

PostScript LaserWriters: No Password Protection (7/95)

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TOPIC -----

What is Apple's solution to the current lack of security for networked AppleTalk printers? Customers are asking for printer password protection. (I know about device hiding in Apple Internet Router 3.0, but that is a stopgap measure.)

I heard that the QuickDraw GX or the LaserWriter 8.0 drivers would implement the password capability built into existing and future Postscript printers. Is this true?

DISCUSSION -----

You are correct that there is the capability of setting passwords in our PostScript LaserWriters, however there are currently no plans to incorporate that capability (such as a user interface) into LaserWriter 8.

With regard to QuickDraw GX, password functionality has been implemented via an extension to the FileSharing mechanism. It has the capability of capturing QuickDraw printers (connected serially to the Macintosh) and network PostScript printers, and can require a password before users can print to the printer. Access is governed through settings in the Users & Groups control panel.

IMPORTANT: In order to utilize passwords with QuickDraw GX, all clients MUST also have QuickDraw GX installed. If QuickDraw GX is NOT installed, then the captured printer(s) may or may not be accessible to non-GX clients on the network, and will definitely NOT be password protected. For more information on utilization between GX and non-GX systems, refer to the article "QuickDraw GX: Printer Sharing Between GX & Non-GX Users".

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