Tech Info Library

LaserWriter Driver 7.x: Problem Printing Linked Files

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Security:       Everyone
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TOPIC -----------------------------------------------------------
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A customer is having a problem when printing merged Extended PostScript
(EPS) files from FrameMaker or Microsoft Word to a LaserWriter.

Using System 6 LaserWriter print drivers, they could print up to 10 EPS
files at a time. Each file would be named "PostScript#" (where # is the
number of the file, from 0-9).

When they use LaserWriter 7.x drivers in Microsoft Word, the first
document is printed to a file and the remaining files are sent to the
printer. When using the same drivers with FrameMaker, the system hangs
or crashes.

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DISCUSSION ------------------------------------------------------
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Printing linked or merged files is a known problem with the LaserWriter
print drivers and is more fully discussed in Macintosh Technical Note
#312. Here is a brief explanation of the problem:

The Printing Manager call, PrJobMerge, is responsible for printing merged
or linked files. This call is implemented by the currently chosen printer
driver. Since the printer driver may store job-specific printing
information anywhere in the print record, only the printer driver can
correctly merge this into a destination print record.

LaserWriter print driver version 7.x does not correctly merge all print
job-related data (such as the number of copies requested) into the
destination print record. As a result, the job may not print properly.

Also, in LaserWriter driver version 7.x, PrJobMerge destroys all
the print job-specific information in the source print record after it fails
to copy this information into the destination print record.

The best workaround is to unlink your files and print them separately.

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