



Tech Info Library

LaserWriter Pro 810: Status Information Not Returned (4/94)

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TOPIC -----

When PostScript code is sent to the LaserWriter Pro 810 it will not return status information back to the host. For example, if "statusdict begin product == flush" is sent to the printer, this should cause the printer to return it's name to the host. However, nothing is sent back to the host. Why?

DISCUSSION -----

The status information is not being returned from the printer. This is due to the LaserWriter Pro 810's ethernet implementation, different from that of the LaserWriter IIg and LaserWriter Pro 630. Basically, the LaserWriter Pro 810 does not have a direct Ethernet channel to the PostScript interpreter like the other printers. Instead, all data coming in through the Ethernet interface gets funneled to the interpreter by the printer's parallel channel which is only uni-directional.

Since some bi-directional communication is needed for things like PostScript error reporting, some special case coding was implemented to allow the printer to return messages delineated by the PostScript error format %[...]. Thus, any messages in the return stream starting with %[and ending with]% are identified and returned to the host. This would be the only way to get information returned using Ethernet. However, the LaserWriter Pro 810's localtalk implementation is the same as the other Apple printers, and supports full bi-directional communications.

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