LaserWriter IIg: Downloading Macros in PCL Mode (8/93)

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TOPIC ---

When running a LaserWriter IIg in PCL mode (LaserJet emulation), there
seems to be a problem in downloading multiple forms (PCL macros). If two
forms are downloaded, only one will be available, and it varies which one.

The same problem does not occur with an HP LaserJet IIP. Multiple forms
work fine. I am running PostScript from a LocalTalk network of Macintosh
computers and PCL via RS-232 from an IBM RS/6000.

How does the memory on the LaserWriter IIg behave when switching between
PCL (emulation) and PostScript modes? Does downloaded information remain
resident for each mode?

DISCUSSION ---

We were unable to duplicate the problem you outlined. We created and
downloaded two simple macros to our LaserWriter IIg in PCL mode
and were able to execute either one on command. We created and executed
the macros using the following sequences:

<ESC>&f#Y

```
# = 0     : To define the macro
# = 1     : To end defining the macro
# = 2     : To execute the macro
# = 10    : To make the macro permanent
```

The last sequence, <ESC>&f10Y, is the key in keeping the macro available
in the printer's RAM for use beyond the current job. There is a default
amount of RAM set aside strictly for PCL emulation where this information
will remain, unless the printer is power cycled.

With regard to your specific question about downloaded information while
switching between PostScript and PCL modes, this information does remain
resident in RAM if the appropriate PostScript or PCL commands are used.
In other words, <ESC>&f10Y for macros in PCL mode.

As you may know, in PostScript mode the server loop can also be exited
where commands will remain persistent even beyond power cycles of the

printer. We are unaware of a mechanism for this in PCL mode.
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