note that the test chart needs to be removed while calibrating the iQ-LEDs. The calibration process is described in the iQ-LED user manual.

### 3.4 Charts



Chart exchange mechanism

The iQ-Chart Box is equipped with a chart holder which can be used for all Image Engineering test charts in size A460. To exchange the test chart use the knob on the right side of the iQ-Chart Box and pull it slightly towards the front. Now you can easily exchange the test chart by lifting it little bit to release it from the chart holder guide rail. Remove the current test chart and put the new testchart in the chart holder – the best way to insert the test chart is to hold it in an upright position above the chart holder guide rail inside the iQ-Chart Box. Drop it carefully in the





chart holder and make sure that it is fixed. Use the knob on the outside again to bring the chart to the back and fix its position.

## 4 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS SOFTWARE

### 4.1 Requirements

- PC with Windows 7 (or higher) operating system
- one free USB port

### 4.2 Software installation

Install the iQ-LED control software before connecting the hardware. Follow the setup instruction from the iQ-LED control software manual.

### 4.3 Starting the system

Start the iQ-LED software by clicking the 'iQ-LED.exe' or the iQ-LED icon on your desktop. Follow the iQ-LED software manual to control the iQ-Chart Box.

#### NOTE

The iQ-LED devices can only operate with high precision, when setup and calibration are performed correctly.

Consult the iQ-LED software manual for a comprehensive description and read it carefully.

#### 4.3.1 Spectrometer settings

The iQ-LED software (see iQ-LED software manual) automatically generates the best spectrometer settings for you lighting conditions after pressing the "auto detect" button. For special applications, it is also possible to set the spectrometer settings manually. If you have further question, please contact the Image Engineering support.

#### 4.3.2 Spectrometer calibration

Your spectrometer comes fully NIST traceable calibrated. We recommend recalibrating the spectrometer once a year, regardless of the operating hours. If a spectrometer calibration is required, please contact Image Engineering.

Note: Before removing the spectrometer, measure and note the lux value of a predefined standard illuminant.

After the spectrometer is calibrated and has been reinstalled to your system, perform a spectral calibration (iQ-LED calibration) and check if this intensity value is still correct. If it is not correct, you have to perform a lux calibration.



### 4.3.3 iQ-LED calibration

The individual LED lights of the iQ-LED inside the iQ-Chart Box depends on many different types and wavelengths. Some LEDs will change their intensity level and peak wavelength slightly in the first 500-600 working hours because of a burn-in effect.

The LEDs will also degrade in intensity during their lifetime. To make sure that all measurements including the auto-generated illuminants and the standard illuminants are correct, you have to perform a spectral calibration regularly.

You must also consider the degradation of the LED when saving self-defined presets. If you save a preset with LED channels that uses its maximum intensity, the possibility exists that this intensity cannot be reached after the burn-in time or the long-time degradation of the LED. In this case, you will get a warning message from the iQ-LED control software.

During the first 500-600 working hours, we recommend performing a spectral calibration every 50 operating hours.

After the first 500-600 operating hours, a calibration of every 150 working hours suffices.

Other factors that indicate the need for a spectral calibration: unsatisfactory illuminant generation, the aberration of the intensity values, or a spectral curve that does not fit with the predefined standard illuminants of the corresponding preset.

- the spectrometer works correctly
- the spectrometer settings are correct
- all LED channels work correctly
- the dark measurement is correct
- your measurement environment is correct
- your ambient temperature is correct

How to perform the spectral calibration is described in the iQ-LED control software manual.

## 4.4 Low intensity use

When using your system with very low intensity, the spectral measurement values will start to fluctuate. The lower the intensity, the higher the fluctuation. The generated light is still stable up to a certain point. The fluctuation of the values is caused by the noise of the spectral measurement of the internal spectrometer. The light intensity will continue to get lower when the influence of the noise continues to get higher. When using standard illuminants with an intensity lower than 25 lx, it will no longer be possible to get a correct value.



## 5 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 5.1 Maintenance

The spectrometer requires a recalibration once a year, regardless of the operating hours. If a spectrometer calibration is necessary, please contact Image Engineering. We will provide you with removal instructions for the spectrometer. The spectrometer then has to be sent to our office with a notation for calibration. Use appropriate packaging to prevent the spectrometer from being damaged during shipping.

A temporary replacement spectrometer can be provided to bridge the time gap while your spectrometer is recalibrated. Please contact us for conditions and procedure.

### 5.2 Care instructions

- Do not touch, scratch, or pollute the diffuser.
- If there is any dust on the diffuser, clean it with an air blower.
- Do not remove the fiber from the spectrometer. Otherwise, the calibration is invalid, and the spectrometer has to be **recalibrated!**

### 5.3 Disposal instructions

After the service life of iQ-Chart Box, it must be disposed of properly. Electrical and electromechanical components are included in iQ-Chart Box. Observe your national regulations. Make sure that iQ-Chart Box cannot be used by third parties after disposing of it.

Contact Image Engineering if assistance for disposal is required.



## 6 TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

See annex for the technical data sheet. It can also be downloaded from the website of Image Engineering: [www.image-engineering.com](http://www.image-engineering.com).