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LaserWriter: Problem with Heat-Sensitive Adhesive on Envelopes

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Security: Everyone

LaserWriter: Problem with Heat-Sensitive Adhesive on Envelopes

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Article Change History

- 02/12/93 - UPDATED
 - Vendor information.

TOPIC -----

Why does Personal LaserWriter SC seal envelopes as they pass through it? Is there a fix or a workaround?

DISCUSSION -----

The mechanism used in the Personal LaserWriter NT and SC may seal envelopes that are not rated for laser printer or copier use. Any laser printer that uses the Canon P-110 engine behaves similarly. This is caused by heat-sensitive adhesive. We have seen it occur with various envelopes, though some that are not labeled as "laser rated" don't have the problem. The deciding factor is the kind of adhesive used.

You may notice a difference between the LaserWriter II and Personal LaserWriter series. The major difference is the slower paper speed of the Personal LaserWriter engine. The Personal LaserWriter moves material over the drum at half the speed of the LaserWriter II, giving the paper or envelope twice as long to absorb heat.

One method of preventing sealing is to separate the envelope flap the moment it ejects from the LaserWriter, but the real solution is to use envelopes that have been designed for compatibility with laser printers or copiers. Two suppliers you might contact are James River Corporation and Avery.

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

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