

# CENTRONICS

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The Centronics module implements a stream interface to an industry-standard Centronics printer port. This port is designed to drive Centronics-compatible devices, typically printers. The module allows you to send bytes over the parallel port, and notifies you of any device error conditions.

## Requirements

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The Centronics port is found on the Xerox 1109, which is an 1108 equipped with the Extended Processor board (marked CPE FP). It is the upper of the two connectors on the board.

The Centronics cable from the port to the printer should be wired as shown in the Introduction of this manual.

`CENTRONICS.LCOM` implements a general byte output stream. It is typically used in conjunction with a printer driver module, such as `4045XLPStream`, though it can also run by itself.

## Installation

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Load `CENTRONICS.LCOM` from the library.

## User Interface

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### Functions

`(CENTRONICS.RESET)`

[Function]

The only user-callable function in the module, it initializes the parallel port and any attached device. It should be called after the printer is powered on.

### Opening a Centronics Stream

To open a stream to the Centronics port, evaluate a form similar to the following:

```
(SETQ CENTRONICS.STREAM (OPENSTREAM ' {CENTRONICS} ' OUTPUT))
```

All bytes **BOUTed** to `CENTRONICS.STREAM` are sent to the attached printer. You may only have one stream open to the parallel port at one time; attempts to open others yield an error.

### Device Errors

When a device error is detected (e.g., printer offline, out of paper, etc.), a break window will pop up.

After resetting the device, type **RETURN** (the word, not the key) to continue. Type **STOP** to abort.

## **Limitations**

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The port is available on Xerox 1109 workstations only.

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