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LaserWriter IINTX: Can't Print HPGL Files Without Translation

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TOPIC -----

There are no Macintosh systems involved in this.

HPGL (a Hewlett-Packard protocol), and my LaserWriter IINTX can emulate an HP LaserJet Plus.

Therefore, if you connect our LaserWriter IINTX to a PC through the serial port, can you print HPGL format? (I don't want to convert the file before printing.)

Is it up to the program I'm using to emulate an HP plotter on an Apple LaserWriter?

DISCUSSION -----

Briefly, the LaserWriter IINTX emulates an HP LaserJet Plus. LaserJets use PCL, not HPGL; a PC printing an HPGL print job cannot print to a LaserWriter IINTX.

Hewlett-Packard uses different printer control languages -- including HPGL and PCL -- for their different printers. HPGL is commonly used by CAD/CAM type programs for outputting to plotters; PCL is used by more common, generic programs for outputting to HP LaserJets and similar printers.

Apple's PostScript LaserWriters emulate Diablo 630s. In addition, the LaserWriter IINTX emulates an HP LaserJet Plus; therefore, a program that uses PCL and is LaserJet Plus compatible can print to the LaserWriter IINTX when the LaserWriter IINTX is in its LaserJet Plus emulation mode. Again, you cannot print an HPGL print file directly (without file translation) on the LaserWriter IINTX.

If you want to print to an Apple LaserWriter, you must use a program that supports a Diablo 630, LaserJet Plus, or PostScript-compatible printer. If your program and drivers do not support these types of printers, you need to export and, possibly, translate the data before importing the data to a program that does -- whether that program runs on a PC, Macintosh, or another system.

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