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Windows to Macintosh: Difficulties When Moving Documents (3/94)

Revised: 3/9/94
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 4 March 1993
Article Reviewed/Updated: 9 March 1994

TOPIC -----

I'm trying to use Word Perfect in a multi-vendor environment. While WordPerfect works well moving between Windows and the Macintosh, I have some problems with documents reflowing, due to different font metrics across the two platforms.

Now that Windows has TrueType, it would appear that this should be easy. I have these specific questions:

- 1) Are the font metrics for TrueType on a Macintosh and TrueType for Windows the same?
- 2) Are the font metrics of Macintosh bitmapped fonts and Windows bitmapped fonts the same (for at least the basic fonts; Times, Helvetica, Courier)?
- 3) How can I create documents or templates on one platform that will move to the other platform (that is, Macintosh to Windows or Windows to Macintosh) without the page breaks changing due to reflowed text?

DISCUSSION -----

- 1) The fonts themselves may be the same, but the TrueType engines on the two platforms are different. Apple did the TrueType engine for the Macintosh and Microsoft did the TrueType engine for Windows. So there are differences in how TrueType fonts are represented.
- 2) Bitmapped fonts on the two platforms are very different.
- 3) At this time, you can't. You'll find many more problems than just the reflowing of text causing page layouts to change. You'll find that all the style changes will go from one platform to another as well.

There's a long way to go before moving documents across platforms without losing something in the process.

Article Change History:

9 March 1994 - Reviewed for technical accuracy

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Tech Info Library Article Number:11789