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StyleWriter II Margins: Word Processor Line Layout Code 6/93

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TOPIC -----

I am using WordPerfect and printing to a StyleWriter II. I have set each margin (top/bottom/left/right) to exactly one inch.

The application shows everything at the proper margins, however when printed, the top and bottom margins are off. The top margin is off by 1/16th of an inch. I would assume this is within tolerance. The bottom margin however, is 1/4 of an inch off, so the bottom margin is actually 1 and 1/4 inches.

DISCUSSION -----

On the StyleWriter II, 1/16th of an inch is the acceptable tolerance all the way around (top/bottom/left/right).

The 1/4 of an inch blank space on the bottom (in addition to the margin) occurs because another line of text can't fit in that area. Each application's line layout code determines how tall a line of text is, and then decides whether or not it will fit into the remaining space at the bottom of the page. This can be verified rather easily by changing all of the text in a page to 4 Point text. With 4 Point text, the height of a line is very small, so there should be little or no white space left at the bottom, except for the 1/16th of an inch tolerance from the margin.

Other word processors also demonstrate the same margin problems. It seems that word processors use similar line layout calculations. A possible resolution to this problem can be implemented in the applications themselves by taking into account that the last line of text doesn't need any inter-line spacing below it. With this in mind, the "theoretical" height of the last line would be less, and one more

line could be printed.

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