Apple Business Systems
Technical Notes

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Product Technical Support

AWS24: Configuring an Additional AppleTalk Printer for lpr

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This technical note is a quick guide to configuring multiple AppleTalk printers for use with **lpr** This procedure is only necessary when configuring a remote printer, that is, a printer somewhere on the network rather than one connected directly (through a serial connection) to the AWS 95.

The following example adds an AppleTalk printer called *NewPrinter* to the lpr spooling system.

1) Edit */etc/printcap* to include the following entry.

```
lp|NewPrinter|AppleTalk|postscript|PostScript:\
    :lp=/dev/null:\
    :if=/usr/spool/lpd/NewPrinter/ifilter:\
    :of=/usr/spool/pd/NewPrinter/ofilter:\
    :nf=/usr/spool/lpd/NewPrinter/nfilter:\
    :sd=/usr/spool/lpd/NewPrinter:
```

This entry sets *NewPrinter* as the default printer. The special name *lp* in the above entry is used to designate *NewPrinter* as the default printer. Please note that there can be only one default printer.

All the names in the first line of the above entry are synonyms for the printer you are configuring. Any of these names may be used when invoking **lpr** from CommandShell.

2) Set up a special spooling directory to hold print requests for the newly added printer.

```
cd /usr/spool/lpd
mkdir NewPrinter
```

Make sure to have the owner and group correctly set to *daemon* on the spooling directory, and also that permissions are set to 775.

3) Set up the filters.

```
cd /usr/spool/lpd/NewPrinter
cp ../AppleTalk/ifilter
```

Make sure to have 755 permissions on the file *ifilter*.

4) You need to specify the printer information that you would normally enter through the Chooser. You do this by editing the *Printer* variable in the file *ifilter*. For example:

```
Printer="NewPrinter:LaserWriter@De Anza 3/1st Floor"
```

Link *ifilter* to two other files as shown below.

```
ln ifilter ofilter
ln ifilter nfilter
```

5) Make sure that lpd daemon is running.

6) Enable and start the printer using the **lpc** command. For example, enter the following commands:

```
lpc enable NewPrinter
lpc start NewPrinter
```

Once the printer is enabled and the spooling daemon is started, enter either of the following commands from CommandShell.

```
lpr filename
```

or
```
lpr -PNewPrinter filename
```

For *filename*, type the name of the file you want to print. In both the above cases, the file will be printed to the printer NewPrinter, since it is the default printer.

You can use this procedure to configure additional printers to the spooling system and enable printing with **lpr**.

For more information on setting up the printer, see "Printing from CommandShell" in *Server Administration With A/UX 3.0.1.* For more information on troubleshooting techniques, see "Troubleshooting the LPR system" in Chapter 9 of *Setting Up and Managing Your Server.*