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LaserWriter 6.0.1: Changes that Address Timeout Problems

This article last reviewed: 30 November 1990

TOPIC -----

When LaserWriter 6.0.1 driver came out, there was a specification sheet describing what was in 6.0.1 and how it helped resolve network timeout problems with LaserWriter IINTs and LaserWriter IINTXs. Can you summarize what it said about timeouts?

DISCUSSION -----

The LaserWriter 6.0.1 driver changed two timer settings:

Previously, if part of a print job, a packet, intended for the LaserWriter got lost and wasn't resent in time to reach the LaserWriter within 30 seconds, the print job would be flushed. This low-level timer was eliminated. (Now the PostScript job will timeout after 5 minutes if a packet is "permanently" lost.)

Additionally, if the printer was busy printing something, like multiple copies of a complex document, the connection timer could time out. Now, the Macintosh waits for 3 minutes (previously 2) for the printer to respond before timing out.

The first job is much more likely to occur on large networks where routers are used. The second problem is more prevalent with printing complex documents on the slower LaserWriters (e.g., a LaserWriter IINT as compared to a LaserWriter IINTX).

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 6453