

Personal LaserWriter NTR: Printing Legal Size with PC Software

TOPIC -----

I purchased a Macintosh Quadra 700, a 16-inch color monitor, and a Personal LaserWriter NTR. I have an application from VAR that I run under SoftAT. I found it impossible to print to the Personal LaserWriter NTR from within SoftAT.

I purchased an i386 PC just to run this software. Now I can print to the Personal LaserWriter NTR, but not legal size. The printer is set to HP Emulation. A setup string is in a dialog box that comes up in the UAR software. The book from UAR states that to print to an HP requires the setup string to read: HPII Chr(27); "&13A". This string in the dialog box along with the switch on the HP set to legal will produce legal output, but there's no switch on a Personal LaserWriter NTR. Also, when I include the lower case "L" in the setup text string, I get a PostScript error.

Personal LaserWriter NTR Configuration:

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- Thumb wheel set to position 8: This should yield HP IIP emulation.
- Baud rate of 9600
- Parallel port on the Personal LaserWriter NTR from the i386 PC
- DB-25 male to Centronics 36-pin parallel cable

DISCUSSION -----

Our testing indicates that the only way to print legal size documents without a legal size paper tray installed is to set the port, in this case the parallel port, to PostScript mode and prepend all HP LaserJet IIP jobs with the following:

legal

currentfile /LaserJetIIP statusdict /emulate get exec

and end the job with a control-D (eof character).

The "legal" operator in the first line tells the LaserWriter to use a legal size frame buffer for the current job.

If you install a "Personal LaserWriter 250 Sheet Cassette Base" and use a

legal tray, you should have no problems using the parallel port in HP LaserJet IIP emulation mode and printing legal size documents. Copyright 1992, Apple Computer, Inc.

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