PowerBook Duo, Express Modem, & StyleWriter II (3/95)

Article Created: 22 April 1994
Article Reviewed/Updated: 14 March 1995

TOPIC --

I have encountered an anomaly using a PowerBook Duo 230 with StyleWriter II
printers. In this case, it is a Duo with an Express Modem installed.

Assume I'm printing from an undocked Duo and that AppleTalk is inactive as
defined in the Chooser.

In the Chooser, select the StyleWriter II icon, turn on Background Printing, and
click on Printer (Serial Port). Close the Chooser. Print a document.
PrintMonitor comes up with an alert that "The serial port is currently in use by
another application. Please quit that application and print again." But it just
isn't so!

Apple Remote Access (ARA) is not set to answer calls (this should be irrelevant,
since we are set to use the Express Modem). Personal File Sharing & Program
Linking are off (this should also be irrelevant, since AppleTalk is turned
off).

Similar weirdness seems to happen with a MiniDock, although I have not been able
to evaluate all the combinations.

Are there any tricks in printing to the StyleWriter II with a Duo 250 and/or a
270c?

DISCUSSION ---

Regarding the undocked configuration you describe (Duo 230 w/ Express Modem, ARA
1.0, StyleWriter II connected to the serial port, AppleTalk turned off) -- Yes,
it is possible to print to the StyleWriter II.

If you have AppleTalk turned on, you need to select "Remote Only" in
  the Network Control Panel.

If you have AppleTalk turned off, no changes are needed.

Select External Modem in the PowerBook control panel. The Express Modem
provides a means of compatibility for those applications which do not support

the Comm Toolbox. Selecting Internal Modem in the PowerBook control panel will
enable applications using serial port A (External Modem Port) to communicate
with the Express Modem. ARA does not have that problem, therefore the PowerBook
control panel should be set to External Modem.

When you select StyleWriter II via the Chooser, two icons will be displayed:
printer and modem. It doesn't matter which one you select, because they are
both directed to one port anyway. Because of this, the modem icon will always
be highlighted when you open the Chooser and select StyleWriter II.

Because you have Apple Remote Access installed, it is recommended that you
remove the Serial Port Arbitrator extension from the Extensions folder inside
the System Folder. Apple Remote Access will still function properly. The
extension just keeps track of the names of applications using serial ports for
user notification.

The software (with the Duo 250 and 270c) used to print to the StyleWriter II
with a 250 and 270c is differenct from the software that is used with the Duo
210/230.

The following procedure works well when using an undocked Duo and a
StyleWriter II:

a) Go to Express Modem Control Panel and turn it OFF.
b) Go to PowerBook Setup Control Panel and set modem to Normal (External).
c) Go to Chooser and verify that Appletalk is OFF. If ON, turn OFF.
d) Select the StyleWriter II driver and select the MODEM port.

Article Change History:
14 Mar 1995 - Corrected wording of MiniDock.
19 Jan 1994 - Added information on the 250 and 270c

Keywords: kpbook

==

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00
Tech Info Library Article Number: 12009