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LW Pro 810: Printing 200 Characters Per Line (11/93)

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TOPIC -----

Does the LaserWriter Pro 810 support printing of 200 characters per line VAX reports, documents, and so on? I have tried printing 200 characters per line VAX generated reports on a LaserWriter IIg using Alisa Systems software, but it got truncated at about 80 characters.

DISCUSSION -----

Printing 200 characters per line on a laser printer does not require a hardware feature of the printer, but rather requires the right PostScript program sent to it by the application.

DEC PATHWORKS for Macintosh, for example, provides this functionality in the forms feature. A set of predefined forms for printing on an AppleTalk based LaserWriter. An electronic form determines the page layout produced by a printer and specifies the appropriate paper stock. For example, you can use the LTR_12 form for printing letters and the LPT_GRAY form for printing computer listings (132 characters per line, landscape with gray bars).

In the case of PATHWORKS, the PostScript modules that implement the forms are in the device control library (SYS\$LIBRARY:MSAP\$DEVCTL.TLB).

We don't have Alisa software and don't know what mechanism it provides to implement forms. However, Alisa did the first release of PATHWORKS print services, so we expect it to be similar. Please check with Alisa Technical support for this information.

We tried printing to the LaserWriter Pro 810 via the PATHWORKS spooler using form LPT_GRAY and got a nice listing about 132 characters per line with gray bars similar to computer paper listings. To fit 200 characters per line, you just need to specify a smaller typeface, or print to larger size paper.

To locate a vendor's address and phone number, use the vendor name as a search string.

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