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LaserWriter Pro 630: Printing Errors with Internal HDA 6/93

Article Created: 7 July 1993

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TOPIC -----

I'm having problems printing when using a font that is resident on the hard drive installed in my printer. I get error messages and I'm unable to print the document. I can download fonts to the printer's RAM and it works fine.

I'm using a LaserWriter Pro 630 with an internal 40 MB hard drive (from a PowerBook) installed. I initialized the hard drive using the LaserWriter Utility 7.4.1. and set the SCSI ID is to zero. I'm also using the LaserWriter driver 8.0.

DISCUSSION -----

It seems the problem is more related to hardware as all of the correct software measures are being used.

One possible problem may have to do with the cabling used to connect the PowerBook hard drive to the SCSI connector on the printer. As you may know, the cabling that comes with the PowerBook HD (hard drive) is a 40-pin (on the HD) to 30-pin (on the PowerBook) connector, and the LaserWriter Pro 630 requires a 40-pin to 40-pin connector. Apple does not provide this specific cable, so we would be very interested in learning more about where the cable was purchased, where/how it is connected, and how its pin lines are routed.

Another possibility is that the hard drive itself may be having trouble. There have been issues in the past with PowerBook hard drives unable to spin up or mount. I would suggest listening to see if the hard drive is spinning, and also try another hard drive in its place. In addition, try connecting an external hard disk on the HDI-30 port to isolate the problem further. One thing to remember is that external drives require a black terminator.

Basically, there is no Apple supported solution for installing a hard drive in the LaserWriter Pro 630. Apple has left that market

open for third party vendors to provide both the hard drive, and the special cabling required.

We (Apple) purchased a third party internal hard disk drive and cable designed for the LaserWriter Pro and are not having any problems with it. We have also connected and used an external hard drive on our LaserWriter Pro 630 successfully.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 12509