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LaserWriter Driver 8.x: How Auto Select Works (4/97)

Revised: 4/14/97
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 31 August 1993
Article Reviewed/Updated: 14 April 1997

TOPIC -----

I have had problems using the Auto Select feature of LaserWriter Driver 8.x. The Auto Select option in the Print dialog seems to be ignored randomly, or used randomly when not asked for.

DISCUSSION -----

This article explains the LaserWriter Driver 8.x "Auto Select" feature. However, when following the information presented here, you must first make sure that "Auto Select" is selected as the paper source in the LaserWriter 8.x Print dialog.

Installed and Preferred

This setting only affects print jobs coming from the Macintosh you "Configure". Either the 250-sheet or 500-sheet cassette can be chosen as the default paper tray by selecting the printer in the Chooser, clicking on Setup, and then on Configure. Once the Configure dialog box displays, the 500-sheet cassette can be set for Installed and Preferred, which makes it the default paper tray for that paper size. Thus, if there is Legal-sized paper in the 500-sheet tray, then any Legal-sized print job uses the 500-sheet cassette. If the 500-sheet cassette is set only as Installed, then the default paper tray used is the 250-sheet cassette (for all jobs using the paper size installed in that cassette).

To access the Configure dialog box with LaserWriter Driver 8.2 or greater, you must click on Setup once to select the PostScript Printer Description (PPD) file, and then click on Setup again to get the option for Configure.

PostScript and Default Paper Tray

This affects ALL print jobs coming from ANY Macintosh since the value is modified at the printer, not the client (as in the preceding Installed and

Preferred procedure).

You can set any of the paper trays (Multipurpose, 250-sheet, 500-sheet, or Envelope) as the default paper tray by downloading the PostScript code (see PostScript Code on page 10) to the printer. The default tray selected is used automatically for any print jobs of the same paper size as in the default tray that you set.

PostScript Code

Use this PostScript code at your own risk. You are responsible for the support of any problems associated with changing the default tray. You should also inform others using the printer that you have changed the default tray. Changing the default tray on the printer may cause the paper out LED to light if there is no paper present in the default tray, or if the wrong size paper is used in the tray. When this happens, there is nothing wrong with the printer's hardware.

This is PostScript Level 1 code:

```
%=====
% Begin PostScript Code
%
serverdict begin 0 exitserver
statusdict begin 1 setdefaultpapertray end
%
% end PostScript Code
%=====
```

VALUE	TRAY SELECTION
0	250 sheet cassette
1	Multi-purpose tray
2	500 sheet cassette
3	Envelope tray

NOTE: The VALUE column pertains to the integer preceding the setdefaultpapertray command on the second line in the PostScript code.

This is the equivalent PostScript Level 2 code:

```
%=====
% Begin PostScript Code
%
serverdict begin 0 exitserver
1 dict dup /InputAttributes 1 dict dup /Priority [2 1 0] put put setpagedevice
%
% End PostScript Code
%=====
```

This sets the paper tray priority to:

1st Priority - Cassette (500 Sheets) - designated by the "2" in the array above.

2nd Priority - Multipurpose Tray - designated by the "1" in the array above.
3rd Priority - Cassette (250 Sheets) - designated by the "0" in the array above.

You can change the paper tray priority order by changing the values in
"/Priority [2 1 0]".
For example, /Priority [0 1 2] makes the 250 sheet cassette first priority,
then the Multipurpose tray next, then the 500 sheet cassette.

WARNING: If you choose to use the PostScript code provided in this article, you
assume all risks involved in making these changes. PostScript code, if not
entered correctly, can place the LaserWriter into a condition requiring
service.

Individual Documents

Tray selection is NOT stored with each individual document, however, page size
is. Thus, with "Auto Select" the LaserWriter driver does its best to match the
page size with the appropriate tray, depending on how the printer was configured
using the preceding procedures.

Sticky Trays?

LaserWriter 8.x DOES NOT automatically use (for the next job) the last paper
tray used in the previous job, unless the current print job is of the same paper
size as the previous job.

This article was published in the "Information Alley":
Volume II, Issue 4, Page 9

Article Change History:

14 Apr 1997 - Added PostScript Level 2 code.
14 Jun 1995 - Added Info Alley information; made several technical updates.
21 Apr 1995 - Added additional information to Caution message.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:13117