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LaserWriter IINT or IINTX: Description of Serial Communications

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Security: Everyone

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The LaserWriter IINT or LaserWriter IINTX has two serial channels, RS-422 and
RS-232C. Either channel can be used for asynchronous serial communication. The
RS-422 can also be used for synchronous communication for AppleTalk but NEVER
for both serial and AppleTalk simultaneously.

Each channel sends and receives serial data encoded in ASCII. Both serial ports
are enabled; they can be configured with independent data transmission rates
and parity. The first channel to receive a character will execute the print
job; if characters are also received on the alternate channel they are
buffered, and on completion of the initial job will be executed.

CAUTION: Do NOT hook up AppleTalk and the RS-232C interface at the same time on
the LaserWriter. If you use the RS-232C port, and leave AppleTalk connected on
the LaserWriter IINT or LaserWriter IINTX, you must set the baud rate parameter
for the RS-422 port to 0 (zero).

Changing Communication Parameters:

Many of the communication parameters can be changed by setting the hardware
switches on the LaserWriter. Parameters controlled by these switches can also
be changed by sending a PostScript program to the printer.

The hardware-controlled parameters and those that can not be configured by the
hardware switches are stored in non-volatile memory (EEROM or ZPRAM) as system
parameters, and are accessed through the special dictionary, "statusdict". To
change the parameters, you must exit the normal server mode, and a password is
required. Send the following program to LaserWriter:

serverdict begin password exitserver
statusdict begin channel baud options setsccbatch

Where channel designates which serial port is to be configured, baud sets the
baud rate, and options encodes the settings for parity, flow control, number of

data bits, and number of stop bits.

NOTE: When using the Diablo emulation mode, replace setsccbatch with setsccinteractive.

Article Change History
15 September 1993 - Changed the LaserWriter model designator to upper case.

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