

AdobeSM Customer Services

Softfonts Printing in Courier

If a file sent to a PostScript™ printer from Windows prints using Courier instead of the selected fonts, it is most likely because the selected fonts were not in the printer when the print job was processed. Most PostScript printers have between 15 and 40 typefaces resident in the printer at all times. The remaining fonts, known as soft fonts, must be downloaded to the printer before they can be printed.

Although most commercially available font packages include DOS or Windows utilities that can be used to manually download soft fonts (WINDOWN.EXE, PCSEND.EXE, and PSDOWN.EXE all come with current Adobe Type Library packages), manual downloading isn't very convenient because it must be done every time the printer is turned on.

Windows provides a simpler way to manage the downloading procedure. It is possible to instruct Windows to download only the fonts needed for a particular document as part of the print job itself. This way, no manual downloading is necessary and documents always have the fonts they need to print properly.

The following two sections contain information about how to set up Windows to automatically download your installed soft fonts at print time. The first section, "Using Adobe Type Manager™ to Set Up Soft Font Downloading," is for users of Adobe Type Manager (ATM™) version 2.0 or higher. If you do not have ATM installed on your system, or if you need more detailed information about the font downloading process, see the second section, "Manually Setting Up Soft Font Downloading."

USING ADOBE TYPE MANAGER TO SET UP SOFT FONT DOWNLOADING

If you have ATM version 2.0 or higher, you can use ATM to provide information to Windows about downloading your soft fonts. Follow these steps to have ATM update your Windows font installation:

- 1 Open the ATM Control Panel, usually located in the Main program group of Program Manager. (If you cannot locate the ATM control panel icon, open the control panel from File Manager by double-clicking the ATMCNTRL.EXE file located in your Windows directory.)
- 2 Click the Add button to display the Add ATM Fonts dialog box.

Note: If you are using ATM 2.5 or higher, the checkbox labeled "Install as autodownload fonts for the PostScript driver" should be checked. If this checkbox appears but is grayed out (not selectable), you must reinstall your PostScript printer driver. Refer to your Windows documentation for information about installing a printer driver.

3 Note the "Target directory for font metrics files" at the bottom of the dialog box (typically, the directory is c:\psfonts\pfm). Use the Directories box to locate this directory and open it; this should cause all installed fonts to be displayed in the Available Fonts box.

4 Select all fonts in the Available Fonts window by clicking the first listed font, holding down the mouse button, and dragging down the list.

5 Click the Add button to update your existing fonts for automatic downloading to your PostScript printer; then exit the ATM Control Panel. If you are prompted to restart Windows, do so.

MANUALLY SETTING UP SOFT FONT DOWNLOADING

The information Windows uses to determine whether or not soft fonts are automatically downloaded resides in the Windows initialization file WIN.INI. Every WIN.INI file is organized into sections. Each section is identified by a line enclosed in square brackets. For example, the first line in every WIN.INI file is:

```
[windows]
```

PostScript softfonts are all described in your WIN.INI file in sections that begin like this:

```
[PostScript, output port]
```

There may be several sections like this: one for each Windows output port (LPT1, COM2, FILE, etc.) where a PostScript printer was installed.

Here is a sample of a complete PostScript section from a WIN.INI file:

```
[PostScript, LPT1]
```

... (other lines not containing softfont information deleted)

```
...
softfonts=8
softfont1=c:\psfonts\pfm\gn____.pfm
softfont2=c:\psfonts\pfm\gnb____.pfm
softfont3=c:\psfonts\pfm\gnbi____.pfm
softfont4=c:\psfonts\pfm\gni____.pfm
softfont5=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtr____.pfm
softfont6=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtb____.pfm
softfont7=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtbi____.pfm
softfont8=c:\psfonts\pfm\mti____.pfm
```

This sections shows that eight softfonts have been installed for all PostScript printers connected to LPT1. It also points Windows to the file on the hard disk associated with each softfont. Files with the extension .PFM are called PostScript Font Metrics files. They contain information about the individual typefaces, including the menu name, spacing, character heights, and other information that enables Windows to put the associated font in your applications' font menus and to know how letters will fit on a line or page. The PFM file does not, however, contain the font outline information used to render the font on your PostScript printer. That information is stored in a file with the same name with the extension .PFB.

For Windows to automatically download font outlines (PFB files) to your printer, the softfont lines in your WIN.INI file must be edited to contain the locations of the corresponding PFB files. Any text editor you are comfortable with will work; the Notepad application that comes with Windows is recommended.

As an example, the above section contained the line:

```
softfont1=c:\psfonts\pfm\gn_____.pfm
```

To instruct Windows to automatically download this font, simply add the location of the matching PFB file to the end of this line, for example:

```
softfont1=c:\psfonts\pfm\gn_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\gn_____.pfb
```

The finished entry would look like this:

```
[PostScript, LPT1]
```

... (other lines not containing softfont information deleted)

```
...
softfonts=8
softfont1=c:\psfonts\pfm\gn_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\gn_____.pfb
softfont2=c:\psfonts\pfm\gnb_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\gnb_____.pfb
softfont3=c:\psfonts\pfm\gnbi_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\gnbi_____.pfb
softfont4=c:\psfonts\pfm\gni_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\gni_____.pfb
softfont5=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtr_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\mtr_____.pfb
softfont6=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtb_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\mtb_____.pfb
softfont7=c:\psfonts\pfm\mtbi_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\mtbi_____.pfb
softfont8=c:\psfonts\pfm\mti_____.pfm,c:\psfonts\mti_____.pfb
```

Note: The file locations shown in this example are typical. If yours differ, enter the locations of the PFB files as found on your local hard disk. Be careful to use the exact syntax shown here; do not include any word spaces between characters.

Once you have edited the WIN.INI file, you must save the file and restart Windows for the automatic downloading to take effect.