



Tech Info Library

LaserWriter Select 360: Automatic Emulation Switching (8/94)

Article Created: 1 October 1993

Article Reviewed/Updated: 23 August 1994

TOPIC -----

This article discusses the automatic emulation switching technology incorporated into the LaserWriter Select 360.

DISCUSSION -----

The LaserWriter Select 360 has the ability to sense an interface port data stream to determine the start and end of PostScript print jobs, PCL 5 print jobs, PC DOS PrtScn dumps, Hewlett Packard TBCP (Tagged Binary) and raw text dumps. This function is the key to providing simultaneously active ports and seamless switching between PCL 5, PostScript, and raw text printing.

Each interface port has the ability to process either a single emulation or multiple emulations. If an interface port is assigned multiple emulation responsibilities, all data sent to it is processed by the data sensing function. Ports configured for single emulation responsibility have the data sent directly to the assigned emulation processor.

Fonts that are downloaded for specific jobs remain in memory for the PostScript environment and the PCL 5 environment. If the active environment (either PostScript or PCL 5) runs out of virtual memory, inactive downloaded fonts are released as needed to regain enough memory to perform the current job.

The success of automatic emulation switching is tied to the correct usage of the Hewlett-Packard Printer Job Language, the use of PCL 5 print job delimiters, and proper implementations of the Adobe Document Structuring Conventions. Job streams that do not abide by the protocols produce print data that can't be properly sensed and processed.

Article Change History:

23 Aug 1994 - Review for accuracy.

Support Information Services

Copyright 1993-94, Apple Computer, Inc

Keywords: <None>

=====

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 13710