Windows 32-bit PostScript and PCL Printer Driver
Customer Release Notes – Release 8.15

Note: See the Installation Instructions for notes on installing the driver for the first time, and for special instructions on removing the driver before upgrading to the new version.

Products:

- PostScript 32-bit Printer Driver for Windows XP/Windows Vista/Windows 7/Windows Server 2003/Windows Server 2008 (Win PS driver)
- PCL 32-bit Printer Driver for Windows XP/Windows Vista/Windows 7/Windows Server 2003/Windows Server 2008 (Win PCL driver)

Installation Issues

It is recommended to remove previous versions of the driver before installing a newer version of the driver. See the Installation Instructions for information on removing and installing the drivers.

Features of this Driver

Re-designed Interface

The User Interface of the driver has been redesigned. Selecting Properties in the application driver screen no longer brings you to a core driver screen; it immediately brings you to the driver screen.

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Core Driver Features Moved to the Print Driver

Some features of the core driver have been incorporated into the print driver.

- PostScript Options

  When printing from Adobe Acrobat, if the PostScript Options Negative Output or Mirror Output is selected, the printed output may not appear correctly. As a workaround, deselecting the PSPassthru option in the PostScript Options window may correct the problem. However, some degradation of job quality may occur in color reproduction, transparencies, and gradients. The PSPassthru option is only selectable when viewing the PostScript Options through Printing Preferences, accessible by selecting:

  Start > Settings > Printers and Faxes > <Printer Name> > Printing Preferences

  When printing a portrait PDF document from Adobe Acrobat in a landscape orientation, using the Pages Per Side option, the image is not resized and gets cropped. As a workaround, deselecting the PSPassthru option in the PostScript Options window may correct the problem. However, some degradation of job quality may occur in color reproduction, transparencies, and gradients. Another possible workaround is to use Acrobat's ability to create multiple pages per sheet instead of using the driver's Pages Per Side option.

- Watermark

  You have the ability to define new watermarks and edit existing ones. The settings for Watermark are not stored in a settings file, so watermarks would need to be defined each time you need to use one. The selection for the Watermark is not "sticky", meaning that if you move to another tab within the driver, the Watermark selection reverts back to the "No Watermark" selection. For this version of the driver, you have two options for dealing with this:

- o Option 1: Set all the other job options first, then go to the Watermark tab to select the Watermark as the last step before selecting the OK button.

- o Option 2: Set the Watermark as part of the Printing Preferences, accessible by selecting:

  Start > Settings > Printers and Faxes > <Printer Name> > Printing Preferences.

  This way, the Watermark will always be selected, but you will have to remember to deselect it on the jobs where you do not want a Watermark to print.

- Fonts

  When viewing the Font tab from inside an application, it shows you a list of the existing font substitutions. Be aware that the "Use Resident Font" selection is not persistent between print driver sessions within the same document. For example, if you have an MS Word document open and you deselect Use Resident Fonts, the document prints as requested. If you then come back into the print driver, Use Resident Fonts will be selected again. You would need to deselect that option each time you entered the print driver, if that was in fact what you wanted to do.

  When viewing the Font tab from Start > Settings > Printers and Faxes > <Printer Name> > Printing Preferences, you will have the options to define new font substitutions or change existing ones.

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Templates and Settings Files

The ability to save settings files and restore to Factory Defaults has been moved to a separate tab. Settings files can be shared between the PS and PCL drivers. Version 7.01 print driver settings files can be read by the 8.0x print driver.

There are some features that cannot be saved in a settings file. They are:

- Scaling

- Pages Per Side

- Rotate 180°

- Watermark

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Finishing Options

Finishing Options have been moved to the Finishing tab. All Finishing related settings are accessible from the same tab now, including Page Order and Stack, Trim, Fold, and Punch options.

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Scaling

A Scaling option has been added. You can select between 25% and 400% scaling, and select that it be Centered on the page or not.

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Limitations of this Driver

Paper Catalog

The Paper Catalog tab is no longer available in this driver. Previously, there was a read-only summary of the current Paper Catalog. Instead, the area beneath the Body Paper selection in the driver displays the Paper Catalog attributes of the paper.

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Tool Tips

No Tool Tips on driver buttons will appear when you hold your cursor over the button. When you click on a particular button, the area above it will display the option you have selected. If you right -click over a particular button, the name of the button will display.

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Help

There is no longer any "context-sensitive" help provided. Right-clicking a button will no longer bring you into the Help page for that button.

When you select the Help button, driver help will be displayed for the particular screen you are positioned on. For example, if you have the Finishing tab open when you select the Help button, Help will open with the Finishing page displayed.

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Paper Catalog Location

The location of the Paper Catalog file is dependent on the operating system.

- XP/Server 2003 - C:\Documents and Settings\<user>\Application Data\<OEM>\<Brand>*.cat

- Vista/Windows 7/Server 2008 – C:\Users\<user>\App Data\Local\<OEM>\Brand*.cat

Use the Paper Management Utility (PMU) to modify the paper catalog. The PostScript .cat files contain a "c1" in the file name. The PCL files contain a "p1" in the file name.

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Paper Management Utility

When selecting the Paper Management Utility (PMU) in either Vista or Windows 7, you must tell the utility to "Run as Administrator". To do this, from Start > All Programs > <brand>, right -click on <brand> Paper Management Utility. From the menu, select Run as Administrator. Otherwise, it appears that the PMU is editing the same catalog file as the driver, but the changes you make in the PMU will not appear in the driver version of the catalog.

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Temporary Papers

The 7.01 version of the print driver supported the concept of "temporary papers", where if a saved template was recalled and it asked for a paper that was no longer in the active paper catalog, it would temporarily add the requested paper to the driver's paper catalog with a special icon, letting the operator know that the paper is no longer available. This feature is not available in this version of the driver. The missing paper will be ignored and the body paper selection will be substituted.

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PCL Custom Options

PCL commands inserted into the Custom Option line are not supported.

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Japanese Characters

On a Japanese system, it is recommended that full-width numeric characters not be entered in numeric fields on the driver user interface. Even though these characters are not rejected, they are invalid and an "invalid value entered" error message will be displayed.

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Edge Erase

The Edge Erase Mirror Side 1 functionality is not working with documents in the landscape orientation. Manually set the erase values for the second side.

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Orientation Options

The Portrait, Landscape, and Rotated Landscape options have been removed. This feature is application-specific, meaning that some applications do not allow the driver to change the orientation. Because of this, you should set the correct orientation in the application instead. If the image needs to be rotated relative to the paper, use the Rotate 180° button or the Image Rotation options on the Image Adjustment tab.

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Driver Appearance

The way that the driver selections are highlighted is application specific - in Microsoft Office applications, the selected setting will appear "pressed down", but stay the same color.

In Adobe Acrobat 9.0, the selected setting appears with a blue background, making it easier to see which setting is selected.

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Pages Per Side

The Pages Per Side selection is application-specific. Adobe Acrobat does not allow the driver to change the imposition of the pages. When printing PDF from Adobe Acrobat, only one side per page will be printed, regardless of the selection Pages Per Side selection.

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Copy Count Selection

Certain settings should be handled by the print driver, and not the application's print screen. For example, in MS-Word, the application print screen looks like this:

We recommend that you leave the Collate button checked here, and the Number of Copies set to "1".

If you do set the Number of Copies in the application print screen, you must uncheck the Collate selection to avoid having the application copy count multiplied by the print driver number of copies.

For example, if the application print screen asked for 5 copies collated, and the drivers print screen asked for 5 copies collated, you would end up with 25 uncollated copies of the document.

For this reason, we recommend that you do not set the Number of Copies at the application print screen, only set it in the print driver.

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Large Copy Count

When you enter a copy count in the driver screen, it will update the number of copies shown in the application's print screen. Most applications have a limitation of 32,766 copies it will allow to be printed. The driver will allow you to print more than 32,766, but the application print screen will still only reflect a limit of 32,766. However, the printer will honor the total number of prints requested in the print driver copy count.

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Problems with Previous Releases of the Driver that Have Been Fixed

This version fixes Data Execution Prevention (DEP) problems on a PC with XP Service Pack 3 installed and certain hardware configurations. By implementing the new security features in the driver code, Data Execution Prevention (DEP) is no longer an issue. In the past, this data access error might have prevented you from installing the driver, or changing to a different tab in the driver, or in some cases, printing from certain applications.

The PostScript and PCL Printer Drivers are digitally signed for Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7.

The online Help is now localized in the language of the Printer Driver.

Margins are now able to be set to the same dimensions as the previous Printer Drivers.

The Printer Drivers will recognize Form Settings in the Print Server Properties tab.

When selecting Page Features, if Select all Subsets is applied for a number of pages and a page feature is applied, you were unable to apply a different page feature when subsequent pages are added. This is now fixed.

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