



Newsletter Number 11 August 2003

Introduction

In this Newsletter, we address the following subjects:

- New Web Site
- Paris Build 86
- Feature removed

If you have any questions or queries concerning Paris software and associated issues, please contact us using the details at the end of this newsletter.

New Web Site

We are pleased to announce that we have updated our Web Site. The new URL is:

<http://www.xlprinteuropa.com>

Please take a look and let us know what you think. Also tell us what else you would like to be made available on the site.

Paris Build 86

The current release version of Paris is Version 3, Build 85.

We are in the final stages of testing the next release, designated Build 86. In keeping with our philosophy of continual development and improvement, there are problem fixes, enhancements and new features in this build.

- We have now added a commonly requested Spell Checker feature to the editors. The Spell Check is quite sophisticated and allows users to do search and replace functions as well as addition of new words to the existing dictionary.
- Ten (10) major new Field Calculation options have been added to give users the ability to manipulate strings in ways previously not possible. In short, they allow users to find and manipulate strings within strings. Prior to these commands it was very difficult to extract parts of strings that were variable in length. A simple example would be to extract the third word in a sentence or perhaps a surname.
- Another major new Field Calculation option is the ability to extract a key or index from the print file then use it to look up a corresponding value in an external table. Simple examples would be to look up product descriptions from a table based on a product code. It does have a more important application when combined with **expedite**. It is now possible to use a customer number or name to retrieve an email or fax number from an external table. This has been a common request and solves a major problem. Prior to this option being available, users had to modify their host applications to include the email or fax number.



- The Spooler now has the ability to insert HP PCL commands into output. This important enhancement brings some of the power of Device Specific Features, available to Postscript printers, to PCL printers.
- Another new Field Calculation option is the ability to compare a DOS wildcard mask to the contents of a field. If the contents of the field "fit" the mask then the calculation will return true otherwise it will return false. This feature, when combined with other Field Calculation options such as the SWITCH or LOOKUP commands provides a great deal of flexibility.
- The RunDate Field Calculation command has now been extended to include two new options. They return either the short or long version of the PC's local date format. Prior to these options the user had to select the appropriate date format from a list. This is now greatly simplified and "dynamically" configures to the PC's location.
- We have added new 'Env Changed' Message to the Engine/Spooler interface. Spooler will now show the name of the current ENV for printing jobs. This will change as the ENV changes (in case there is more than one ENV per job).
- New options added for "blank line" handling. We have always had the option to suppress blank lines (it is a property of a text block). The definition of a "blank line" was fixed as meaning a line that contained no characters at all. The new option now allows you to define a "blank line" as meaning a line filled with spaces or any other specified characters. For example you may want to suppress lines that contain only dashes and spaces. The user can specify any character or set of characters as the qualification of a blank line.

Feature removed

It intended to remove support for the Port Monitor in the next build. If there is any reason why this should not be done, please contact us using the details below or via the Web Site.

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