Tech Info Library

PostScript Fonts: How to Determine ASCII Assignments

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Security:       Everyone
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PostScript Fonts: How to Determine ASCII Assignments

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Article Change History

12/1/92 - REVISED
          • To consolidate the method for using this program.

TOPIC --

Users with typesetting equipment and LaserWriters have run into the
problem that the fonts generated by the LaserWriter are not quite the
same as those from the typesetter being used. This is causing some
problems when documents are printed on machines other than the
LaserWriter.

This article describes a method for determining the ASCII assignment of
any font.

DISCUSSION ------------------------------------

By sending a PostScript program (listed below) to a LaserWriter, a user
can determine which character is encoded to what ASCII assignment for any
laser font. For example, this specific program gives all ASCII codes and
their respective characters for the Times-Roman font. By changing the
name of the font, where noted with the % and comment, the ASCII assignment
and character can be determined for any laser font.

```
/Times-Roman findfont
[12 0 0 -12 0 0] makefont setfont
60 47 moveto
(ASCII Code - Character       Times-Roman) show  %Change the font name
here.
60 59 moveto
```

```
500 59 lineto
500 762 lineto
60 762 lineto
60 59 lineto
stroke
/Times-Roman findfont                          %Also, change the font name
here.
[12 0 0 -12 0 0] makefont setfont
/char 1 string def
/nstr 3 string def /newline
{ currentpoint 14 add
exch pop LM
exch moveto } def
/prt-n
{nstr cvs show} def
/prtchar
{ char 0
3 -1 roll put
char show } def
/PrintCodeandChar
{ dup prt-n
( - ) show
prtchar newline } def
/LM 72 def
LM 72 moveto
0 1 49 {PrintCodeandChar} for
/LM 144 def
LM 72 moveto
50 1 99 {PrintCodeandChar} for
/LM 216 def
LM 72 moveto
100 1 149 {PrintCodeandChar} for
/LM 288 def
LM 72 moveto
150 1 199 {PrintCodeandChar} for
/LM 360 def
LM 72 moveto
200 1 249 {PrintCodeandChar} for
/LM 432 def
LM 72 moveto
250 1 255 {PrintCodeandChar} for
showpage
```

This PostScript program can be sent to the LaserWriter with the
LaserWriter Utility that can be located on the LaserWriter Utility Disk.
Put the text of this program into a text file (you can use TeachText) and
send it to the printer with the LaserWriter Utility.

For additional information on PostScript, refer to the Adobe PostScript
Language Reference Manual, 2nd Edition, by Adobe Systems, Inc.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use the vendor name as a
search string.

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