## Nosil's Quick & Exact X-Ray Dental Phantom Advanced User Manual

3rd Edition



PATENT PROTECTED

MADE IN CANADA



MODEL: DSP-N5



Instruction for Advanced User	1
Components	2
Physical Description	3
Positioning	5
Measurements on Film	6
Measurements on Digital	7
Examination of Digital Image	8
Analysis for Digital	9
Analysis for Film	11
Dose Standards	12
Image Quality Standards	13
Surevy Form Sample	14
Acceptance & Tracking	15
Standard Compliance & Tracking	17
Appendix 1	18
Appendix 2	21
Certificate Sample	28

## **Instruction for Advanced User**

This dental test phantom is designed to assess the image quality produced by intraoral dental X-ray units employing either film or digital detectors. It is simple to position vis-a-vis the x-ray unit, and the information produced is easily interpreted.

It is intended to be used in the acceptance and routine testing of dental X-ray equipment, in the periodic quality control of the whole imaging process, and in system optimization. Direct comparison of the results obtained from different dental units, using different imaging systems, is facilitated through its use.

The phantom is design to be used with normal bitewing exposures between 60 and 90 kVp: the routine settings on the X-ray unit under examination are used in the testing.

The means by which this Image Quality information is obtained depends upon whether the detector used clinically is film or digital.

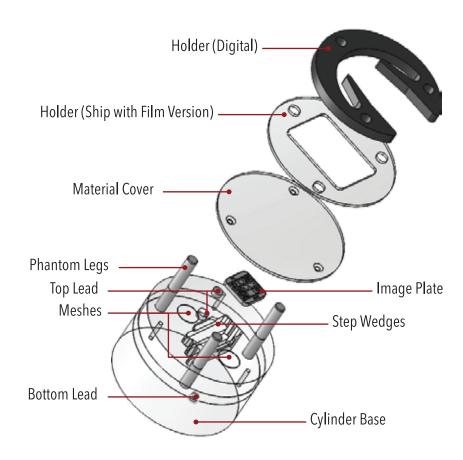
A single standard bitewing exposure of the phantom is all that is required to produce each quality assessment image. From this exposure of the film, it is possible to evaluate density, contrast, scatter to primary ratio, limiting resolution, and an estimate of image fog or background.

Special holders are designed for film, digital type 1 sensors, and type 2 sensors that are used for children and adults, respectively.

Digital images of the aluminum image quality plate are analyzed for tooth resolution at different contrasts in aluminum, PMMA contrast steps, and combinations of PMMA and Aluminum materials.

Inventor - Dr. Josip Nosi





**DO NOT** disassemble the Phantom by yourself if you are not instructed by an authorized person. This Phantom is not designed for any impact or drop. Always put it back to storage container when you complete a test.

There are total **4** size of dental phantoms:

Regular - **Adult** (age 18 and up)
Pediatric - **Small** (age 5 and under)
Pediatric - **Medium** (age 6-11)
Pediatric - **Large** (age 12-17)

## Physical Description

The dental test phantom for adult consists of a 76.5 mm diameter by 46.3 mm thick PMMA cylinder, weighing about 350g. Pediatric has various thickness, for small / medium / large size version is 19 / 28.5 / 37 mm.

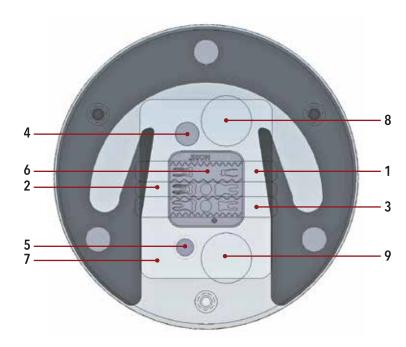
The thickness of the phantom is chosen to produce an optimum density range at the detector and to simulate the normal X-ray attenuation and spectra of a bitewing X-ray exposure. Separate holders for film, and PSP, digital detectors are provided which attach to the phantom. The digital detector holder is the proprietary invention to hold sensor in place and properly position the imaging detector.

It is easy to slide in digital sensor, which is kept in required position by the pressure of the elastic plastic material. Film holder is a rectangular cut out for the placement of the film. Film is secured by the digital detector holder, which also serves the purpose to keep the film in place when the phantom is inverted. The phantom incorporates a number of embedded structures, which allow a range of tests to be performed.

Densities D on the film receptor or G on the digital receptor are measured by x-rays transmitted through step wedges (as they replace holes in previous designs with six holes, 6 mm in diameter, of different depths), and with lead and Aluminum image quality plate inserts as specified which replacing real human tooth. The previous method of using human tooth does not give consistent and repeatable results. The phantoms are consistent and reproducible.

The PMMA steps are separated and risers of 5.8 mm air (40.5 PMMA), 9.8 mm air (36.5 PMMA), 13.8 mm air (32.4 PMMA), respectively. They can be changed if different contrasts are preferred.

Three circular Aluminum steps are also added to PMMA. The steps are in the middle and are an Aluminum plate (thicknesses of 0.4, 0.5 and 0.9 mm of Aluminum).



The seventh density reading is for the total thickness of PMMA.

**1**. Step 5.8 mm air + 40.5 mm PMMA: D or G (5.8 mm air) **2**. Step 9.8 mm air + 36.5 mm PMMA: D or G (9.8 mm air) **3**. Step 13.9 mm air + 32.4 mm PMMA: D or G (13.9 mm air)

D or G (PMMA, Pb at detector) **4**. 46.0 mm PMMA + 3 mm plate Pb : **5**. 3 mm plate lead + 46.0 mm PMMA: D or G (PMMA, Pb at collimator) **6**. Six Al teeth (0.4, 0.5 and 0.9 mm Al) D or G (tooth1, tooth2...tooth6)

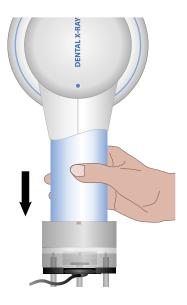
**7**. 46.3 mm PMMA: D or G (Background) 8. Resolution mesh 1 R(5.906 lp/mm) **9**. Resolution mesh 2 R(7.874 lp/mm)

Resolution is assessed behind two copper meshes (150, and 200) specified in line pairs per inch.

			R1	R2		
Mesh Ip/inch	100	120	150	200	325	400
Mesh lp/mm	3.947	4.724	5.906	7.874	12.795	15.748
Result	Fail	Poor	Fair	Good	Perfect	Excellent

# **Positioning**

5





The dental phantom is designed for use with intraoral X-rays units with circular or rectangular collimators, and using D, E or F films, PSP or digital detectors. It is placed at the aperture of the collimator.

The X-ray unit may be inverted, or the test phantom may be placed on a flat surface as shown and the tube pointing downward, or having and x-rays coming from a side, with a similar positioning as in patient imaging.

A bitewing X-ray film (enclosed in film holder, its packet size - 32 x 42 mm) slides directly into the holder. Three holes slide in three cylindrical phantom legs, at the output surface of the phantom. If the receptor used is digital, a specially designed digital detector holder (provided) sitting on the top of the film holder is used. Using either holder, the positioning is easily reproducible without the need of identifying marks or ancillary equipment.



## **Measurements on Film**

On the exposed and developed film the following measurements are made using a densitometer and magnifying glass:

The ninth density reading is for the total thickness of PMMA.

**D1:** Step 5.8 mm air + 40.5 mm PMMA.

**D2:** Step 9.8 mm air + 36.5 mm PMMA.

**D3:** Step 13.9 mm air + 32.4 mm PMMA.

**D4:** 46.0 mm PMMA + 3 mm plate Pb, (with the Pb next to the detector). The measured density is that of base plus fog.

**D5:** 0.3 mm plate lead + 46.0 mm PMMA, (with the lead on the entrance surface). The measured density is that of pure scatter from the surround plus base plus fog, with no contribution from the primary radiation.

**D6:** Step 5.8 mm air + 40.5 mm PMMA + Al.

**D7:** Step 9.8 mm air + 36.5 mm PMMA + Al.

**D8:** Step 13.9 mm air + 32.4 mm PMMA + Al.

**D9:** 46.3 mm PMMA primary plus scatter plus base plus fog.

R1: Resolution mesh 1 at 5.906 lp/mm (150 lp/inch).

R2: Resolution mesh 2 at 7.874 lp/mm (200 lp/inch).

T1: Six Al teeth (0.4, 0.5 and 0.9 mm Al). Mark visible tooth elements.



## Measurements on Digital

(Also apply on PSP (Photo Stimulated Phosphor), wired and wireless CCD)

On the exposed and developed film the following measurements are made using a computer software to analyze:

The ninth gray level reading is for the total thickness of PMMA.

**G1:** Step 5.8 mm air + 40.5 mm PMMA.

**G2:** Step 9.8 mm air + 36.5 mm PMMA.

**G3:** Step 13.9 mm air + 32.4 mm PMMA.

**G4:** 46.0 mm PMMA + 3 mm plate Pb, (with the Pb next to the detector). The measured density is that of base plus electronic noise.

**G5:** 0.3 mm plate lead + 46.0 mm PMMA, (with the lead on the entrance surface). The measured density is that of pure scatter from the surround plus base plus electronic noise, with no contribution from the primary radiation.

**G6:** Step 5.8 mm air + 40.5 mm PMMA + Al.

**G7:** Step 9.8 mm air + 36.5 mm PMMA + Al.

**G8:** Step 13.9 mm air + 32.4 mm PMMA + Al.

**G9:** 46.3 mm PMMA primary plus scatter plus base plus electronic noise.

R1: Resolution mesh 1 at 5.906 lp/mm (150 lp/inch).

R2: Resolution mesh 2 at 7.874 lp/mm (200 lp/inch).

T1: Six Al teeth (0.4, 0.5 and 0.9 mm Al). Mark visible tooth elements.



## Examination of Digital Image

The computer-displayed images of the 9 test areas are examined by a suitable computer program which determines the bit level (0-256) of the pixels in a 4x4 mm or a selected area of the image, and averages them. These grey level data can then be interpreted in a similar way as density values to those derived for film.

The software to analyze the gray level that we recommended is ImageJ. ImageJ is a public domain Java image processing program inspired by NIH Image. It is a cross platform downloadable application, on any computer with a Java 1.4 or later virtual machine. Supports Windows, Mac OS, Mac OS X and Linux. To download this application and user guide please visit ImageJ website at http://imagej.nih.gov/ij/ for more information.

Before starting to use ImageJ, you must to know:

- 1. How to open your image file.
- 2. How to select a round shape area not an oval shape with a certain size.
- 3. How to open Histogram window.
- 4. Analyze size must remain the same (ROI of pixels).
- 5. How to move selected area around the image.

Spatial resolution is determined from visual and computer-scanned examination of the images of the 2 copper mesh graticules in two orthogonal directions, using a magnifying glass for film or other image processing for digital image.





Each phantom is labelled as above. Tube axis, position of the focal spot and anode, is not critical. Label helps with consistency of positioning. Letter A and C are below the Anode and Cathode side of the x-ray tube.

## Analysis for Digital

Contrast scale: Maximum range given by G3/G9 Contrast between steps: Comparison between G3, G2, G1, and G9 Contrast between AI steps: Comparison the ratio between G6, G7, G8 by G9 Ip/mm Limiting Resolution: The finest mesh that can be seen in both

orthogonal directions.

Appropriateness of the technique factors used. G9 should be constantly. Scatter to primary ratio: given by (G5 – G4)/ (G9 – G5)

The protocol described above can be used with all dental units. The phantom is positioned at the end of the collimator. The direction of the x-ray beam is immaterial. The phantom is useful as a departmental quality assurance system where it can be employed to check techniques, the optimal operation of the X-ray units, and film processing.

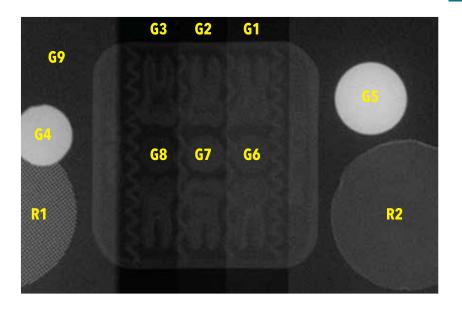
This manual describes how to perform the necessary tests. It does not comment on the results of the tests or how to interpret them. The visual judgement of the limiting spatial resolution and the number of discernible lines is, by nature, very subjective.

Some criteria for 'pass' and 'fail' used arise from the results of the NEXT (Nationwide Examination of X-ray Trends) of the FDA in the USA. In this program the performance of a large number of medical and dental x-ray units was examined over a period of years. It was found that, while the values of significant measured parameters (eg., Entrance Skin Exposure, Half Value Layer, High and Low Contrast Range, and Detail Resolution) varied widely, most units produced values close to a median for each parameter. A unit, which produces values differing widely from the median, is considered to have 'failed', and a recommendation is made for corrective measures.

In short, if, in examining a unit, a parameter has been measured and the result found to be widely divergent from the NEXT median value, it is reported it as a 'failure', and a recommendation is made that the unit be serviced in order to bring it into the acceptable range.

#### **Example of Calculations**

The following techinque was used under ImageJ computer software, please refer page 8 to know more detail. This is not a tutorial about how to use ImageJ. We merely point out that ImageJ function is used here.



You must have your own digital image opened by ImageJ, it looks like above image without those yellow guiding texts.

- 1. Select a round shape area to set sampling size within the circle of G7.
- 2. Open Histogram window, click on Live.
- 3. Move the round shape area to analyze Mean values.
- 4. Starting from G1 to G9, and R1, R2, write it down on our form.
- 5. Write extra StdDev values from R1 and R2 only on our form.
- 6. If you have our Microsoft Excel sheet, calculation formula has been programmed, you could see the result right away after entered.
- 7. Test done.

Using transmission densitometer (eg. X-Rite 331) or equivalent meter to reading the vavlue for calculation.

Contrast scale: Maximum range given by D3/D9

Contrast between steps: Comparison between D3, D2, D1, and D9 Contrast between AI steps: Comparison the ratio between D6, D7, D8 by D9.

Limiting Resolution: The finest mesh that can be seen in both orthogonal directions.

Appropriateness of the technique factors used. D9 should be close to 1.5 Scatter to primary ratio: given by (D5 – D4)/ (D9– D5)

Calculation of comparison is based on contrast definition:

$$Contrast = (f_f - f_b) / f_b$$

- 1. Use your reading meter starting from G1 to G9, and R1, R2.
- 2. You could print out our survey form to keep tracking your testing result by write down all readings.
- 3. Test done.



(From NCRP Report No. 172, page 69 of 6.4.1.3) NCRP recommends an achievable dose of 1.2 mGy for intraoral radiography. This is the median dose for E-F film in the Michigan survey and is higher than for digital systems.

This DRL value is intended to be one standard, regardless of the type of imaging receptor used by the dentist; whether D- or E-F- speed film, or storage phosphor, charge-coupled device, complemen- tary metal oxide semiconductor digital systems. It is recognized, and intended, that meeting this standard will most likely require dentists in the United States who use D-speed film to convert to E-F-speed film. Such a conversion requires only reducing the exposure time or milliamperage by half. The kilovolt peak and pro- cessing conditions are otherwise unaffected. This conversion car- ries immediate patient benefits without loss of diagnostic quality (Ludlow et al., 2001b).

It is the position of the American Dental Association that den-tists should use E-F-speed film (ADA, 2006). This position is also held by NCRP (2003) and the American Academy of Oral and Max- illofacial Radiology (White et al., 2001). E- and F-speed films are also used widely in Europe and recommended by the European guidelines on radiation protection in dental imaging (EC, 2004).

## **Image Quality Standards**

(From CRCPD Publication E-03-6-a, republished August 2007, page 32 and NCRP Report No. 172, page 69 of 6.4.1.3)

A number of visible intraoral high contrast meshes should at least 150 Lines/inch. No meshes are visible - Red/Fail. Only 150 mesh is visible -Yellow/Pass (lines only one circle of the meshes are visible). Both 150 and 200 meshes are visible - Green/Pass (lines are visible in both directions in both circles containing meshes).

Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRL) have been set at approximately the 75th percentile of measured phantom data. This means that the procedures performed at 75% of the institutions surveyed have exposure levels at or below the DRL. Archivable Reference Levels (ARL) represent the median of the measure distribution.

Index	DRL	ARL
G3:G9	0.72	0.81
G1:G2	0.16	0.19
G1:G9	0.40	0.47
G2:G3	0.09	0.11
G2:G9	0.60	0.67
G6:G9	0.95	0.98
G7:G9	0.85	0.92
G8:G9	0.45	0.50
Average Contrast	0.26	0.29
Min. Grey Level	13	10
Max. Grey Level	211	219
Scatter/Primary Ratio	0.36	0.29

See appendix 2 for more detail.



## Surevy Form Sample

We have a survey form prepared for our clients, see appendix 1 for sample. It helps you collect your X-ray equipment analyze reading and calculation result. Ensure your equipments is in good condition all the time.

You can download this form in PDF or XLS format from our website. In our XLS format, it includes formula that gives you test result instantly.



## **Acceptance & Tracking**

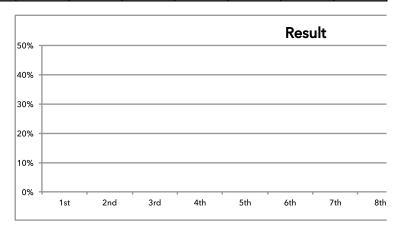
To maintain X-ray unit in good condition and quality control, please obtain the unit acceptance testing values and compare with every test you have done.

The following 3 values should be tracked. Ensure they are under the allowance range. Otherwise contact a certified techincian or manufacturer to perform a service visit for repair or calibration. You could find these calculated values on the bottom of our survey form.

Scatter to primary ratio with error in ±5%.
 You could plot this value time to time to ensure your value is in allowance range, the template as seen in below can be found in our Microsoft Excel survey form.

Acceptance testing value Accepted range to above

Routine test	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Result							

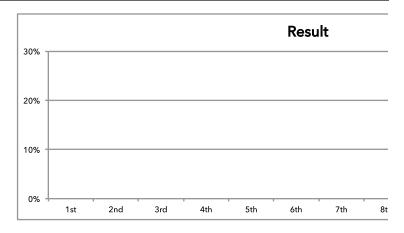


Average contrast with error in ±10%.
 You could plot this value time to time to ensure your value is in allowance range, the template as seen in below can be found in our Microsoft Excel survey form.

Acceptance testing value
Accepted range to above

+-10%

Routine test	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Result							



3. Grey level maximum error less than the specification of 256 levels.

Either one out of these 3 value has exceed allowance range, which means this unit need your attention, service may required. Before the test value back to the range, you may not using this unit.

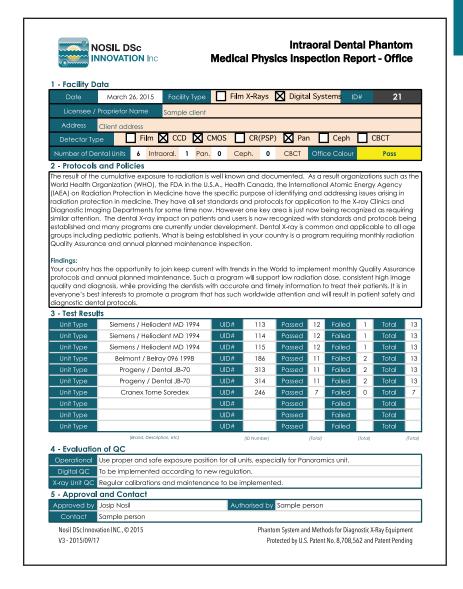


## Standard Compliance & Tracking

Analysis of dental phantom result through a week period.

Parameter	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
G3:G9					
G1:G2					
G1:G9					
G2:G3					
G2:G9					
G6:G9					
G7:G9					
G8:G9					
Avg. Contrast					
Min. Grey Level					
Max. Grey Level					
Scatter/Primary Ratio					





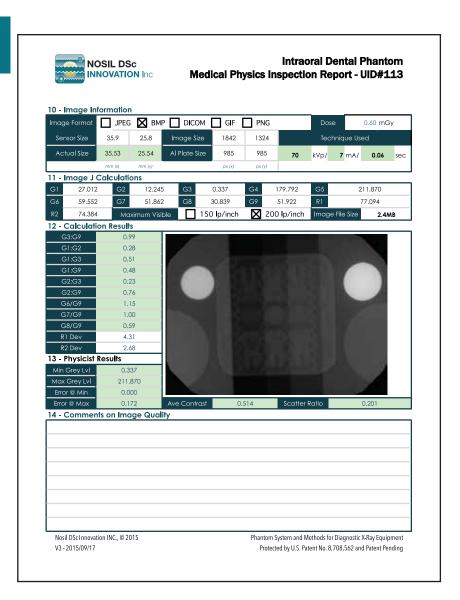
Survey form sample - Facility Data

Room/Operator Name X-Ray Unit Weekly X-Ray Exposure # Recommended Tech.		Room 2 ens / Heliodent MD	1994		spection I			March 26, 2015
Weekly X-Ray Exposure # Recommended Tech.					Sensor		(	Gendex GXS-700
Recommended Tech.		ID#	21		Г	<b>7</b> D	П	Е <b>П</b> F
	70 kVp/	7 mA/ 0.1 - 0	0.16 sec		nsor	=	_	☐ cmos
Technique Used	70 k	/p/ <b>7</b> mA/	0.06 sec	l)	/pe	PSP	П	Pan Ceph
2 - Unit Condition							_	Standard Requirements)
1. Operator Distance and	d Safety			X	Pass	Fail		
2. Performance (kV, mA,	Time, HVL, etc)			$\overline{\boxtimes}$	Pass	Fail	>=5%	kVp
3. Leakage Radiation				XX	Pass	Fail	<= 0.2	25 mGy/hr @ 1m
4. Image Analysis					Pass	Fail		
5. Beam Limiting Devices	(Length & Type	∍)		$\boxtimes$	Pass	Fail	>=200	cm @ =>60 kV
6. Beam Alignment Asses	sment (X-ray Fi	eld Size)		$\boxtimes$	Pass		Collin	nation <6.3cm
<ol><li>Patient and Public Prot</li></ol>	ection (Lead A	pron, Thyroid, etc)			Pass	Fail		
<ol><li>Radiation Dose to Patie</li></ol>	ent a. Dose	within DRL Limits		$\boxtimes$	Pass	=		Gy (1.8 for Film)
	X	Pass		1.2 m	Gy (1.6 for Film)			
9. Unit Assembley Evaluat		is stable and bala	nced)	X	Pass	Fail		
10. Radiation Dose to Op	X	Pass	=	Dose	<= 1 μSv/yr			
11. Exposure technique u	sed as recomn	nended		Ä	Pass	Fail	_	
12. Operator Digital QC				Ц	Pass 🔀	Fail	zee b	age 2
3 - Medical Non-con	•	on-Compliance			Level	Lcom	octive	Date and Signature
	110	и сотраснос			Fail	Con	CCIIVC	. Date and signator
HIGH					Fail			
	Provide weekly	number of X-ray e	xposures		Correc			
MEDIUM ———	,				Correc	1		
					Pass			
Low					Pass			
4 - Subsystem Image	Quality Eva	luation						
	Excellent	G1:G2	Exceller	nt		57:G9		Pass
	Excellent	G1:G9	Pass			8:G9		Excellent
Max. Grey Level	Pass	G2:G3	Exceller	nt		Resoluti	on	Pass  Fa
	Excellent	G2:G9	Exceller	nt	Α	rtifact		Pass  Fa
G3:G9	Excellent	G6:G9	Exceller	nt	Tot	tal Fails		0 / 14
5 - Comments								
- Comments								

Survey form sample - Report (1/3)

ation Equipment Used			ialitiea Medical I	Physicist)
	Unfors 583L (	R/F Detector #1)		nysicisi)
kVp	70	70	70	70
mA	7	7	7	7
sec	0.060	0.060	1.000	0.040
ms	/	/	/	/
pulses/s	/	/	/	/
Dose (mR)	71.3	71.4	121.1	46.5
Dose Rate (R/min)	71.0	71.1	72.7	69.8
kVp Accuracy	67.4	67.5	67.4	66.7
Time (ms)	60.1	60.1	99.8	39.9
	(Average Adult)	(Average Adulf)	(Large Adult)	(Child - baby teeth prese
25cm from cone tip	0.0mm	1 famos	2.0mm	3.0mm
iation Safety	0.00		2.00	3.01.11.
mR/hr Ope	erators Position	R Side	B Side	L Side
uSv/hr				
μοτ/				
nments on Performs		µSv/hr or >0./5 mR/hr		
interns on renorma	ince			
	mA sec ms pulses/s Dose (mR) Dose Rate (R/min) kVp Accuracy Time (ms) 2 5cm from cone tip iation Safety mR/hr µSv/hr	mA 7 sec 0.060 ms / pulses/s / Dose (mR) 71.3 Dose Rate (R/min) 71.0 kVp Accuracy 67.4 Time (ms) 60.1 (Average Adult) 25cm from cone tip idition Safety mR/hr µSv/hr (I) (2)	mA 7 7  sec 0.060 0.060  ms // / pulses/s // / Dose (mR) 71.3 71.4  Cose Rate (R/min) 71.0 71.1  kVp Accuracy 67.4 67.5  Time (ms) 60.1 60.1  [(Average Adult)] (Average Adult)  25cm from cone tip  idition Safety  mR/hr µSv/hr (1) (2)  Fail if >7.5 µSv/hr or >0.75 mR/hr	mA 7 7 7  sec 0.060 0.060 1.000  ms // // pulses/s // //  Dose (mR) 71.3 71.4 121.1  Dose Rate (R/min) 71.0 71.1 72.7  kVp Accuracy 67.4 67.5 67.4  Time (ms) 60.1 60.1 99.8  (Average Adult) (Average Adult) (Large Adult)  125cm from cone tip  100mm 1.0mm 2.0mm  1ation Safety  mR/hr  µSV/hr (1) (2)  Fall if ≥7.5 µSV/hr or >0.75 mR/hr

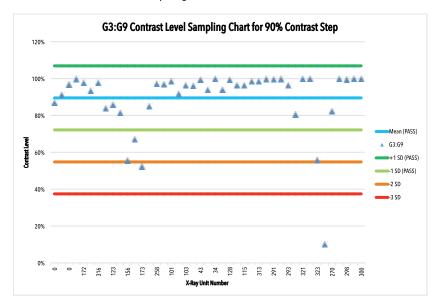
Survey form sample - Report (2/3)

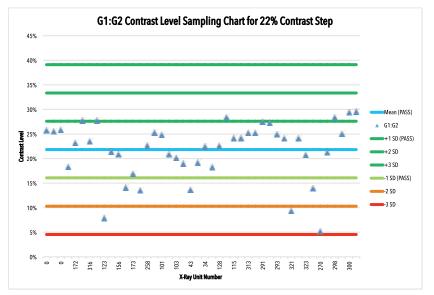


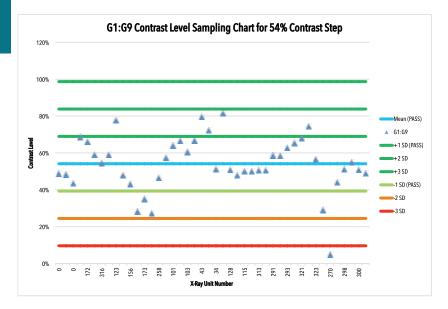
Survey form sample - Report (3/3)

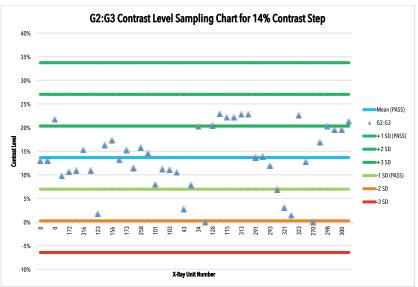


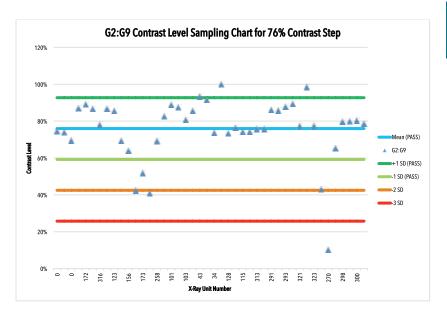
### Standards calculation sampling

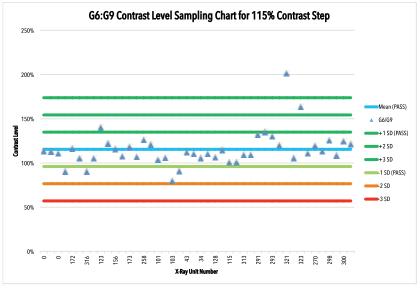


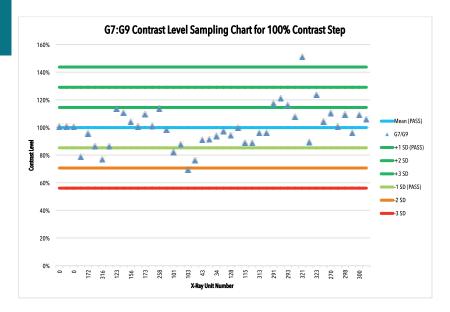


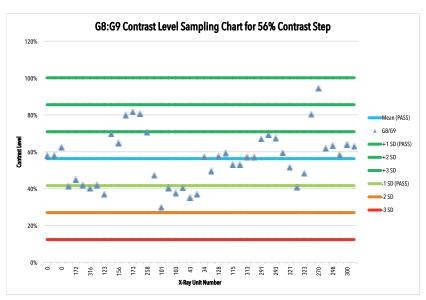


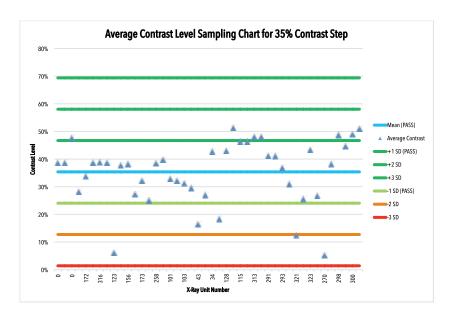


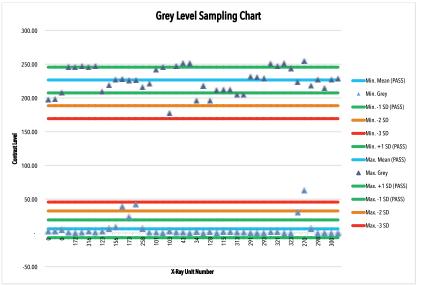




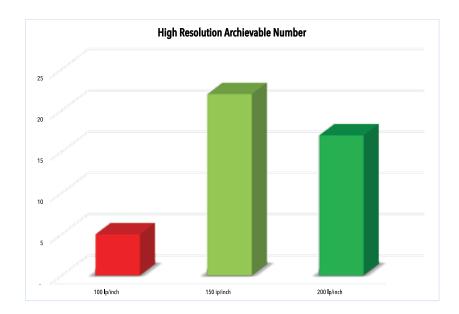








# 



# Certificate Sample

If you wish to obtain the certificate as shown below, please send all your X-ray unit Phantom images to certificate@drnosil.com or certified image quality surveyer for evaluation. If image quality meets acceptable standards, you will receive a certificate as per your Phantom purchase contract.

