Tech Info Library

AppleShare Print Server & LW 8.x.x: Incompatibilities (12/93)

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TOPIC ---

This article addresses questions on AppleShare Print Server 3.0.1 and the
LaserWriter 8.x.x driver.

DISCUSSION --

Question #1

I just installed the LaserWriter 8.0 print driver on my desktop computer
and on our AppleShare Print Server 3.0.1, a Macintosh IIx running System
7.1.

The installation seemed to proceed normally, and I was able to print to my
LaserWriter IIf. However, when I started the AppleShare Print Server, I
received the following alert dialogue box:

"The print server had trouble getting to the LaserWriter file. Please make
sure the print drivers are installed correctly."

Does the LaserWriter 8.0 driver print driver not work with AppleShare Print
Server 3.0.1?

Answer #1

LaserWrite 8.x.x drivers are not compatible with any of the current
AppleShare Print Servers. The AppleShare Print Server 3.0.x, AppleShare
Print Server 4.0.x, and AppleShare Pro Print Server 1.0 require one of
LaserWriter 7.x.x drivers in the Extensions folder to work correctly. Also
note that this driver must have the name "LaserWriter" to be recognized.

Question #2

When a user prints with the LaserWriter 8.0 driver to a printer captured by
AppleShare Print Server 3.0.1 and System 7.1, the job creates two items in
the queue, and the log shows two print jobs in the log. Why?

Answer #2

The source of this anomaly is the LaserWriter 8.x.x driver on the client
Macintosh. When it prints a document, it intentionally creates two print
jobs. The first job contains setup information for the printer, the second
job contains the PostScript stream for the document. Naturally, the Print
Server will display these as two separate print jobs. Apple currently has
no plans to change this.

Question #3

I have only been able to use the "Generic" setup in LW 8.0 when printing
from a workstation to a LaserWriter that has been captured by AppleShare
Print Server 3.0.1. Since the LaserWriter is already captured by
AppleShare Print Server, one is unable to do a printer specific
configuration.

Doesn't this effectively defeat the purpose of having printer-specific
PPDs, and eliminate all of the special advantages and features of LW 8.0
when you use AppleShare Print Server?

Answer #3

No, it does not. The solution here is, when choosing the printer in the
Chooser, to manually select the correct PPD for your printer using the
"Select PPD..." button in the "Setup" dialog. This will allow you to use
any of the features of the selected printer.

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