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Macintosh: Printing to DEC ScriptPrinter LN03R

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TOPIC -----

Do you know of a way to print from a Macintosh to a LN03R? I have a driver that supports modem communication, but I need something that supports a direct serial connection.

DISCUSSION -----

To our knowledge, there is no driver that lets a Macintosh print directly to the Digital ScriptPrinter LN03R. One alternative is to print to a disk file from the application and then send the file to the printer using a terminal emulation program. With the correct cable, you can communicate to the printer using a terminal emulation program like MacTerminal over the serial port. Needless to say, this is not very convenient.

Another alternative is to use the printer on the network:

- DEC LanWORKS for Macintosh offers this capability. The service is called VAXshare Print Server, and it supports Digital's LPS20, LPS40, ScriptPrinter LN03R, and Apple's LaserWriter, LaserWriter Plus, LaserWriter IINT, and LaserWriter IINTX.
- With Alisa Digital Printer Support System (ADP), an option for AlisaTalk for VAX/VMS, Macintosh users can print to Digital PostScript devices like the LN03R ScriptPrinter and the PrintServer 40. The Digital PostScript device looks like an Apple LaserWriter to the Macintosh user.

ADP makes use of VMS system queuing and printing. Features include forms and paper type control, optional job flag and trailer pages for job identification, paper tray selection, and support for the Adobe system typeface pack. Once VMS receiver process handles all Macintosh users, a new process for each job is not necessary. The software uses standard Digital Print symbionts and automatically loads the Laser Prep dictionary at the front of each Macintosh job that is submitted.

- PacerPrint from Pacer Software, Inc., offers similar features. For more information on Alisa Digital Printer support system or PacerPrint, search the Technical Info Library using keyword "Alisa" or "PACER."

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