Network: One Macintosh Can't See LaserWriter; Others Can

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Article Change History

09/04/92 - REVISED
- To update information; added information on Node Informer.
- To show correct format.

TOPIC --

One Macintosh node can't talk to the LaserWriter but all others on the
network can. We know that the problem has something to do with the node
location because when a known good Macintosh is used at the node location
the problem still occurs. Also, when using the Chooser from the problem
node location, the LaserWriter sometimes disappears.

DISCUSSION --

There may either be noise built up on the LocalTalk cable due to an
improper termination at one of the LocalTalk connection boxes or more
likely, if you are using bulk roll cable in large 1500 rolls, there may be
a cable problem.

You may want to use Node Check 1.0 from Apple or a similar product like
Node Informer from Cayman Systems to help you find the problem. Load and
run one of these programs on all of the Macintoshes installed on the
network. As the program is running, check and see which node can see which
node and the LaserWriter. (Note that Node Check was NOT designed to work
with EtherNet. The current version of Node Check, 1.0, will not be updated
in the future. Node Informer would be a better choice in this situation.)

Each Macintosh should show all LaserWriters, AppleTalk ImageWriters (only
the ImageWriters which have the LocalTalk card installed), and Macintoshes
running the node program on the network.

When a problem is found, try swapping cable and connector boxes. The idea
is to find the culprit junction by patiently swapping the systems on and
off the net until everybody sees everybody else on Node Check.

Node Informer is available on AppleLink through Cayman Systems. Use Cayman
Systems as a search string for contact information.
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