LaserWriters: Differences in HP Emulation (8/93)

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TOPIC ---

1) Is there a list of PCL 4+ (Printer Control Language) commands supported
   by the LaserWriter IIg?

2) I would like to find out the differences between HP LaserJet emulation
   (PCL 4+) on Apple's LaserWriter printers, and the HP LaserJet IIP
   printer.

DISCUSSION ---

1) With regard to the list of PCL 4+ commands supported by the LaserWriter
   IIg, we don't believe that such a list is available. However, as stated
   in Chapter 3 of the LaserWriter Reference (Addison-Wesley #ISBN
   0-201-19258-6),

  "With a few exceptions, the LaserJet+ emulator supports the entire set of
   escape sequences for both the LaserJet and the LaserJet+. This set
   includes the positioning commands, font-selection commands, and
   bit-mapped graphics with no limitation on areas covered by bit maps, as
   well as the rules, macros, overlays, and downloadable fonts."

2) The LaserWriter Reference has a total of about 11 pages that provide
   specifics on the HP LaserJet+ emulator (PCL 4+).

   Appendix D in the LaserWriter IIf and IIg Owner's Guide provides
   some in-depth information on HP LaserJet+ emulation. The
   most important section are below:

   The LaserJet IIP emulator contained in the LaserWriter allows you to
   print just about anything you can print on the LaserJet IIP, with these
   differences:

   • The LaserJet IIP omits characters that overlap the left margin of the
     paper, but the emulator prints the portion of the character that does
     not extend into the margin.

   • The LaserJet IIP allows you to insert commands to halt printing so
     that you can insert paper or envelopes manually. The emulator

interprets those commands as form feeds.

- Applications that produce justified text with the LaserJet IIP
  versions of Helvetica (Helv) and Times Roman (Tms Rmn) fonts may
  generate slightly ragged output on the emulator.

- While the LaserJet IIP prints characters in the closest available
  point size and pitch for each font, the emulator scales the font to
  the specified size.

- The line printer font, which is 16.67-pitch Courier, appears with a
  height of 7.2 points when printed with the emulator, rather than 8.5
  points as printed by the LaserJet IIP.

- The Control-C and Control-T key combinations, which you can normally
  use to interrupt printing or query the status of the LaserJet IIP,
  cannot be used with the emulator.

- The emulator does not print nine characters from the LaserJet IIP
  Roman-8 symbol set. These characters are shown in the following
  table.

    Decimal codes: 176, 179, 227, 228, 240, 241, 247, 248, and 254.

Keywords: <None>

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