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Color LW 12/600 PS: Linescreen in Transparency Mode (1/97)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC ---

I have a Color LaserWriter 12/600 and have the following questions:

What is the effective Linescreen of the Color LaserWriter 12/600? I have read
that it changes from 200 to 141 depending upon the image type. Can you override
these settings?

Are there any changes made when printing in Transparency mode? There are certain
applications that do not give you the option to print in Transparency mode (such
as PageMaker) is there a way around this?

I have also heard that although the options for different color matching are
available, they are ignored by most applications. Is this true of the
Transparency mode as well?

I know that the Transparency mode changes the speed of the overall throughput, I
have not seen any other changes as I have tested it.

DISCUSSION --

The linescreen on the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS and the Color LaserWriter
12/660 PS printers is 200 lpi (lines per inch), and it CANNOT be changed; the
firmware in these printers ignores any PostScript commands to change the
linescreen. Depending on the area being imaged, the linescreen will change to
an effective 141 lpi -- mostly in the lighter areas of an image. These
settings, unfortunately, cannot be changed because they have been set to provide
the optimum results from the print engine.

With transparencies, the only change (other than print engine speed) is that the
halftoning structure is changed to allow for a lighter image, and in turn better
"transparency" when viewed through an overhead. You may be able to notice the
individual halftone cells due to the lower lpi, but this effect is only seen

when the transparency is viewed without an overhead projector -- it is not
present when viewed through a projector.

To answer your other questions, we are unable to determine how to print in
"transparency mode" through PageMaker; this is a function of the Apple print
driver, and PageMaker uses their own driver. Customers should contact Adobe for
this information. With regard to color matching being ignored by most
applications, this also holds true in transparency mode.

Article Change History:
31 Jan 1997 - Added Color LaserWriter 12/660 PS printer to the article.

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