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System 7: Saving Chained Documents as PostScript Files

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TOPIC -----

Some programs, like Microsoft Word and FrameMaker, let you specify what file to print after the current file. Using this feature, you can split a long or complex document into multiple files and still have them act as one chained document when printing.

Under System 6, if you wanted to save these multiple files as PostScript files for a chained document, you could send the first file to print and immediately press and hold Command-K (if you're using Laser Prep) or Command-F (without Laser Prep) while all jobs printed, and these files would be saved as PostScript files.

I tried this under System 7, and the first file was saved as PostScript, but the remaining files were printed.

How can I get a chained document saved to PostScript under System 7?

DISCUSSION -----

There doesn't seem to be a direct workaround under System 7. Neither Microsoft Word nor FrameMaker preserves the same print record for all the jobs; that is, they don't display the job or print dialog for all print records they use to print. Therefore, the 7.X driver can't give the user an option to save the remaining files to PostScript.

With the 6.X driver, the choice to save to a PostScript file was done by checking the keyboard when imaging began. If the driver sensed that Command-K or Command-F was pressed, the files were saved as PostScript. This method didn't require a print dialog for each file -- although you did have to continue pressing Command-K or Command-F while all jobs were printing.

Workarounds

There are two workarounds you can use:

- Go back to System 6 and use the LaserWriter 6.X drivers.
- Use the LaserWriter 6.X drivers under System 7. Here's how:
 - 1) Drag a copy of the LaserWriter 6.X driver (and Laser Prep) to the top level of the System Folder.
 - 2) Select this driver in the Chooser.
 - 3) Turn off Background Printing.
 - 4) Ensure that you are not using TrueType fonts.
 - 5) When you print the first of the chained files, immediately press and hold Command-K (or Command-F) until the job has finished printing.

Note

You can create a maximum of 10 PostScript files, named PostScript0 through PostScript9, with this method. If you try to create more than 10, the 11th job will overwrite PostScript0, the 12th job will overwrite PostScript1, and so on.

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