

Temporary Image Retention

What is Temporary Image Retention?

Temporary Image Retention refers to when an image appears to be burned onto a LCD screen. This is most apparent when a new image is loaded on a LCD screen after a static image has been displayed on the LCD screen for a long period of time. Even though a new image is displayed, the shadow or trace of the previous image can still be seen on the screen.

Cause of Temporary Image Retention

Temporary Image Retention is a phenomenon that is inherent in Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) technology. The phenomenon is caused by pixels being in an "on" state condition for an extended period of time which causes small electrical charges to remain in the cell of the TFT (Thin Film Transistor) when the LCD is turned off. This phenomenon is not a permanent condition for newer technology Liquid Crystal Display (LCD). However, the duration of retention of the electrical charges is proportional to the amount of high temperature the LCD has been subjected to. Consequently, the higher the temperature, the longer it takes for the image to disappear. The degree of visibility of the image is also dependent on the color of the background on the screen. Although this phenomenon does not affect the functionality of the LCD, it is recognize that it could create a cosmetic effect on its usability.

Can Temporary Image Retention be Avoided?

Yes. Many of the display manufacturers recommend that you use a "screen saver" function within the Microsoft Operating System to prevent an image from being burned on the LCD screen. The screen saver mode prevents the image from being displayed on the screen for an extended period of time.

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