

How to determine where and how PROMPT prints

System generation (sys gen) defines printer names

First it is necessary to understand printer names as defined in PROMPT. Printer names are defined in the sys gen. These printer names can be found in the Linux ASCII text file /edx/termxref.sys. PROMPT comes with twelve printer names pre-defined.

These names are:

\$SYSPRTR	LINEPRTR	CHEKPRTR	PRINTER2
PRINTER3	PRINTER4	PRINTER5	PRINTER6
PRINTER7	PRINTER8	PRINTER9	ELECTPRT

We considered \$SYSPRTR the main system printer for reports, LINEPRTR for invoices, and CHEKPRTR for checks. However this is a standard and not a requirement. ELECTPRT has special use for electronic printing as explained in "How to use PROMPT automatic fax and email". All printer names above except ELECTPRT are identical and available for use once properly set up as explained below.

termxref.sys defines printer names to Linux

To use a printer defined in the sys gen, it must also be defined in termxref.sys. This file cross references the sys gen printer name with a Linux device and specifically determines if printing is done through the Linux spooler or bypassed thereby printing direct to the printer. We recommend using the Linux spooler except where a printer is defined on a Digi Board. Digi ports do not work with the Linux spooler.

In a start up system, look at termxref.sys and you will see that \$SYSPRTR and ELECTPRT are already defined. The remaining printer names are commented out in this file, meaning they have a # preceding the printer name. Actually they are shown in the file as if to be used as "direct" printers, but this will be rare.

To use one of the commented out printer names, assuming each will be driven by the Linux Spooler, simply set up each desired name in termxref.sys following the example of \$SYSPRTR. For example you might use entries in termxref.sys something like this to add four printers. Please understand a reboot is required to implement changes made to termxref.sys.

LINEPRTR		lpr -P	lne:	(The name lne can be anything you desire)
CHEKPRTR		lpr -P	chk:	(The name chk can be anything you desire)
PRINTER2		lpr -P	pr2:	(As stated above lne, chk and pr2 are)
PRINTER3		lpr -P	pr3:	(optional names but each MUST be unique)

The Linux spooler setup can be done at # by entry of printconf.tui

In the Linux spooler setup you will cross reference for example “lne”, that is referred to in the Linux spooler as the “Quque” , to a device such as lp0, lp1. Or printing can be directed to a printer attached to a Windows box or a network printer. Printing to a printer attached to a Windows box is accomplished by using the Alphacom software LPD feature that allows you to point the Linux spool to the IP address of the PC to which the printer is attached.

In the event you are using Alphacom’s LPD you must also define an LPD Quque name for the desktop PC printer name. For example you might have the Queue name “lne” point to an LPD Quque name of mdhp (for Mary Doe HP printer – you make up these names too) and “chk” point to jdhp (for John Doe HP printer.)

Let us review where we are at this point in our explanation using some specific examples:

\$SYSPRTR is printing to LP0 on the Linux server.
LINEPRTR is Printing to the printer attached to Mary’s PC
CHEKPRTR is printing to the printer attached to John’s PC
PRINTER2 is printing to the printer attached to Albert’s PC
PRINTER3 is printing to the printer attached to Jane’s PC

Hardcopy device name may determine where to print

To determine where PROMPT programs will print we must understand the default printer assigned to each user terminal (workstation) that is called “hardcopy device” and found in the menu option **PD, JLS, T**.

Following our examples above let’s assume the terminal names for each user are as shown below and the hard copy (default printer) has been defined as follows:

User	Terminal Name	Hard copy device
Mary	\$SYSLOGA	\$SYSPRTR
John	\$SYSLOGB	\$SYSPRTR
Albert	\$SYSLOGC	PRINTER2
Jane	\$SYSLOGD	PRINTER3

PROMPT specific print programs

What PROMPT program prints where?

Report Writer – Each report writer specification has a device code that determines where it prints when run. These codes are:

- 0 = print to the users hard copy device defined in their terminal name
- 1 = print to \$SYSPRTR
- 2 = print to the video
- 3 = print to LINEPRTR
- 4 = print to ELECTPRT
- 5 = print to PRINTER3
- 6 = print to PRINTBAR - reserved specifically for bar code printers

In our standard release most report writers are set to print to the user's hard copy device. You can change any specification by getting the specification name from the top left of the report such as **ARBALRPT** and go to **PD, RWE** and enter the report specification name, press enter when the option turns to E, go to "Output Device Code" and change as desired.

The printer control may determine how PROMPT report writers print

The printer control file is found at menu option **PD, PC**. It is necessary to understand this file because it can be used to control certain printing destination and functions.

No entries are made in this file on a start up system. No entry will be necessary unless you are printing reports to a laser printer that requires passing HP printer PCL control codes to determine font size.

In our examples on the previous page we will assume that PRINTER2 and PRINTER3 are HP printers that require passing PCL codes to print PROMPT reports in 17 CPI. This is accomplished by making these entries in the Printer Control File:

Access key	Printer name	Form Type	Page length	HP printer PCL Codes
#PDBGRF2	PRINTER2	IBM	66	27 "&l1H" 27 "(s17H"
#PDBGRF3	PRINTER3	IBM	66	27 38 107 52 83

The access key is the program name of the report writer followed by any tie breaking character, and we simply used the last character of the printer name for the tiebreaker. Printer name is associated with the user's hard copy device.

Our example for PRINTER2 tells the printer to feed from tray 2 and set the font to 17 CPI and these codes are for PCL level 7. The example for printer 3 set the font to 17 CPI on a PCL level 3 printer.

The report writer is unique from other print programs explained below in that you only need to make an entry for printers when you need to pass PCL codes, and then only enter the printer name or names requiring PCL code. The form type will be IBM and page length 66 as shown above.

Other Print Programs – where and how they print

PROMPT has several other programs that print and, except for sales order processing that has its own unique rules, all will print to the hard copy device unless redirected to a specific printer. The printer control file has two uses in connection with these print programs.

1. To redirect the print from the user's hard copy device to a specific printer make a single entry for the program screen name in the printer control file.

By single entry we mean there will only be one entry in the printer control file for the seven character screen name such as #BPRPRT followed by a character, usually 0, and the printer name such as CHEKPRTR, the type such as IBM for regular checks or LDS for laser checks with a double stub. Page size is 42 for standard checks and 66 for laser checks and eleven inch paper.

2. To pass HP PCL codes to determine font size and possibly another print feature such as what tray to feed paper. For example, assume the sales order processing sales analysis report is used by both Albert and Jane who have HP printers requiring passing PCL codes. Assuming the need to print at 17 CPI the entries to the printer control file would be as follows:

Access key	Printer name	Form Type	Page length	HP printer PCL Codes
#BOPSAR2	PRINTER2	IBM	66	27 "&l1H" 27"(s17H"
#BOPSAR3	PRINTER3	IBM	66	27 38 107 52 83

Each of the PROMPT print programs that can be influenced by the printer control file is identified below by sub system.

Accounts Payable Menu option and print feature

#BAPAGE0 - AP, 2, 9 Invoice Aging and Cash Requirements
 #BAPENTQ – AP, 1, 6 and 9 AP Checks, both quick pay and batch pay
 APPCKRG0 - AP, 1, 9 Pre check Register
 APSTUBPR – AP, 1, 6 and 9 AP check stub overflow report

Accounts Receivable

#BARSTM0 - AR, 2, 4 Statements – F6 allows print to ELECTPRT

General Ledger

#BGLAPA0 – GL 1, 2 Analyze posted accounts
 #BGLFSX0 - GL 1, 7, etc Print financial statements
 #BGLJEM0 – GL 1, 1 Process Journal Entries

Inventory Control

#BINCPRO – IC 1, 6, 9 – Customer Price Report – F6 = ELECTPRT
 #BINVWR0 – IC, 4, 4 – Print Valuation by Warehouse

Project Costing

#BJCTRM0 – PC, 3 – Enter Estimates, etc

Sales Order Processing – reports (see below for other documents)

#BOPBAT0 - OP 4, 6 – Generate Batch Orders exception report
 #BOPBIU0 - OP 2, 1 – End of Day exception report
 #BOPEOD0 - OP 2, 1 – End of Day Journal Entries
 #BOPSAR0 - OP 1, 5 - Sales Order Analysis

Payroll

#BPRCAL0 – PR, 2, 3 – Payroll Calculation

#BPRPRT0 – PR, 2, 4 – Print Payroll Checks

Cash Flow Planner

#PBSCFP0 - MI, \$ - Cash Flow Planner

Sales Order Processing and Purchase orders

Both Sales order processing and Purchase Orders have a built in printing sub system that is identical in design for both. The print hierarchy is now explained:

Session Controls with terminal control overrides

The session control files determines what document prints where as shown at **OP, 7** and **IC, 2, 12**. However, the terminal control file allows for an override enabling specific documents to be printed to any valid printer name entered in the user's terminal control record as shown in **OP, 6** and **IC 2, 11**.