

eXTRAPRINT Installation Guide

Installing eXTRAPRINT is as easy as 1-2-3. There are two installer packages that you must install once, and a configuration application. .

Here's how to install from eXTRAPRINT from the Solutions Suite CD ROM:

Note before you begin, you will need to login as **root** on the machine to which you are connecting your printers. You may need to ask your system administrator for help with this. Also, for Intel users, make sure that the **Parallel Port driver** is loaded using the Configure.app found in /NeXTAdmin.

I. The eXTRAPRINT_Server package.

This package contains the low-level print, scan, OPI, and color management server for all eXTRAPRINT drivers. It is installed once using a standard NEXTSTEP installer package. You will find this package on the Solutions Suite CD ROM in the GS Apps folder under eXTRAPRINT. Select the package in the File Viewer. Your file viewer should look something like this:

Server_Package.tiff ↵

Double click on the Installer Package. It will launch the Installer.app. The Panel looks like this:

paste.tiff ↵

Now click on the Install button. The Install Package panel appears:

Installer_2.tiff ↵

Select the appropriate computer type on which you are installing, then click on the Install button.

A confirmation panel appears:

Confirm.tiff ↵

Click on the Continue button, then sit back and relax! The package will install in just a few more seconds!

If all goes well (and it will) the Installer Panel now show this:

Install_Complete.tiff ↵

Special Note for NEXTSTEP 3.2 Users

Due to changes in NeXT's Installer.app in NEXTSTEP 3.3, you may see an error when installing the eXTRAPRINT_Server.pkg under version 3.2. The error is "Path /usr/local/lib/ColorXPrinter does not exist." If this happens, then double click on the script below and then run the installer package again.

eXTRAPRINT_Server.pre_install ↵<-----Double-click here.

This script simply creates a series of new folders on your hard drive. When you do this, the Terminal.app will launch, and in a moment, you'll see a window that looks something like this:

612852_paste.tiff ↵

Unix weenies could also type the following in a terminal shell: mkdirs /usr/local/lib/ColorXPrinter

II The eXTRAPRINT_PPD package.

The eXTRAPRINT PPD package contain PostScript Printer Description (PPD) files that are used by the standard NEXTSTEP printer panel to give you control over a print job. You can chose from such options as resolution, paper feed, color depth and so forth. Since eXTRAPRINT lets you share printers across a network, these files need to be installed in a place where everyone on a network can access them.

It is installed once using a standard NEXTSTEP installer package. You will find this package on the Solutions Suite CD ROM in the GS Apps folder under eXTRAPRINT. Select the package in the File Viewer. It look something like this:

PPD_Package.tiff ↵

Double click on the Installer Package. It will launch the Installer.app. The Panel looks like this:

PPD_Install.tiff ↵

Now click on the Install button. The Install Package panel appears:

PPD_intall2.tiff ↵

Click on the Install button to continue.

A confirmation panel appears telling you that an installer program will run:

PPD_Confirm.tiff ↵

Click on the Continue button, then sit back and relax! The package will install in just a few more seconds!

If all goes well (and it will) the Installer Panel now show this:

929522_Install_Complete.tiff ↵

III. eXTRAPRINT.app

The eXTRAPRINT application provides a framework for installing and configuring printers. It works quite

similarly to NeXT's Print Manager application, but adds important new features. The eXTRAPRINT.app is found in the same eXTRAPRINT folder as the packages you just installed:

App.tiff ↵

Copy it into an /Apps directory on your machine (preferably /LocalApps if you have a network so the app can be shared).

When the copying is finished, double-click on the application icon. The main **Printers** panel appears, and should look something like this:

Installed_Printers.tiff ↵

In this example, we see a number of installed printers. The first time you install eXTRAPRINT, there won't be any printers in the list. What you see here is the **Name** of each printer as it will appear in an application's print panel, the **Type** of printer connected, the **Host** name of the machine to which the printer is connected, and finally, the **License** status of the printer driver.

To install a new printer, click on the **New** button. The Configure Printer panel appears:

New_Printer_list.tiff ↵

Select the printer you want to install from the **Type** list. In the **Local Name** field, enter the name you wish to call the printer. Most desktop printers connect via the parallel port, so the **Communications** pop up is automatically set to Parallel. For SCSI printers (such as the StepWriter series) the communications is set automatically to SCSI, and you will have to set the SCSI ID to match the setting on the printer.

Any eXTRAPRINT printer can be configured so that it is accessible from across a network. To do so, click on the popup menu under **Access**. Then add a **Remote Name**. If you want to specify the NetInfo Domain in which the printer is available, click on the **Set Domain** button. The Select NetInfo Domain panel appears.

Netinfo.tiff ↵

Make your selection, then click OK.

Finally, for network printers, you may want to indicate the location of the printer (e.g. "By Bob's Desk) in the **Note** field. When you are done, your Configure panel should look something like this. Click OK to continue.

Remote_Printer.tiff ↵

Now click on the OK button to return to the Printers List. You should now see your printer in the Printers panel

The last thing to do is to license the printer. Select the printer in the list, then choose **License** from the eXTRAPRINT app's main menu. The license panel now appears:

Licene_Panel.tiff ↵

Your license is delivered to you at purchase time on your invoice. Carefully type in your license and company name, then click on the **Add License** button.

Note: Any eXTRAPRINT driver can be installed without a license key. You can print, but there will be a line across each page you print until the driver is licensed.

Congratulations! eXTRAPRINT is now installed and ready for use. Your new printers will now appear in every application's print panel. You can also test any printer, by selecting it in the Printers list, then clicking on the **Test** button. A test page will be printed on the chosen printer.

To view the progress of this or any other print job, chose Progress from Server menu. The Progress Panel appears:

Print_Progress.tiff ↵

Note, the eXTRAPRINT application does **not** need to be running in order for you to print.

IV Advanced Features:

eXTRAPRINT offers a number of advanced features for the color publishing professional. These features include a sophisticated implementation of Frequency Modulated (Stochastic) screening; a highly evolved color management system based on the CIE color space, support for OPI (Open Prepress Interface) and the ability to edit the default behavior of printers using a PPD defaults editor. Thankfully, this advanced functionality is handled transparently by the eXTRAPRINT server with little or intervention required on the part of the user!

Color Management

Every eXTRAPRINT color driver comes with its corresponding color **.calibration** file. This file contains information about the reproducible color space (or gamut) of that printer. This information is combined with other information such as CMYK transfer functions to allow for "on the fly" color correction at output time. The result: color that much more closely matches what you saw on your screen. These files can modified by professional users using the **eXTRACAL** application. For more information on this app, contact GS Corporation. For the average user, you will be happy to note that the blue you see on screen doesn't turn purple on the printer. For the power user, you will be pleasantly surprised to know that cost effective, repeatable, and open-standards-based color management is now possible on desktop systems.

O.P.I.

All eXTRAPRINT drivers are compatible with the Open PrePress Interface standard. This allows for the substitution, at output time, of high resolution image data for low resolution placement images that are used during page layout. This technique greatly reduces network traffic while increasing print speeds. OPI configuration is handled by choosing **OPI** from the eXTRAPRINT app's main menu. The OPI panel now appears:

OPI.tiff ↵

Click on the **Use OPI** check box to enable OPI image substitution. The **OPI Image Search Path** determines where the eXTRAPRINT server searches to find the high resolution image data. The optimal place to store high resolution images is on the same machine to which the high resolution output device is connected.

For your convenience, we have included a free utility application called **O.P.I.Layout** which automatically creates low-res placement images with OPI comments from high-res image files. Launch the app, drag an image over the window, and when the image appears in the window, drag the EPS representation of the image out into the File Viewer. The EPS file references the path to the high res images and can be dragged and dropped (or placed) into any NEXTSTEP application that supports EPS images (such as Virtuoso, PasteUp, Concurrence, Pages, @Image and so forth). Give OPI a try, you might get to go home earlier!

FM (Stochastic) Screening

Frequency Modulated (FM) screening is a relatively new advancement in printing technology that greatly enhances the appearance of printed pages. A great deal of work has gone into the application of this technology in eXTRAPRINT. This is particularly noticeable with the new generation of desktop color bubblejet printers from Canon and Epson. The printers produce stunning quality output at an unheard of price. Judge the quality for yourself! Best of all this increase in quality comes with no speed penalty. For laser printers, FM screening is also possible, but the print speed will be slower. However, for multiple copies, this is not an issue, since subsequent copies are made from the printer's internal memory. You may want to use PostScript screening for draft prints, and Stochastic Screening for final output. You can toggle this screening on and off by using the **Dither Method** popup menu in the Print Panel options that appears when you print from an application. The use of FM screening with low cost printers is only possible using the combination of NEXTSTEP and eXTRAPRINT. Your Macintosh and Windows friends will be jealous and will soon want connect their machines to yours!

PPD Defaults

The eXTRAPRINT application lets control the default behavior of any printer by using the PPD Defaults editor. These defaults (such as resolution, screening, duplexing, etc) are reflected in the standard NEXTSTEP Print Panel. To edit a printer's default settings, select the printer in the Printers list, then click on the Defaults button. The **Defaults Editor** appears:

PPD_Defaults.tiff ↵

Set your desired defaults by using the popup menus. When you are finished, click on the OK button.

Note: Some printers have more defaults than others. This is particularly the case with the TiffPrinter, StepWriterNX, and Polaroid Palette drivers.

If you have further questions about eXTRAPRINT, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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We look forward to hearing from you!