Section 3

HP PCL Print Commands

You can easily control printer operation using four standard HP PCL print commands.[*] These commands, or escape sequences, allow you to:

- restore user default settings (reset)

- select the number of copies needed for each label

- adjust text position across width of page (long-edge offset registration)

- designate text position across length of page (short-edge offset registration)

In the following sections, the name of the command is followed by the escape sequence, its decimal and hex formats, and a description of how to use the command.

For information on the Intellibar extension commands used to control printer operation, see Section 2.

RESET

ESC E
Decimal: 027 069
Hex: 1B 45

Use this command at the beginning and end of each print job. The command deletes any temporary fonts and macros, prints any pages remaining in the printer buffer, and restores user default settings. This allows the next job to start with the default settings as a known base. Starting with the default environment at the beginning of each print job eliminates the need to set every feature each time a job is run.

Do not perform a printer reset *within* a job.

NUMBER OF COPIES

ESC &l#X
Decimal: 027 038 108 #...# 088
Hex: 1B 26 6C #...# 58

#: number of copies (maximum = 32,767)

Use this command to set the number of copies printed for each page in a job. The command can occur anywhere on the page. Thus, it will be invoked for the current page and remain in effect for subsequent pages. The factory default setting is 1 copy.

LONG-EDGE (LEFT) OFFSET REGISTRATION

ESC&!#U
Decimal: 027 038 108 #...#085
Hex: 1B 26 6C #...# 55

#: number of decipoints (1/720 inch)

Default = 0
Range = -32767 to 32767

This command designates the position of the logical page across the width (short side) of the physical page. This command can be used to adjust the text position on the page to allow room for the page binding.

The value (#) is a signed number valid to 2 decimal places. The units are decipoints. Positive values cause the logical page, regardless of orientation, to move right along the width of the physical page, except on the back side (duplex print) of sheets printed in long-edge binding duplex mode, where positive values cause it to move left.

Negative values cause the logical page, regardless of orientation, to move left along the width of the physical page, except on the back side of sheets printed in long-edge binding duplex mode, where negative values cause it to move right.

SHORT-EDGE (TOP) OFFSET REGISTRATION

ESC&!#Z
Decimal: 027 038 108 #...#090
Hex: 1B 26 6C #...# 5A

#: number of decipoints (1/720 inch)

Default = 0
Range = -32767 to 32767

This command designates the position of the logical page across the length (long side) of the physical page.

The value (#) is a signed number valid to 2 decimal places. The units are decipoints. Positive values cause the logical page, regardless of orientation, to move down along the length of the physical page, except on the back side of sheets printed in short-edge binding duplex mode, where positive values cause it to move up.

Negative values cause the logical page, regardless of orientation, to move up along the length of the physical page, except on the back side of sheets printed in short-edge binding duplex mode, where negative values cause it to move down.

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