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LaserWriter 8: Tray Selection Printing from Finder (9/95)

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Security: Everyone

LaserWriter 8: Tray Selection Printing from Finder (9/95)

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TOPIC -----

On a LaserWriter Pro 600 or 630 and the LaserWriter 16/600 PS with the 500-sheet cassette, printing from the Finder only applies tray selections to the first print job. This is apparent using SimpleText if one selects the following options in the Print window:

First From: Cassette (250) Sheets
Remaining From: Cassette (500) Sheets

If you use different paper in both cassettes, you will notice that after it prints the first file correctly (first page from 250, successive from 500), it then starts printing every page from the 250 sheet cassette. Printing each file individually from within SimpleText works fine.

DISCUSSION -----

This is a known issue and is due to how various applications and the LaserWriter driver manipulate the print record. In simple terms, it is up to the application and print driver to store information (such as paper tray use) so that it can be used for successive jobs in a scenario such as the one you described. There has been some past confusion in the developer community with regard to this. As a result, engineering has decided to resolve this issue by modifying the next version of the LaserWriter driver (beyond 8.3) to ensure that paper tray information is saved and used appropriately.

In the interim, there is only one good workaround we are aware of:

- Use QuickDraw GX.

If QuickDraw GX is being used, this is NOT a problem. QuickDraw GX is very feature rich with respect to paper tray usage, as each individual page of a document has its own "definition" or paper type. For example, you can define the

first page of a document to be LetterHead and a second page to be plain paper, and if the 250-sheet and 500-sheet cassette have been defined respectively as such then tray selection is automatic -- the first page of each document comes from the 250-sheet cassette, and the second from the 500-sheet cassette.

Paper types such as LetterHead can be defined/created with the QuickDraw GX Paper Type editor that ships with QuickDraw GX. In terms of "setting" each page of a document to be of a defined paper type, this functionality is ONLY present with QuickDraw GX aware applications (such as WordPerfect 3.1) via the "Custom Page Setup" menu item in the File menu. Custom Page Setup is the recommended user interface for utilizing GX paper types.

One less graceful workaround is to print the files individually.

Article Change History:

01 Sep 1995 - Revised for technical accuracy.

25 Aug 1995 - Added still more info. to discussion; retitled.

27 Jul 1995 - Added additional info. to discussion; retitled for clarity.

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