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LaserWriter IINTX: Poor Image Quality with Manual Feed (6/95)

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TOPIC -----

I have IINTX printers with Postscript interpreter version 47 and the LaserWriter driver 8.2.2.

When I use manual feed, I encounter poor image quality (it looks like dot matrix) from a variety of CPUs and OS versions. Output from the cassette feed on these printers is okay. What is wrong and why is it only happening with manual feed?

DISCUSSION -----

We were able to duplicate the problem printing to a Laserwriter IINTX with Rev. 1.0 ROMs. The problem has to do with how the version of PostScript in the printer handles graphics. Apple LaserWriter printers with PostScript versions prior to 51.8, such as the LaserWriter IINTX with revision 1 ROMs (PostScript 47) and the LaserWriter IINT (PostScript 47), have been known to experience problems when printing complex graphics.

We tested LaserWriter drivers 7.1.2, 8.2, 8.2.2, and 8.3. All LaserWriter 8 drivers exhibited the same anomaly when printing manual feed documents. The output from Rev. 8.x manual feed documents is noticeably distorted. The Postscript information being sent to the printer is adversely affected by the driver when manual feed is chosen as the paper source.

Workarounds

There are a couple of ways to resolve your issue:

- Switch to the LW 7.1.2 driver.
- Upgrade the Laserwriter to the 3.0 ROMs.

Since the Postscript version contained in your ROMs has been known to exhibit problems printing graphics, it would be best to upgrade to the current ROM revision and eliminate conflict between the Postscript revision and the Laserwriter driver.

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