

Chapter 5

Question Answer

5.1 Why Printing Data Errors Occur?

In order to transfer the large quantity of data during printing large format copy, normally parallel port is used. But parallel port is easy to be interfered. So that the printing data errors occur during printing period is an unavoidable phenomenon. Users should pay attention to the following operation points in order to lower the error probability.

☐ Stable Voltage, Less Interference

- ◇ Computer and printer must be perfectly grounded, in order to reduce electrical static interference. Both computer and printer must be connected to the same grounding line and if it is possible, test the voltages between printer port and computer port, between printer port and ground with multimeter. The value of these voltages must be all zero.
- ◇ It is better to use a voltage regulator of 1000W.
- ◇ During printing, it is better not go turn on or off high power equipment or devices used with same power supply line, such as laser printer, large screen monitor etc.

☐ Application of Printing Cable

- ◇ The length of the printing cable should be as short as possible, at least not longer than 3 meters.
- ◇ It is better to use the imported high quality printing cable.
- ◇ The printing cable should be fixed firmly without swinging in air.
- ◇ Instead of parallel port line, USB junction line can be used.

☐ Applications About MainTop

- ◇ Because the calculation speed of MainTop is faster than the printing speed, so the MainTop system should never be turned off soon after it finishes calculations, in order to avoid interrupting of the printing operation that could be caused by restarting MainTop or open new MainTop file.
- ◇ In MainTop, since the queuing printing method is adopted, the middle files are all saved in C hard disk. So it is better to reserve a large free space in C disk for printing operation.
- ◇ If file size is very large, it is better to change the file into PRN file format at first. Although

it will take a longer time but it will be safer.

5.2 What Can You Do When Watermark Appears on the Printed Copy?

MainTop watermark appearing reasons are:

- ◇ There is no GuardDog fixed, please install GuardDog.
- ◇ The GuardDog is not perfectly connected, please check connecting status.
- ◇ Version mismatching, please check the version No. and its matching printer.
- ◇ If parallel port card or USB parallel junction line is used, GuardDog will become more undamageable.
- ◇ That connect or disconnect GuardDog, while it is operating, may easy damage the Guard-Dog. If that has happened please contact our commercial agent or MainTop Company.
- ◇ Perhaps the computer's USB isn't open if use USB softdog, then you can change USB Controller(Onchip USB) to ENABLED, which in Chipest feature(setup) of Advanced of BIOS.

5.3 How to Guarantee the Correct Printing Colour?

Colour deviation may occur by many reasons and at any step from picture scanning, screen displaying to printing. Anyhow colour deviation is unavoidable, because the colour creating theory used by different equipment is not the same. Here a colour-mixing plan which can improve the toning result is introduced below.

First prepare a computer with a monitor having RGB controlling ability, such as monitor of Sony, Viewsonic, MAG etc. Then implement the plan following the operation steps below:

1. *Select a colourful picture, and print a copy of it through MainTop RIP.*
2. *Compare the printed copy with the picture displayed on screen. If they are not identical, adjust the values of R, G, B of monitor to make its colour as same as the copied one.*
3. *If Photoshop is used to process the picture, open this picture by Photoshop, and compare it with the picture displayed through MainTop system. If it is not identical with the picture displayed through MainTop system, adjust the colour by the screen adjusting function inside Photoshop until the colours of two pictures become identical. If the above 3 steps are finished perfectly, the colour of the printed copy will be identical with the colour of the picture displayed on screen.*

5.4 What Should I Do, When the Printing Operation Suddenly Stops But "Printing" Message is Still Displayed on Screen?

- ◇ Check if the power switch of printer or computer has been turned off undeliberately.
- ◇ Check if the printing cable is not firmly connected.
- ◇ Check the free space of C disk. If the free space value is 0, it indicates that there is not enough free space in hard disk. So the free space of hard disk must be reserved.
- ◇ When HP CP serial printer is used, it is better to inject ink one time and adjust paper into correct position before starting operations. This is because if a long picture is going to be printed, it would stop to insert ink during printing period and if the paper is not in correct position after inserting the ink, the printing operation will be stopped.

5.5 Printing Speed is Slow!

- ◇ Printing port is not in ECP mode. Solution: Restart computer, press "Del" key for entering BIOS of mother board. Set parallel port mode, print port mode at ECP.
- ◇ Computer speed may influence printing speed. Solution: For 600 dpi resolution, minimum configuration requirement for hardware is PIII500, 128MB-RAM, 2GM-HD.
- ◇ When TIFF figure is rotated in MainTop, or print file contains TIFF figure, output speed will be slowed down. Solution: TIFF figure should be rotated in Photoshop first, then load into MainTop to be exported (Notice: Output speed will not be affected, if TIFF figure is rotated in 180 degree or 360 degree).
- ◇ Because network printer requires a large number of data, if NOVA JET850 selects dual-4 color printing mode, main frequency of CPU should be higher than 1G, and high speed HD and main board of perfect performance are required.
- ◇ For network construction, it is better to select high quality wire and card, such as HUB or exchange of 100 BASE-T, standard super cat-5 dual-twisted wire.
- ◇ Why the Printing Speed on NT is Slower than the Printing Speed on Windows98?
Because NT4.0 version and the version lower than it do not support ECP mode, so the printing speed of them is slower than the speed of Windows98. Windows2000 or higher version support ECP mode in front printing (normal speed) but do not support ECP mode in post printing(lower speed).

5.6 Why the Printed Copy is Shorter than the Original Picture when Printing a 10 Meters Long Picture?

This is caused by deviation values of paper feed. Under other environments and selecting other printing medias, the deviation values may become greater.

In order to avoid this kind of problem, the deviation value should be measured and expand or reduce the length of the picture according to the obtained deviation value before printing the picture.

5.7 Horizontal Ripples on Printings From Jet Plotter

Considered 3 reasons: 1. Printing speed was too high; 2. Ink nozzle was jammed; 3. Bad quality of printing paper also brings above problems. Solution: Low down printing speed; clean ink nozzle; change printing paper.

5.8 How to Export Files Made in CorelDraw, Pagemaker, Freehand, AutoCAD etc by MainTop?

- ◇ Firstly, convert their format to TIF, EPS, PS or PDF, then print them by using MainTop RIP Management System.
- ◇ RIP job also can be exported to relevant processor from other application programs directly. The relevant processor for RIP file is the added RIP processor at "Manage → Config RIP Processor" dialogue box. All processors in this list will be displayed in the printer port list of the operation system. Therefore, in theoretical speaking, any application program which can use operation system printers can export RIP job to MainTop RIP Management System.

Certainly, the file exported must be the file which can be supported by MainTop RIP Management System, such as PS format file.

5.9 Deformation on Picture Produced by Jet Plotter

- ◇ When deformation appears on picture printed out by jet plotter, the following reasons should be considered. 1. It happens when the picture has been stretched in different rates at two directions. 2. correct position of the two edges of picture are shift away because of the low quality, dual-direction, high speed printing mode is selected by the jet plotter. 3. Ink nozzle deviates from its original position because the adjusting work has not been carried out for a long period of time.

5.10 Grayish and Blurry Image on Picture Produced by Jet Plotter

- ◇ When grayish and blurry images appear on picture produced by jet plotter, the following reasons should be considered. 1. blank point appears when jet nozzle is jammed or deviated from its original position. 2. Because the acutance of the picture produced by scanner is not high enough, its image is blur and has no gradation. The first problem can be solved by cleaning and adjusting the ink nozzle. The second problem can be solved by increasing its acutance or contrast with photo processing tools.