



# Tech Info Library

## LaserWriter: How To Send Asynchronous PostScript File

Revised: 9/22/89  
Security: Everyone

LaserWriter: How To Send Asynchronous PostScript File

=====

Article Created: 28 August 1989  
Article Last Reviewed: 15 July 1992  
Article Last Updated: 15 July 1992

### TOPIC -----

How can I send a PostScript file, produced with the Command-K combination (under System 6.x) or by clicking the "Postscript File" destination in the Print dialog (under System 7), to a LaserWriter using asynchronous file transfer? I've been unsuccessful using "Send File..." from MacTerminal and others. I can send the file successfully using SendPS over AppleTalk, but I get a PostScript error when I send the same file using a 9600-baud asynchronous connection. It appears that XON/XOFF doesn't properly control the flow. What am I missing?

### DISCUSSION -----

The use of Command-K (under System 6.x), or using the "Postscript File" destination option in the Print dialog (under System 7) to create a PostScript file actually adds the information from Laser Prep to the beginning of the file being generated. This eliminates the need to send the Laser Prep header separately. In fact, there is a chance that the problem is being caused because the header is being included.

There is a segment of PostScript included in Laser Prep header that checks to see if certain routines are already loaded in the LaserWriter RAM. If they are, everything from that point in the header to the next Control-D character is deleted from the print job. Unfortunately, when the header is added to the PostScript file, no Control-D is appended at the end of the header information. Therefore, the next Control-D reached is the end of the file, which effectively flushes the job by deleting everything but the header.

Solution

-----

- 1) Using a blank document, generate a PostScript file, which contains the header, by (under System 6.x) holding down Command-K when you select the OK button in the Print dialog box, or by (under System 7) clicking the "Postscript File" radio button in the Print dialog. This generates the header only. Send this file to the LaserWriter. You must do this once per power-on cycle of the LaserWriter, unless you need to switch headers.
- 2) When you are creating files from documents that you want printed, hold down Command-F (under System 6.x) when you select the OK button in the print dialog box. This generates a PostScript file without the Laser Prep header. Because you already have sent the header, the necessary dictionary is already loaded, and your files should print properly. Unfortunately, to generate a PostScript file without the Laser Prep header in System 7, you need a shareware program like Trimmer, which gives the option of stripping the header from an existing PostScript file.

Copyright 1989, 1992, Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:4447