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Printing PostScript From a PC

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TOPIC -----

I need to print, on an Apple LaserWriter, some Macintosh PostScript files that were transferred to an IBM. Do you know of any programs for the PC that can send a PostScript file to a PostScript printer (similar to SendPS on the Macintosh)?

DISCUSSION -----

The nature of connections between PCs and printers eliminates the need for a SendPS type of utility. On a Macintosh, SendPS sets up a PAP session with a LaserWriter and downloads the specified file. With a PC, the LaserWriter connects to one of the serial ports directly, or via a network card that allows mapping of COM or LPT ports to the LaserWriter. In either case, you can COPY a desired file to the port to print it.

Assuming your LaserWriter is connected serially, these are the required steps:

- 1) Set up the COM port with the MODE command. Typical settings are 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, and no parity.
- 2) With these settings, and assuming the use of COM1, the command looks like this:

```
MODE COM1:9600,n,8,1,p
```

Note that you execute this command only once each time you start the computer. Because the settings remain until the next startup, this command is frequently placed in the AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

- 3) To print a PostScript file to the LaserWriter, use the COPY command:

```
COPY myfile.ps COM1
```

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