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Parallel Printer On AppleTalk

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If you need Centronics parallel-compatibility on a network, consider products offered by Solana Electronics. Solana Electronics markets devices that are designed to connect, for example, a Printronix printer (with a Centronics interface) to an AppleTalk network.

However, purchasing an R-Server to connect a relatively inexpensive dot-matrix printer to the network costs more than replacing that printer outright with a new ImageWriter. Furthermore, after connecting an Epson to the network via an R-Server, you have no "network" driver support providing even minimal graphic support. All you have are the printer's built-in fonts with minimal or no formatting of text.

Solana has several options. If the printers are serial, consider the Solana R-Server X810.1 or X810.2. If the printer is parallel, use the X810.2. The X8120 devices can be set up with up to 2MB of memory for use as a data buffer to store and forward messages and so on.

Editor's Note 22 June 1992: Solana has discontinued business to our knowledge, so we are unable to refer you to them directly for further information.
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