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AppleShare PC and LaserWriter Drivers

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I installed AppleShare PC 2.01 on a PC on a mixed LocalTalk network. The Macintoshes in the workgroup use LaserWriter drivers version 6.0.1. It seems that AppleShare PC is not compatible with these drivers, and we get LaserWriter wars. Is there a fix or workaround?

DISCUSSION -----

While the Macintosh LaserWriter drivers require a PostScript dictionary to be present in the LaserWriter, AppleShare PC does not. Printing from AppleShare PC to a LaserWriter connected as a PostScript device doesn't download anything other than the file being printed.

It does download an Epson emulation dictionary for each Epson job, but this persists only for the length of that job. It does not require or replace md (The Macintosh Laser Prep dictionary), and, therefore, won't cause any LaserWriter wars.

Theoretically, PC application that prints PostScript can wipe out md, or download its own dictionary that conflicts with 6.0.1. This is entirely dependent on the applications being used and could be tested by printing from each in turn until a conflict occurs.

We would first confirm that all of the Macintosh computers have LaserWriter and Laser Prep 6.0.1 installed. If so, check to see if one of the PC applications is causing the problem.

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