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LaserWriter Pro 810 and VAX Platform Questions (11/95)

Revised: 11/21/95
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 18 November 1993
Article Reviewed/Updated: 21 November 1995

TOPIC ---

I'm interested in purchasing a LaserWriter Pro 810 for use on my Ethernet
network. I have a VAX and about 60 Macintosh computers, and I want to know
some specifics about how the LaserWriter Pro 810 supports the Dec LAT
protocol.

1) Does the LaserWriter Pro 810 support LNO3 VAX printer emulation?

2) Does the LaserWriter Pro 810 support the WPS VAX-based word processing
   system?

3) How do third-party products such as Alisa Systems software and PATHWORKS
   interface with the DEC LAT support on the LaserWriter Pro 810?

DISCUSSION --

1) No, the LaserWriter Pro 810 does not support LN03 printer emulation. LN03
uses Digital's own escape characters. However being a PostScript printer, the
LaserWriter Pro 810 can be used in place of many other PostScript printers,
including the Digital LN03R, the PostScript version of the LN03. For an
application that does not use the PostScript language, the LaserWriter Pro 810
also supports HP LaserJet II emulation.

2) To print to the LaserWriter Pro 810, the output has to be PostScript of HP
PCL 4 mode. If you use the LaserWriter Pro 810 with a product such as
PATHWORKS, PATHWORKS components will convert VAX text files to PostScript so
VAX/VMS users can print their files to the printer. I am not familiar with WPS
word processing system, but if it can support PostScript or HP PCL 4 printer, it
can print to the LaserWriter Pro 810.

3) If you have PATHWORKS, you just need to define the printer just like any
other Apple PostScript printer, and PATHWORKS will set up a print queue to talk

to the printer via AppleTalk. Digital has informally tested PATHWORKS 1.2 with
the LaserWriter Pro 810 and it worked fine. I would assume Alisa will work the
same way.

Even if you don't have PATHWORKS or Alisa, you can still interface to the
printer via LAT. This is done by setting up an application port in LATCP
and start a queue using the /PROCESSOR=LATSYM. This procedure is fully
documented in the Network Installation and Configuration Manual.

Article Change History:
21 Nov 1995 - Updated format.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:14004