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## LaserWriter Pro 810: Images Appears Wavy (9/94)

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TOPIC -----

Our Laserwriter Pro 810 prints an image that is wavy on the paper. The images remains wavy for a few pages and then the images are fine. What could cause this type of problem and how do I correct it?

DISCUSSION -----

Wavy output on a laser printer may indicate that the scanning mirror speed is unstable. This can be caused by a faulty crystal, faulty scanner motor, or problems with the beam detect signal. The beam detect marks the starting point for the scan line, but if the scanner motor speed is unstable then the length of the scan line varies. Because the scanner mirror assembly is heavy it acts as a flywheel making the speed changes gradual, thereby creating a sawtooth pattern that gradually gets worse the further the scan line is away from the beam detect reference point. In most cases, replacing the laser/scanner unit should correct the problem.

One method for confirming whether a scanner motor speed problem has occurred is to create a full-page grid pattern and then print it out. Typically, the lines will look fine on one edge, but gradually develop a 'sawtooth' pattern as they progress across the page.

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