SuperDriver Help Index

SuperDriver is a printer driver that uses Zenographics' SoftRIP technology.   This allows faster printing of complex graphics and bitmaps, efficient multitasking for smooth background printing, and the use of scalable *on-the-fly* printer fonts.

This Index lists all the SuperDriver Help topics available for the various CalComp printers. Use the scroll bar to see entries not currently visible in the Help window.

To learn how to use Help, press F1 or choose Using Help from the Help menu.

Help Topics

Configuring CalComp Printers
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Configuring CalComp Printers

To configure SuperDriver for CalComp Printers:

1. Double-click on the **Control Panel** icon in Program Manager.
2. Double-click on the **Printers** icon.

The **Printers** dialog box displays.

3. Choose CalComp SuperDriver from the Installed Printers box.
4. Choose **Configure...** and select the port to which your CalComp printer is connected.
5. Choose **Setup...** to display your printer's SuperDriver hardware configuration options.

Refer to the Printer Setup Help screen for further information.

6. Return to the **Printers** dialog box.
7. Click on **Active** in the Status box to make your printer active.

NOTE: If CalComp does not display as the default printer in the Default Printer box, double-click on the CalComp SuperDriver line in the Installed Printers box.

8. Click on **OK** to confirm your printer's configuration.

You return to the **Control Panel**.

Printer Setup

The SuperDriver **Printer Setup** dialog box contains hardware options that you can set for your specific CalComp printer model.

Printer Model
Make sure that you choose the correct CalComp printer model.   Your choice determines the options available in the rest of the **Printer Setup** dialog box.

Paper Size
Lists all of the paper sizes available for output with the selected printer model.

Paper Source
Grayed (unavailable) for all listed CalComp printer models.

Ribbons
All printer models have the following ribbon options: **Monochrome** and **3-Color (YMC)**. The ColorMaster Plus 6603 and 6613 have an additional option: **4-Color (YMCK)**.

Orientation
Determines the direction in which print displays on a page: portrait or landscape. SuperDriver builds the fonts for the orientation you select.   You don't have to load special landscape fonts.

Copies
Lets you specify how many uncollated copies you want to print.   For single-page documents, it's usually best to designate copy count in SuperDriver's **Printer Setup** box.

Many Windows applications let you select specific options: copy count, collated copies, etc. These options are important when you send multi-page documents to print.   Refer to the SuperDriver section of your manual for more details on **Copies**.

NOTE: The ColorView 5912 and ColorView 5913 models have full page buffers that can produce "hardware copies."   SuperDriver recognizes this hardware feature.   Data with copy count instructions is sent to the printer only once.   The printer prints the specified number of copies on its own and returns to the application.

Fonts

If you choose **Fonts...** from the **Printer Setup** dialog box, the SuperText main window displays.   Refer to your manual or to SuperText's on-line Help for more information.

Options

If you choose **Options...** from the **Printer Setup** dialog box, the following settings display: **Output**, **SuperQueue**, **Processing,** and **Multitasking**.

Output options
Output options control the way data is sent to your output device.   Your choices include: **Reverse Order**, **Compression**, and **High-speed direct LP**, and **Draft Quality**.

Reverse Order changes your printer's output order when you use a Windows application that generates multiple-page output.   It causes certain printers to print pages in opposite sequence (last page first).

NOTE: It is better to set the **Reverse Order** option in a specific Windows application.   The option will cancel out if it's set for both the application and SuperDriver.

Compression speeds the transmission of data and reduces printing time.   You may want to turn **Compression** *off* to improve your throughput when your image is composed largely of natural images (bitmaps).   The following CalComp printer models support this option: ColorMaster 6603 and 6613; ColorView 5912 and 5913; PlotMaster 5902A/G.

NOTE: If you experience problems printing using the **Compression** option with your PlotMaster 5902A/G, run a test plot to determine if your printer has the latest version of firmware   Refer to your manual for more information.

High-speed direct LPT sends data directly to your hardware LPT port.   It is ignored if your printer is not attached to a port beginning with LPT.

Turn **High-speed direct LPT** *off* if you are doing any of the following:

1. Printing over a network.
2. Using Windows' Print Manager.
3. Using Windows 386 enhanced mode.
4. Experiencing printing problems such as garbled graphics or a "hung" printer.

Draft Quality Grayed for all listed CalComp printers.

SuperQueue option
Queue for Later Queue for Later causes your application to create SuperMetafiles for later printing with SuperQueue.   Use SuperQueue instead of Windows' Print Manager to print files in the background or batch (delayed) mode.   SuperQueue can do the following: accept your application program's output faster, return control to you faster, and print faster than Print Manager.   Refer to Chapter 5 in your manual for more information about SuperQueue.

Processing options
Show Status Window lets you disable the SuperDriver Status pop-up window that displays when SuperDriver is printing.

Report 0 Margins should be *off* for most applications that use a page's normal margins. If you find that output images are printing clipped, turn the **Report 0 Margins** *on* and reprint.

Multitasking

Multitasking controls the amount of processor time SuperDriver gives to other Windows functions.   Choose one of the following:

-   **Often**   (after every scanline) when you're using SuperQueue for background printing and want the smoothest possible foreground performance.

-   **Sometimes** when you want fast printing with light foreground activity (such as data or text entry).

-   **Rarely** (after every 255 scanlines) when you want SuperDriver printing to proceed at top speed.   This setting can cause "chunky" foreground performance.

Dithering Options

Ordered Dither Pattern
Dithering refers to the patterns in which halftone dots are placed on a page to form shades of gray or colors.   Dithering works by clustering individual printer dots into "cells."   The smaller the cells, the greater the detail.

Ordered Dither Pattern
Ordered dithering arranges the cells at a constant angle in relation to each other. SuperPrint lets you set four different cell sizes for dithering:

– **2x2** gives you a sharper look when printing object graphics with large areas of single colors (such as a business graph).

– **4x4** gives you better color or grayscale depth for printing natural (bitmap) images.

– **8x8** gives you better color or grayscale depth, especially if you intend to photocopy your output.

– **Default** lets SuperDriver select the general-purpose dither pattern most suited for your ColorQuick printer.

Error Diffusion
Error diffusion refers to a method of dithering that takes into account the color or gray-level of the pixel being processed as well as the neighboring pixels.

– **2-way** takes two neighboring pixels into account.
– **4-way** takes four neighboring pixels into account.

Error diffusion can give an overall smoother look to graphics.

Note: You cannot select both **Ordered** and **Error diffusion** dithering; they are mutually exclusive.

Gray Levels
Gray levels are a contrast control that forces SuperDriver to restrict the number of gray shades produced.   SuperDriver's default setting of 64 usually produces the most pleasing results.   Refer to the manual for further information.