# Tech Info Library

## GS/OS 5.0.4: Difficulty Downloading ImageWriter Emulator

Revised:        11/3/92
Security:       Everyone

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TOPIC -------------------------------------------------------

I'm printing to a Personal LaserWriter NT from an Apple IIGS running GS/OS
5.0.4.  When downloading the ImageWriter emulator, the system on Apple IIGS
freezes and the Personal LaserWriter NT just blinks.  The emulator
downloads fine (takes about 1.5 minutes) to a LaserWriter IINT or IINTX.

DISCUSSION --------------------------------------------------

If you're downloading the ImageWriter emulator from floppy disk, the
following information explains the probable reason for your problem.

While the Apple IIGS is reading data (the IWEM file) from the floppy,
interrupts are disabled.  The Personal LaserWriter NT responds faster than
other LaserWriter printers for additional packets.  Usually the Apple IIGS
has interrupts disabled when the Personal LaserWriter NT makes this
request, so it's ignored.  Eventually, the Personal LaserWriter NT makes
the request again and the Apple IIGS sends the next packet of data and then
reads (and disables interrupts) again.  The timing of the whole thing is
such that it takes a very long time to download the IWEM from floppy.  From
a hard disk there is no problem.

This is fixed in GS/OS 6.0: the entire file is read into memory at the
beginning of the download.

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