PostScript Level II: LW IIf, IIg, Composite Fonts & Kanji (3/93)

Article Created: 9 March 1993

TOPIC --

Is PostScript Level II implemented in the LaserWriter IIf and IIg,
Personal LaserWriter NTR, and LaserWriter Pro 600 and 630 printers?

Does PostScript Level II include support for composite fonts and how does
this relate to the KanjiTalk environment?

DISCUSSION ---

The Apple LaserWriter IIf and IIg, Personal LaserWriter NTR, and LaserWriter
Pro 600 and 630 printers DO contain PostScript Level II in their ROMs. It is
the complete and latest version of PostScript (rev 2010.130).

In terms of composite font support, the composite font extensions in
PostScript Level I are fully incorporated into PostScript Level II. Thus,
the LaserWriter IIf and IIg and LaserWriter Pro 600 and 630 DO support the use
of composite fonts. These composite font extensions (built into the NTX-J
ROM), in addition to the external hard drive with the Kanjitalk composite
fonts, enabled the printing of Kanji characters on the LaserWriter NTX-J
printer. Since the LaserWriter IIf and IIg, and LaserWriter Pro 600 and 630,
have the composite font extensions built into their ROMs as part of
PostScript Level II, these printers would be capable of printing Kanji
characters if a hard drive with Kanjitalk PostScript composite fonts were
connected to the printer.

There are also some other implementation details that we have little
information on, such as Kanji character caching, etc., which would also be
required to provide acceptable performance. These implementation details
would most likely be in the form of PostScript programs that would
reside on the font hard disk and load when the printer is switched ON.

In conclusion, the capability for printing PostScript Kanji characters is
present on the LaserWriter IIf and IIg and LaserWriter Pro 600 and 630, but
has yet to be utilized. The only missing piece here is the external hard
drive, which would contain the Kanji PostScript fonts and possible PostScript

code segments for additional implementation details.

Note that a PostScript Level II driver would NOT be required. This is
because the composite font operators are utilized at the printer level, not
the driver level. In terms of Kanji TrueType, TrueType KanjiTalk fonts can be
printed to any Macintosh printer since the TrueType rasterizer can be resident
in the Macintosh or in the printer.
Copyright 1993, Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

==

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 11717