# LANPrint
# Release 2.0

# What LANPrint Is

LANPrint is a convenient, user-friendly utility to simplify the task of connecting and disconnecting network printers from within the Windows environment.  It also offers a quick and simple means of changing the Windows default printer and accessing the Windows printer setup utility as well. LANPrint also provides brief on-line help to explain its functions to the end user.

LANPrint uses basic Windows API calls to accomplish the network connections and disconnections, and therefore it should work with any network supported by Windows 3.0 or 3.1.

# Features

## Network Printer Connect and Disconnect

LANPrint allows users to select network printers from a list of user-friendly printer descriptions, rather than queue names or printer names.  A click on the desired printer, a click on the desired LPT port, and a final click on the ATTACH BUTTON is all it takes.

LANPrint allows users to disconnect their redirected printers, too.  To get an LPT port pointing back to a local printer, the user simply chooses from his list of current network connections.  A click on the connection he wants to detach and a click of the DETACH BUTTON, and it's done.

## Printer Configuration Check

If LANPRINT.INI, the list of available network printers, is fully and properly configured, then when a user attaches a network printer through LANPrint, the program checks to verify that he has in his Windows configuration a printer of the type he is trying to attach, and that this printer is configured on the port he is trying to attach it to.

If he does not have a printer of that type in his Windows configuration, LANPrint will provide a message to that effect and ask whether or not the user wants to attach the printer anyway.

## Automatic Configuration Adjustments

If the user's Windows configuration *does* include the type of printer he is trying to attach, but that printer type is not set up for the port he is attaching it to, then LANPrint will automatically adjust his Windows configuration to include the type of printer being attached on the desired port.

If the user's Windows configuration includes the type of printer he is attaching, then once the attachment is successful, LANPrint will automatically configure that printer as his default Windows printer.

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## Direct Access to Printer Setup

In addition, the LANPrint main screen includes a SETUP BUTTON, which will immediately load the Windows printer setup utility for the default Windows printer.

# Installation

LANPrint consists of five files: LANPRINT.EXE, LANPRINT.INI, PSETUP.DLL, THREED.VBX, and VBRUN100.DLL.   The first is the executable program; the second file is the LANPrint initialization file, containing the list of available network printers.  The other files are Dynamic Link Libraries, or DLL files.   PSETUP.DLL is a program, written by Costas Kitsos, which enables LANPrint to provide direct access to the Windows printer setup utility.   THREED.VBX provides LANPrint with many of its three dimensional screen effects.  The last file is the Visual Basic runtime library.  Copies of these three DLL files  must reside in each user's WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory (recommended) or WINDOWS Directory.  For maintenance purposes, the first two files should be in a directory on the file server, where a single copy of LANPRINT.INI can be maintained for all LAN users.

Users require only READ access to the directory where LANPRINT.EXE and LANPRINT.INI reside.  The network manager will, of course, need to have WRITE access to this directory in order to keep the list of available LAN printers (contained in LANPRINT.INI) up to date.

# Configuration

The only configuration required is the editing of LANPRINT.INI to reflect the actual situation on your LAN: the ports you want users to be able to attach to and the actual printers available on your LAN.

The complete format of LANPRINT.INI is as follows:

```
[Ports]
LPTPorts = LPT1:  LPT2:  LPT3:  LPT4:
[Printers]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description[|Win3.1PrinterType][|Win3.0PrinterType]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description[|Win3.1PrinterType][|Win3.0PrinterType]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description[|Win3.1PrinterType][|Win3.0PrinterType]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description[|Win3.1PrinterType][|Win3.0PrinterType]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description[|Win3.1PrinterType][|Win3.0PrinterType]
```

## [PORTS] Heading

LANPrint decides what printer ports to make available for LAN connections based on two things: the user's WIN.INI file, and LANPRINT.INI.  LANPrint will make available only those ports listed in both places.  Thus, by limiting the LPT ports listed in LANPRINT.INI, you can control what ports your users are able to attach network printers to.  In addition, to protect against the inadvertent

attaching of printers which Windows cannot address, LANPrint will not make an LPT port available to a user unless that port is also listed in the [Ports] section of his WIN.INI file.

In LANPRINT.INI, the ports following *LPTPORTS=* must be separated by spaces.

# [PRINTERS] Heading

Beneath the [Printers] heading in LANPRINT.INI, you must list all the printers you want your users to be able to reach using LANPrint.  Each printer must be on a separate line, made up of two parts separated by an equal sign (=).

The first part of each line, to the left of the equal sign, is the printer's network name, or queue name (the string you would use to connect to the printer via the Windows Control Panel Printers option). For example, under Novell Netware, the connect string would be the following:

```
SERVERNAME/QUEUENAME
```

The LAN Manager connect string would be listed like this:

```
\\SERVERNAME\SHARENAME
```

Under Banyan Vines, it would be as follows:

```
SERVICENAME@GROUP@ORG
```

The second part of each line, to the right of the equal sign, is made up of 1 to 3 parts, separated by the vertical bar character: | .  Only the first of the three parts is required, though LANPrint will be able to fully support only those printers which have at least the first two of the three parts.

The first part, immediately following the equal sign, should contain a description of that particular printer.  The description can be anything you think would be helpful to your users.  This description, which is what the users will see in the LANPrint List of Available LAN Printers, is a major reason why LANPrint is so useful: your users can identify the printers they want by helpful descriptive text instead of cryptic network names.  For example, you might enter the following as the description for a printer:

```
H-P LaserJet II in Joe Wilson's Office
```

The descriptions of printers in LANPRINT.INI will be loaded into the List of Available Printers listbox for users to select from.  If a printer lacks this description (in other words, if nothing follows the equal sign), then LANPrint will not list it in the List of Available Printers.  LANPrint will load the listing in the order it finds it in the LANPRINT.INI file.

In order to verify that a particular printer is installed in a user's Windows configuration, LANPrint

needs the printer type, as it appears in the [PrinterPorts] and [Devices] sections of the WIN.INI file. The printer type is the text to the left of the equal sign beneath each of these headings. For example, in a Windows 3.0 WIN.INI file, an Apple LaserWriter printer might appear this way:

```
[PrinterPorts]
PostScript Printer=pscript,LPT1:,15,90

[Devices]
PostScript Printer=pscript,LPT1:
```

In Windows 3.1, this same printer would be described somewhat differently:

```
[PrinterPorts]
Apple LaserWriter=pscript,LPT1:,15,90

[Devices]
Apple LaserWriter=pscript,LPT1:
```

LANPrint uses the WIN.INI printer type, the information to the left of the equal sign beneath the WIN.INI [Printer Ports] heading, to determine whether or not a particular printer is installed in the user's Windows configuration. If no printer type is listed, then LANPrint cannot determine whether or not a particular printer is installed, and it cannot make a printer the Windows default when it is connected.

So that LANPrint can work properly during the migration from Windows 3.0 to Windows 3.1, a period of time during which some users will likely be running the new release of Windows while others are running the older release, LANPrint allows you to provide both printer types in LANPRINT.INI.

If you supply the Windows 3.1 printer type (preceded by a vertical bar) immediately after the printer description and then supply the Windows 3.0 printer type (again preceded by a vertical bar), LANPrint will determine which release of Windows a particular user is running and will choose the appropriate printer type to make the proper determination as to whether or not that printer is installed.

**NOTE:** If LANPrint finds only a single printer type following the description, it will use that type regardless of the user's version of Windows. If it finds two printer types, separated by a vertical bar, it will use the first for Windows 3.1 users and the second for Windows 3.0 users.

If all users are running the same version of Windows, then you need provide only a single printer type for each printer in LANPRINT.INI. In this case, you would simply list each printer's network name, followed by an equal sign, followed by the description of that printer for the LANPrint list of available printers, followed by a vertical bar and the printer type used in WIN.INI for the version of Windows that you are using:

```
[Ports]
LPTPorts = LPT1:  LPT2:  LPT3:  LPT4:
```

```
[Printers]
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description|WIN.INIPrinterType
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description|WIN.INIPrinterType
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description|WIN.INIPrinterType
networkname=User-friendly Printer Description|WIN.INIPrinterType
```

For example, when all the users have migrated to Windows 3.1, you can remove from LANPRINT.INI the Windows 3.0 printer types (along with the vertical bars that separate them from the Windows 3.1 printer types).

**NOTE:** If you do supply only one printer type, be sure to remove the vertical bar at its end, so that the only vertical bar remaining on each line is the one separating the printer description from the Windows 3.1 printer type, as in the example above.

# Running LANPrint

To run LANPrint, your users should have the LANPrint icon in one of their Windows program groups. To make using LANPrint even easier and more convenient, users can place LANPrint in the *LOAD=* line in WIN.INI, or in the Windows 3.1 *Startup* group, so that the LANPrint icon will always be loaded and readily accessible.

**NOTE:** The version of LANPrint distributed as shareware will not load in a minimized state via the WIN.INI *LOAD=* line or Windows 3.1 *Startup* group after registration. When you register LANPrint, we will send you a distribution diskette, which will include a version of LANPrint that *will* be loadable as an icon via the WIN.INI *LOAD=* line or the Windows 3.1 *Startup* group.

When LANPrint loads, the user is presented with the main screen, which offers a scrollable listing of the available LAN printers listed in LANPRINT.INI, a selection of printer ports available for redirection, and a listing of current LAN printer attachments.

By selecting from these lists, users can attach or detach network printers with a simple click of the mouse on the appropriate button.

When a user clicks on the ATTACH BUTTON, LANPrint will attach the selected printer to the selected port, first detaching any current connection to that port, if necessary. If LANPRINT.INI is fully configured, as explained above, LANPrint will also determine whether or not the selected printer is installed in the user's Windows configuration. If it is not, then LANPrint will inform the user and ask whether or not to attach it anyway. If it is, then LANPrint will make sure it is configured on the port it is being attached to (and will configure it on that port if it is not), and will make that printer the default Windows printer.

When a user clicks the DETACH BUTTON, LANPrint will detach the selected LAN printer connection, freeing the port for use with a directly connected, non-network, printer.

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When a user clicks the SELECT BUTTON, LANPrint brings up the Select Windows Default Printer Screen, displaying all the printer configurations in the user's WIN.INI file. By clicking on the desired configuration and then on the SET AS DEFAULT BUTTON, the user can set any configured printer as the Windows Default Printer. Clicking the OK BUTTON tells LANPrint to write the new default printer to WIN.INI and notify any open applications of the change. Clicking the CANCEL BUTTON returns the user to the Main Screen with no changes to the Windows Default Printer.

A click on the SETUP BUTTON will immediately bring up the Windows printer setup screen for the printer currently configured as the Windows default printer. From this screen the user can change page orientation and other features associated with the particular printer.

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