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 available SuperDriver Help topics and procedures for Shinko - CHC model printers.   Use the scroll bar to see entries not currently visible in the Help window.

Help Topics

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Configuring Shinko Printers

To configure SuperDriver for Shinko 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 Shinko - CHC SuperDriver from the Installed Printers box.
4. Choose **Configure...** and select the port to which your Shinko 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 the Shinko does not display as the default printer in the Default Printer box, double-click on the Shinko - CHC 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 Shinko printer model.

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

NOTE: The contents of some list boxes can change or become grayed (unavailable) when you select a particular model.

Paper Size
Select the correct paper size from the available choices.

Paper Source
Grayed for Shinko printers.

Ribbons
The Shinko color thermal transfer printers have the following ribbon options: 1-color, 3-color, or 4-color.

NOTE: Colors are applied to the page *out-of-sync* if the ribbon type setting in SuperDriver and the ribbon type installed in your printer do not match exactly.

Orientation
Determines the direction in which print displays on a page: portrait or landscape.

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**.

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**,**High-speed direct LPT**, 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 your Windows application if it is available.   The option will cancel out if it's set for both the application and SuperDriver.

Compression is grayed for all models.

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 prints output more quickly in 150 dpi draft mode instead of the usual 300 dpi. If you plan to use the **Draft Quality** option with the Shinko CHC-645 printer, refer to your SuperPrint manual for information on adjusting the unit's DIP switch settings.

SuperQueue option
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 Shinko printer model

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 natural image (bitmap) graphics where "banding" is a problem.   It should not be used for vector graphics on any of these color thermal models however.

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.

Shinko Hardware Settings

You must configure your Shinko printer model correctly in order for SuperPrint to function correctly.

CHC-335 and CHC-345 DIP Switch Settings
Set the Shinko 335 or 345 printer's DIP switches to match the options chosen in SuperDriver. For further information on configuring these switches, refer to your SuperPrint and Shinko manuals.

CHC-445 Front Control Panel Settings
Check the five hardware settings on the front control panel of the Shinko CHC-445.

1. Turn off the printer.
2. Turn it back on *while pressing the Mode button on the front panel*.

- Set the printer/paper CHC MODE to **445_A** or **445_A4** depending on the paper size in use.

- Set the ribbon type to one of the following: **1-**, **3-**, or **4-colors** (see the Printer Setup Help screen for further information).

- Set the DOT MODE to **MSB** (Most Significant Bit).

- Set the REVERSAL to **NO**.

- Set X2ENLARGE to **NO**.

The last three settings (DOT MODE, REVERSAL, and X2ENLARGE) are the factory default settings. These settings usually do not require adjustment.

CHC-645 DIP Switch Settings
DIP Switch 1 (DS1) switch 6 is the 150/300 dpi resolution switch. Set this switch as follows:

- 150 dpi to ON position.
- 300 dpi to Off position (default position).

Refer to your SuperPrint manual for a diagram that displays the proper settings for your Shinko CHC-645's DIP switches.

DS1 switch 5 selects 3- or 4-color ribbons. The default is OFF indicating a 3-color ribbon (YMC) configuration.

NOTE: **Do Not** manipulate DS1 switches 7 and 8.