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LaserWriter IINTX: How To Print HPGL Files from a PC

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TOPIC -----

Is it possible to write HPGL files from a PC to a Macintosh LaserWriter IINTX without converting them to PICT or PostScript?

DISCUSSION -----

Two possibilities that might work are:

- 1) PlotView (formerly called MacHP) from Stevens Creek Software allows you to open and display Macintosh HPGL files on a Macintosh, and copy and paste them into other Macintosh programs for embellishment before printing to a LaserWriter. If you can use Apple File Exchange or a similar program and perform a generic text translation on the PC HPGL file, you can then open it with PlotView. This may work, but may require a little experimentation and manipulation with ResEdit or similar programs. Another option is to write your own AFE translator.
- 2) Another program that may work is called CADMOVER from Kandu, which is a 2-D/3-D Macintosh-based vector graphics translation utility, with bidirectional IGES, DXF, PICT, MacDraw, Minicad+, MacConcept, HPGL, Minicad+, Dimensions, Hyperspace and Space Edit.

Both products are listed in the Tech Info Library and/or the buyer's guides on AppleLink.

We feel the easiest solution would have been to select a program on the PC that also prints to a PostScript printer or, at least, use a program that can save the file in a format (not just an HPGL print file) that can also be read by other Macintosh or PC programs that can print to a PostScript printer. There may be PC programs that open HPGL files and save in a more commonly used file format, but we aren't familiar with any.

For more information, search under: "Stevens Creek" and "Kandu"
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