



CRT or LCD, that is the question...

Since the advent of LCD or TFT monitors there has been much discussion regarding which is best for those who demand colour accuracy.

The main discussion points are based upon, image quality and progression of technology.

To address image quality first, let me start by saying that 12 – 18 months ago I had similar concerns to you about the quality of LCD or TFT screens. However, you can now buy LCD screens that will match the quality of CRT screens – and there is a new generation of LCD's emerging that outperform CRT monitors. The Eizo CG220 (an LCD) is the first monitor ever, CRT or LCD to display the full Adobe RGB colour space. This is an expensive monitor, but if image accuracy is your priority it is definitely worth the investment, and I think that is the key to this discussion. If you are buying an LCD, you will have to pay more to get the same image quality as a CRT at this present time, but, *you can get the quality.*

The next point, on progression of technology simply serves to back up my comments on image quality. The move to LCD is inevitable - you simply can't buy a quality CRT monitor anymore. So when your current model breaks down, where do you go next? In addition to this, even if you could source the CRT monitor you wanted, will the support be available for the necessary investment to be worthwhile. Add to this the more basic benefits of an LCD such as its ergonomics, and better power consumption and the case for moving to an LCD becomes more and more compelling.

There is no doubt that the CRT produced a good quality colour accurate image, and while the LCD failed to deliver this, I, as much as anyone was keen to remain with CRT. But time and technology move on and the LCD/TFT monitor has caught up and is overtaking the capability of the CRT.