

# *Card Printer Programmer's Manual*



User's Manual No. 980081-001

Rev. F

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## ***FOREWORD***

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**Eltron Card Printer Products**  
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**Camarillo, CA. 93021-8706. U.S.A.**  
**Phone: +1 (805) 579-1800**  
**FAX: +1 (805) 579-1808**  
**Toll Free in US: (800) 452 4056**

**For Europe, Asia, and Pacific:**  
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## ***INTRODUCTION***

This manual describes programming commands that control operations and specify data for the following card printer models:

- P3xx Monochrome (P300 and P310)
- P3xx Color (P300 and P310)
- P4xx Duplex Color (P400 and P420)
- P500 Duplex Color with Laminator
- P600 Dual Print Station Duplex Color
- Max Secure Series Card Systems (Max3000 and Max3300)

---

***Features*** All of the covered models can print bar-codes in several formats and have resident scalable font descriptions. Also, except for the Max Secure Series, all models can include a Smart-Card Docking Station. P310 and P420s can have a Proximity Card docking Station. All models are offered with or without a Magnetic Stripe Encoder. A Serial host interface is an option on the P3xx and P4xx series, where an associated RS-232C setup Command exists. Max Secure Systems all have parallel host ports.

The programming commands control the printing process by color and by ribbon material, allowing overprinting and separate control of various multiple-overlay finishes.

**Print Engines:**

- P300 and P400—P300 print engine and P300 print engine plus duplexer, respectively
- P310 and P420—P310 print engine and P310 print engine plus duplexer, respectively
- P500 and P600—P300 print engine plus Laminator and dual P300 print engines, respectively
- Max Secure—P300 print engines on all models.

**Significant model/configuration differences related to programming include the following:**

**P3xx Monochrome** card printers have a limited command set along with an image buffer sufficient for a one-bit image mapping depth. Only imaging using the thermal transfer methodology can occur. For gray-scale images, host software must produce multiple-dot pixel matrixes sized for the desired gray-scale range (e.g., a four-by-four dot pixel matrix can produce 16 levels of gray plus white,  $[(4 \times 4)^2/16 + \text{white}]$ ).

**P3xx Color** card printers employ dye sublimation methodology for color imaging and thermal transfer methodology for imaging from resin monochrome ribbons or ribbon panels. A yellow, magenta, and cyan imaging sequence occurs using five-bit-per-dot data for imaging with three associated ribbon panels.

The black panels on Eltron-supplied ribbons with color panels have a resin coating that particularly suits bar-code and other solid image printing (i.e., no gray scale). However, resin responds poorly as a dye sublimation print medium. Therefore, the black used for gray-scale imaging comes from formulations of yellow, magenta, and cyan (YMC), which

means dye-sublimation black also has a five-bit-per-dot range (32 levels of gray). If the need for a resin-panel-generated gray scale should ever become necessary, host software must generate multiple-dot pixel matrixes as with the P3xx Monochrome.

**Standard P3xx Color Card Printers** have two image buffers—one used for color and another used for monochrome. The single color buffer requires print passes that follow each of the three downloads associated with full-color dye sublimation imaging. The single monochrome buffer requires print passes following separate downloads for resin black and for overlay varnish in situations that require different bit-maps. However, because of its durability, card areas with resin images may not require varnish for the associated ultraviolet protection. Therefore, by using a reverse imaging for varnish, the same bit-map used for resin produces a varnish overlay that omits the areas with resin. Reverse imaging also means that a full-coverage varnish can result after a clear command sent for the monochrome buffer.

**P310 (all models) and P300 Color Printers with Extended Memory** have the potential for three color buffers and two monochrome buffers. These buffers have the same uses as described for the P3xx Color above. However, more buffers means that a high probability exists that data for a complete card image can download in a single host access. With a complete image resident in the printer, multiple card prints can occur at a much faster rate.

**P4xx's** have all the same implementations as the P3xx Color, including Extended Memory as a P400 option. Because P4xx's have a Card-Flip assembly, these models respond to commands related to duplex printing. P420 Card-Flip Stations can reject cards into an associated hopper and includes related commands. P420s also have an interface that supports the programming of Proximity Cards (also called Contactless Cards).

**P500s** have all the same implementations as a P400, including Extended Memory, Smart Card stations, and Magnetic Encoders as options. How-

ever, P500s also have a Card Laminator station. Laminators serve as heat-transfer devices for material or panels contained on Laminator Ribbons. A variety of these kinds of ribbons exist:

- Ribbons with die-cut panels can carry die-cut panel sizes that substantially cover the card
- Die cuts with cutouts for Smart card contacts, and smaller die cuts that serve to avoid magnetic stripes
- Preprinted die cuts can contain security devices such as graphics, holograms, or optically-encoded patches.

Laminators also serve a thermal-transfer function of ribbon coated material instead of the die-cut panels. However, only a total card application can occur. Because the print station can have a dye sublimation ribbon with a varnish panel, many choices exist for selection of protective coatings. Additional commands exist to implement Laminator use.

Whereas P3xx's and P4xx's have single CPU boards, P500s employ two—one controls printing and card feeds (Module 1 operations); the other controls card flips and lamination (Module 2 operations). Because of a master-slave arrangement, Module 1 also receives Laminator commands. However, all commands destined for Module 2 require a #<sup>9</sup><sub>NC</sub>1 preface, for example:

<sup>9</sup><sub>C</sub>#<sup>9</sup><sub>NC</sub>1<sup>9</sup><sub>NC</sub>+TC<sup>9</sup><sub>NC</sub>165<sub>4</sub>]

**P600s** have two complete Print Station modules (including associated CPU Boards) separated by a Card-Flip assembly. Although controlled by a common parallel host interface, both Print Stations respond to the same command set (with some additional positioning parameters and some differing responses to positioning commands). To simplify memory management, both Print Stations have Extended Memory as a standard feature.

Overall, the same commands apply, but the Card Feed command applies only to the print station attached to the Card Feed assembly (Module 1). Similarly, the Card Flip commands apply only to the Print Station closest to the Card Output (Module

2). A communication protocol serves to direct commands through the common parallel interface lines to either Module.

While not being designed around a master-slave arrangement, Module 2 commands can nevertheless be sent to Module 1. As with P500s, Module 2 commands sent to Module 1 require a #<sup>5</sup><sub>0</sub>1 preface. Either module can have a Smart-Card Station and/or a Magnetic Stripe Encoder, with an associated command set. However, Eltron recommends Module 1 as the best place to locate these options. Also, the faster path for commands is the direct route.

**Max Secure Systems** all have Extended Memory and can include the following:

- Print Station Module (Max3000 or Max3300)
- Laminator and Die Cutter Module
- Magnetic Encoder Module

None of the media used in the other printer models is intended for use in this model. Instead, the following are used:

#### **Cards**

The cards placed in the Input Hopper are oversized White Chip Cards, either with or without a Magnetic Stripe and with or without a printable surface.

An additional card material is used. This clear material feeds from a roll, and the printer has a Shear that delivers card-sized sections to the card path.

Max Secure Systems use 0.022-inch thick White Cards for two-layer laminates and 0.015-inch thick White Cards for three-layer laminates.

## Ribbons

Five imaging ribbons are offered: A YMC ribbon for dye sublimation only printing, a YMCKr ribbon for those that need Kr (black resin) imaging on one surface only, and a YMCKr\_Kr ribbon for those that need Kr images to appear on two surfaces. Monochrome ribbons KsO and KrO can also be used.

Also, destination control of commands can be used, as follows:

<sup>a</sup><sub>c</sub>#<sup>s</sup><sub>Kr</sub>11<sup>s</sup><sub>Kr</sub>*command* - directs an associated command to the Print Station.

Printing occurs on Clear and White Chip Card media components. Color and black resin images can print on the Clear Card, and Black Resin images can print on the White Card.

**Max3000 Systems** laminate the Clear and White media into two-layer composites. These systems cannot perform two jobs simultaneously. For example, the printer cannot receive downloaded data with printing in process, and printing cannot occur with downloading in process. Because of this, programming should employ the M operator to concatenate printing for all panels within one command string (e.g., M 1 IS 0[IS 1[IS 2[I[MO[MF[I[MO).

**Max3300 Systems** can add another Clear Card that, while remaining unprinted, protects White Card images, including any security devices. Therefore, users can produce either two- or three-layer composites using these systems. Unlike the Max3000s, these systems *can* receive data downloads while printing. Therefore, optimum speed can result by alternating downloads with print commands, so that one process can overlap the other.

Errors sensed during a series of download and print commands results in the assertion of BUSY, during which time, the bad card gets ejected, the ribbon gets synchronized, and the printing sequence resumes using the data associated with the rejected

card. None of these operations require issuance of additional commands.

**The following describes a typical Max Secure System operation:**

A Clear Card feeds first. This card receives color imaging associated with the YMC ribbon panels, and if desired, also from a Kr panel. After imaging, the Clear Card goes to the output of the Print Station.

A White Card feeds next. Any image placed on this card normally depends on the availability of an unused Kr ribbon panel. A YMCKr ribbon used to place a black resin image on the Clear Card would not have a Kr panel left for imaging on the White Card without first skipping over a whole set of color panels. For Kr on both cards, a YMCKrKr ribbon should be used.

After receiving any images, the White Card also travels to the output of the Print Station and comes to rest on top of the Clear Card. As with a Max3000, these cards go on to the Laminator. For three-layer cards, a second Clear Card enters the card path. This Clear Card first transitions in and out of a Card Flip Station before going on to the Laminator Module. This card flip serves to place the side of the Clear Card with the bonding agent in contact with the White Card.

Note that Max3300s have a lever for users to select between two- and three-layer composites. Users must also load cards having the related thickness. The +LAYER command also exists for use in specifying the number of layers.

Card alignment occurs at the first station in the Laminator and Die Cutter assembly. From there, the cards get laminated and then trimmed to the standard card size. A heat sink between the Laminator and the Die Cutter reduces card temperatures that became elevated during lamination. During this transition, a speed setting for card cooling takes effect.

Notably, only up-facing surfaces receive images. After lamination, an inside surface has the image placed on the Clear Card. Viewing from the back-

side produces a mirrored picture of the Clear Card image.

**Max Secure Magnetic Encoder Modules**, when part of Max Secure Systems, receive card composites after lamination and die cutting. Encoder commands for this printer duplicate those used by the other printer models. For Max Secure configurations without the Magnetic Encoder Module, cards exit the system after a die cut. Since the magnetic stripes on White Cards need direct contact with read/write heads, stripe encoding must only occur during production of two-layer cards.

---

**Related Publications:** Associated User's and Quick Help Guides for P-Series Printers, available in various languages

User's and Quick Help Guides for Max Secure Series

Associated Maintenance Manuals for P-Series printers (Available in English Only)

Maintenance Manual for Max Secure (Available in English Only)



---

**Conventions** In this manual, the following conventions apply:

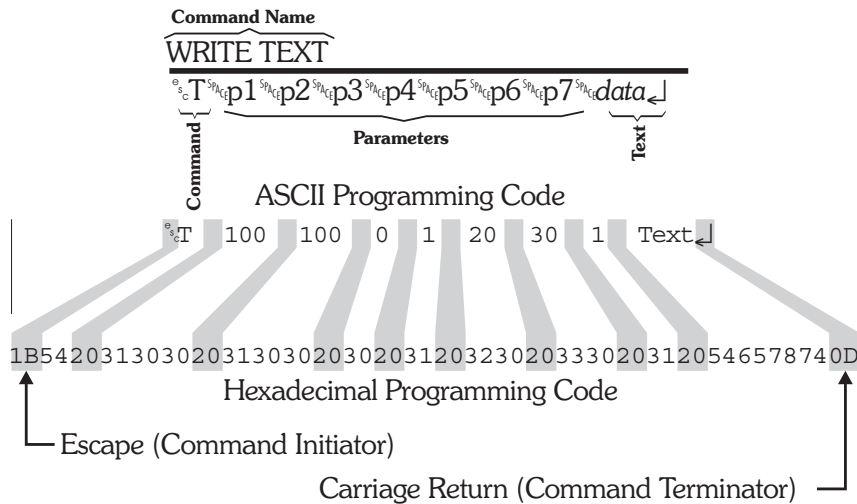
- $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_c$  Escape Key (Indicates command characters follow)
- $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_{\text{SPACE}}$  Space Key (Delimiter used to separate commands from parameters and parameters from other parameters)
- $p_1 \sim p_n$  Required parameters that follow some commands, separated by space delimiters
- $\{p_1 \sim p_n\}$  Optional Parameters
- $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_{\text{ENTER}}$  Enter Key (Indicates the end of a Command and Parameter string)
- $\rightarrow$  Command string continues on next line (no line feed at this text wrap)
- data* Specifies where to place data in an associated Command String
- [ Linking delimiter when used with “M” and “m” commands, which see;  
Also, placed in front of  $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_c$ , and  $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_{\text{ENTER}}$  to specify data instead of control characters
- # Placed after  $\text{\textasciitilde{}}_c$  and followed by number to direct command to other than module receiving command.

**Basic Command Syntax** Each command begins with a Command Initiator (the “Escape” character). For some models, directing characters follow the Escape character.

The Command Initiator serves to mark the character(s) immediately following as command characters. Command characters vary between one and seven characters (or up to seven bytes of hexadecimal data).

Some commands then have one or more additional parameters to supply the printer with information necessary to complete the command. A “Space” character delineates individual command control parameters. The following Text command shows a typical example.

Each command line requires a Carriage Return (↵) character (13 dec. or 0D hex.). A single Line Feed (LF) character (Dec. 10 or 0A Hex.) is ignored by the printer when it immediately follows the command terminating Carriage Return. Most PC based systems send a CR/LF when the Enter key is pressed.



---

**Command Editor** Any ASCII based text editor can serve to create simple command files. In the DOS environment, MS-DOS EDIT offers a good choice. To execute the file, use the Print command from the editor, or from DOS, the COPY command, to send the file to the printer. Examples using the COPY command are:

```
COPY file name.ext LPT1 ↵  
or  
COPY file name.ext COM1 ↵
```

For more information on the use of the COPY command, refer to a DOS software manual.

---



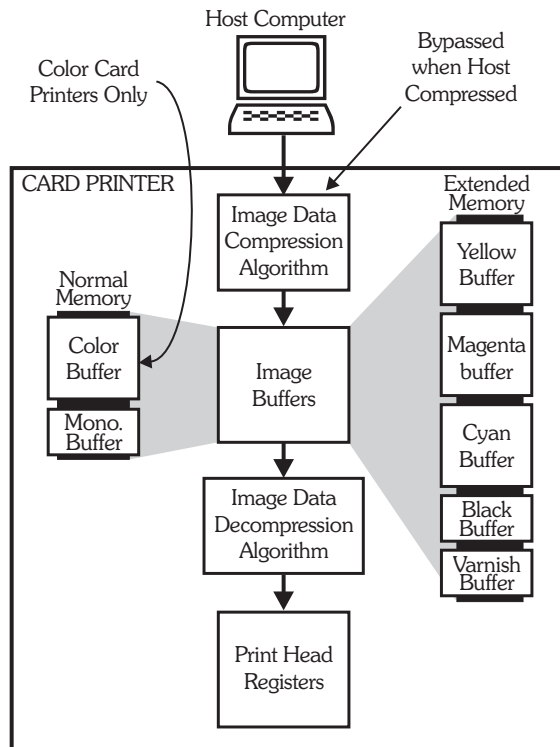
Some text editing programs can cause printer errors by adding extra characters or by changing existing characters when generating a near ASCII formatted file.

*Example: A common ASCII editor, BRIEF, changes all NUL characters to the SPACE or TAB characters with a file save. The graphic data for print intensity level "0" is the NUL character. This causes the resulting file to print with horizontal lines in all graphics with solid white, i.e., no print, areas. Other editors may add a SUB character (Dec. 26 or 1A Hex.), which causes the printer to error.*

---

**Memory Arrangements** Figure 1-1 shows elements involved in image data flow. Note that three Image Memory configurations exist and that Image Memory always contains compressed data. Ideally, hosts should send compressed data, which requires a compatible compression algorithm. This can substantially reduce the data transfer times of most image files.

**Figure 1-1**  
**Memory Arrangements**



Monochrome printers have no color buffers. Color printers without Expanded Memory have single color and monochrome buffers, requiring a print pass after each color download for yellow, magenta, and cyan data, and as stated previously, the same operation for monochrome when black and varnish require different bit-maps. In contrast, Extended Memory makes possible single downloads containing commands that specify the contents of all five buffers. All P310 and P420

Printers have the equivalent of an Extended Memory. For Max Secure Systems, which have no varnish requirements, the varnish buffer supplies the bit map for the White Card image.

---

***Bit-Map  
Compression  
Algorithm***

Characteristically, a bit-map compression algorithm flags data segments as either repeating or non-repeating, specifies the bytes repeated, and the number of repeats. For these card printers, compression applies to byte-wide bit-map segments, which the host sends with the PS, GS, Z, and vZ commands. The PS and GS commands include parameters specifying a buffer (YMCK). Monochrome commands Z and vZ send associated bit-map data to the black (K) and Varnish buffers, respectively. All of these commands include parameters that specify whether or not the command applies to compressed data. For recognition by the card printer, compressed data must conform to the following rules:

**Rule 1.** When high, the most significant bit (the flag bit) of a two-byte sequence indicates that the second byte repeats. The remaining seven bits of the first byte specify the number of repeats, allowing a field-specification of from zero to 127 repeats.

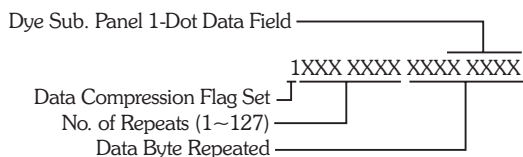
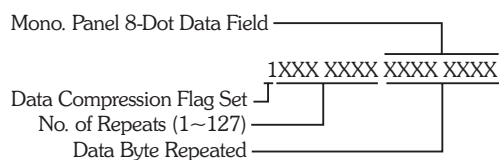
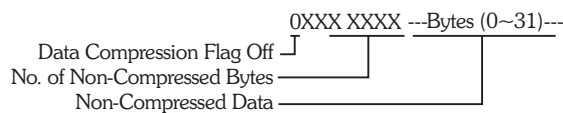
**Rule 2.** When low, the most significant bit of a data sequence indicates that the remaining seven bits of the byte specify the number of the following bytes that represent non-repeating image data. However, only from zero to 31 repeats can occur.

**Rule 3.** The first byte in the data field of any command specifying a compressed bit-map must have the compression flag high, even if a one must be entered as the number of bytes repeated.

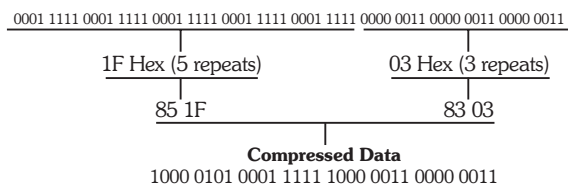
**Rule 4.** No other algorithm can be used to compress image data for this card printer.

Figure 1-2 includes examples of data strings employing compression.

**Figure 1-2**  
**Bit-Map**  
**Compression**



### Compression Example 1



### Compression Example 2

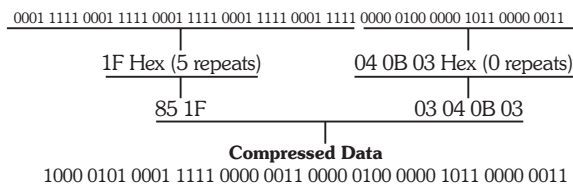
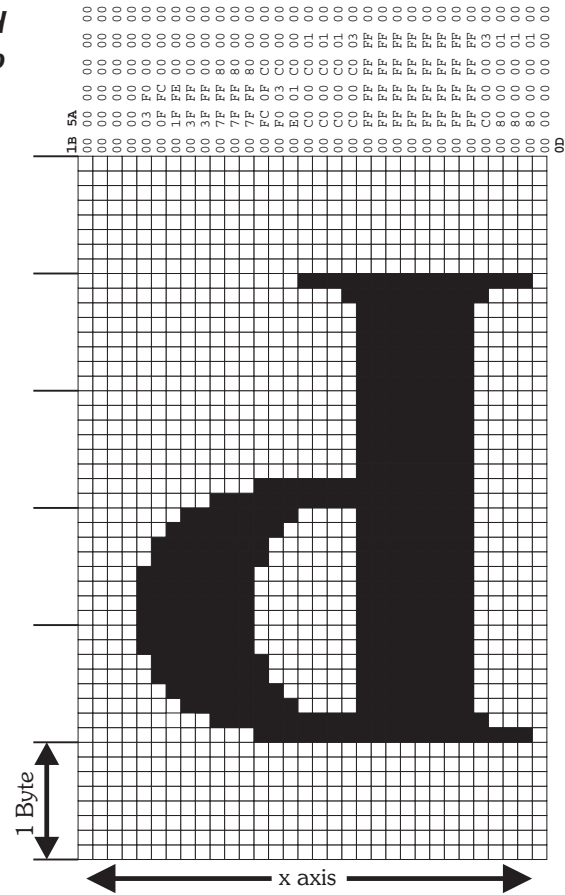
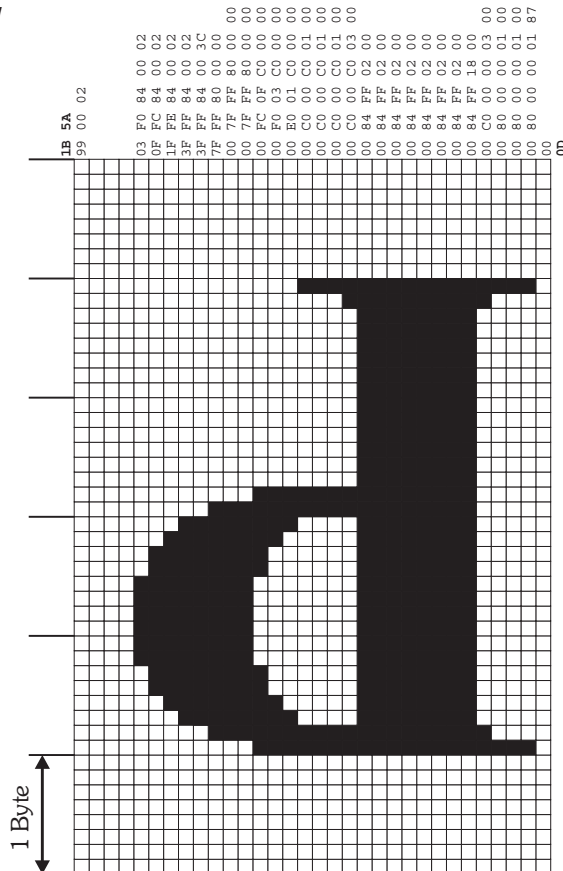


Figure 1-3 shows how a bit-map relates to associated non-compressed data. Figure 1-4 shows the same bit-map in association with compressed data

**Figure 1-3**  
**Non-Compressed**  
**Bit-Map**



**Figure 1-4.  
Compressed  
Bit-Map**

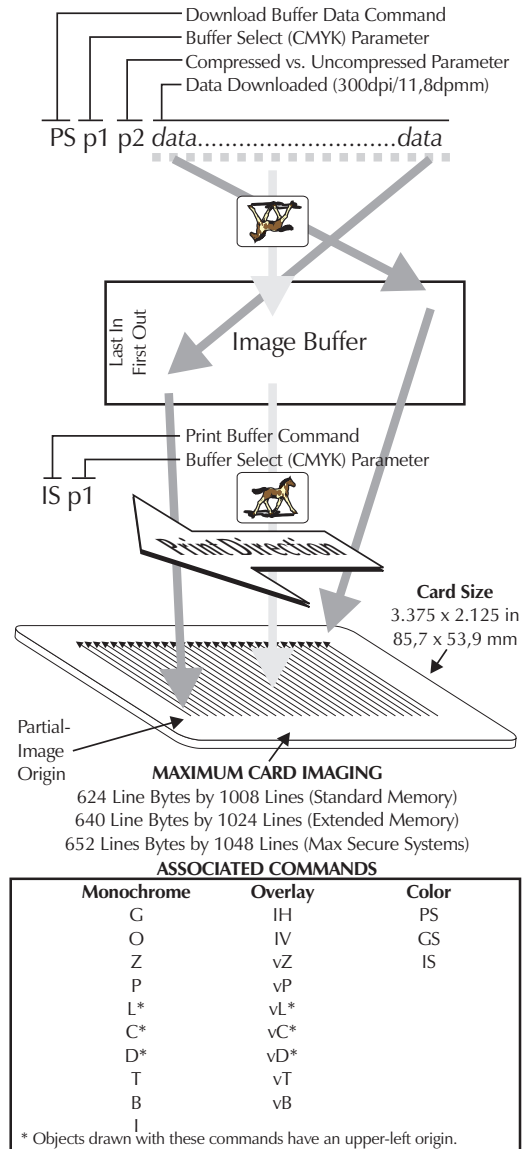


**Data-to Card Mapping** Figure 1-5 shows a card consistent with the orientation of a card traveling right to left in the card path of a printer. From this perspective, the data field of the PS, GS, Z, and vZ commands first becomes a memory-resident image in a designated image buffer. The Image Buffer, as shown, fills from top to bottom and from right to left. Because the Image Buffer has a last-in-first-out arrangement, card images build from bottom to top and from left to right.



This suits the front-to-back loading of Print Head Registers and the right-to-left card movement during print cycles. As noted in the figure, an object mirrored in both axis in the data sent to the buffer would print normally on the card.

**Figure 1-5**  
**Data Sent verses**  
**Card Mapping**



***Color Data  
Considerations***

Color data always enters a color image buffer, either as yellow, magenta, cyan, or in the case of a KsO ribbon, dye sublimation black. If only one color image buffer exists, the command designates the buffer differently according to the buffer specification parameter in the command. Note that the specification for dye sublimation only applies to images produced using a dye sublimation black ribbon. All data associated with these commands represent five-bit-per-dot imaging.

Whether downloading data for a partial image (GS command) or for a complete card image (PS command) the data must match the associated card area. For partial images (sometimes called logos because of a typical application) the GS command parameters specify the area imaged. This assures proper line breaks. Any either over- or under-flow produces an error. Note that the previous figure shows different full-card image areas for Standard, Extended, and Max Secure memory. For proper appearance, color images should not overprint other card printing.

***Max Secure  
Monochrome Data  
Considerations***

Max Secure printers have no need to print varnish. However, the varnish buffer is used for monochrome data. Therefore, all data commands for monochrome data require the “v” preface. A subsequent “I” command prints data stored in the varnish buffer. Note that the IV command serves to indicate the presence of a ribbon with varnish panels that then get bypassed.

***P3xx~P600  
Monochrome Data  
Considerations***

P-Series printers always download monochrome data to a monochrome image buffer. Monochrome data commands prefaced with a “v” designate the varnish buffer. Commands without the “v” preface designate the buffer used for resin printing. If only one monochrome image buffer exists, the command designates the buffer differently depending on the associated data.

However, most color imaging does not need a pre-established varnish buffer to apply the varnish coating. If no varnish buffer is downloaded, the printer defaults to the resin buffer for the application of varnish. This works for three reasons. First, color

ribbons have resin black followed by varnish panels, both limited to monochrome data. Second, the primary use of varnish is to protect the dye sublimation imaging from ultraviolet radiation. Third, because resin may need no varnish protection, an inverted-resin bit-map can apply varnish.

The IV command has a parameter setting to produce an inverted data print. In summary, leave the resin buffer unchanged after printing resin. Then, issue an IV command for inverted data to print the varnish. Note that full-coverage varnish, as required for ultraviolet protection using dye-sublimation black ribbons, requires only a buffer clear command (F) followed by the inverted print command.

A watermark simulation can result by, in effect, punching holes in the varnish image. A hologram transfer from an associated ribbon occurs by printing a varnish buffer that images the area of the ribbon containing the hologram. Both of these images require data previously downloaded into the Varnish buffer.

**Monochrome graphic objects** can download into either the resin or varnish buffer. As with the preceding, a “v” preface designates a buffer that prints with the “IV” command, and commands without the “v” preface designate a buffer that prints with the “I” command. Commands exist for downloads of the following graphic objects:

P/vP	Write Dot
L/vL	Write Line
C/vC	Write Box
D/vD	Write Diagonal Line
T/vT	Write Text
B/vB	Write Bar-Code

Rotational parameters (clockwise) exist for the following:

D/vD	0, 90, or 180°
Center of Rotation	lower-left
T/vT	90° Increments (0~270)
Center of Rotation	lower-left or object center
B/vB	90° Increments (0~270)
Center of Rotation	lower-left or object center

**Monochrome bit-maps** require entry of two commands—first an initializing command (G) and then the associated data command. The “G” command specifies image placements associated with the following commands:

O/vO	Download Single Line
Z/vZ	Download Multiple Lines

Figure 1-5 shows the relationship between data sent by “O” or “Z” commands and an area previously established by a “G” command. The “G” command can also define data as single bits (i.e., image dots).

With dots selected as the data mode in the “G” command, data sent to the printer must, nevertheless, finish on an even byte boundary. When necessary, fill in zero bits to bytes that do not reach the boundary specified in the “G” command.

Data is handled in bytes (0~255 decimal or hexadecimal 00~FF) by the printer.

**Bar Codes** Bar codes vary in capacity, size, character sets, and density. Several industries have adopted specific coding and bar code formats. Verify that the selected bar code matches a code supported by the scanning equipment.

All the bar codes supported by the card printers have the data characters, 2 quiet zones, and a start and stop character. The bar codes can include text as part of the printed bar code. Some of the bar codes include a printer-generated check digit (or data check sum) character automatically or as an option.



**A command error condition** occurs when image data extends beyond the addressable range of the image buffer. The bar code and text fields must remain within the addressable area of the image buffer. Each one of the bar codes, described in the Command B and Appendix A, have a formula to determine a bar code length.

---



Selecting a larger bar code width multiplier and a higher ratio of the narrow to wide bars (and spaces where applicable), improves the general readability of a given bar code. Additionally, for a given bar code, wider bars and spaces increase the depth of field for improved performance with moving-beam lasers and other non-contact scanning devices .

---

---

**Control Commands** The card printer can perform a variety of print, card, ribbon, and head movement and control command operations.

- Print Controls**
1. **Intensity** - Adjusts the amount of heat used to transfer maximum intensity color or Monochrome dot.
  2. **Contrast** (Color Only) - Adjusts the minimum amount of heat used to print dots at the lowest color setting.
  3. **Image Positioning** - Locates the printable image on the card.
  4. **Head** - Raises the print head to move the card and lowers it to print. *Not normally required.*
  5. **Print Test Cards**

- Card Movement**
1. **Print Ready** position - The card moves to a position just prior to the card edge sensor.
  2. **Exit Card** - The printer exits the card to the Output Hopper or tray. Printers with multiple stations, exit the card to the next station.

3. **Duplex** - Flips the card over using the Card-Flip Assembly, initiated by the 'MF' command.

4. **Ready Smart Card** - Positions a Smart Card under the Smart Card Docking station with the contacts of a Smart Card chip engaged.

5. **Encode Ready** position - The card moves to a position just prior to the magnetic encoding station read/write head.

**Ribbon** 1. **Reset Ribbon** - Sets the ribbon panel to the first panel (color - yellow panel) or cycles the continuous color Monochrome ribbon.

2. **Select Panel** - Resets, then selects a specific ribbon panel.

---

**Card Handling Process** The following outlines a recommended card handling sequence.

1. Smart Card Programming - Option
2. Magnetically Encode Card - Option
3. Print Card  
For color printing:  
Yellow  
Magenta  
Cyan  
Black  
Clear Varnish or Hologram Transfer
4. Duplex - Flip Card - Option
5. Print Card Backside - Option  
For color printing:  
Yellow  
Magenta  
Cyan  
Black  
Clear Veneer  
Hologram Lamination
6. Eject Card



**DO NOT** print, veneer, or laminate over the magnetic stripe or Smart Card contacts. This can impair subsequent associated read and write operations and *must* be controlled by the programming.

**Batch Processing** The “M” and “m” commands serve as command linking operators. A string of linked commands may execute one (1) time or multiple times. The “[” character acts as delimiter for linked commands in the associated syntax.

For the complete “M” command syntax, and an example, see M/m in the Command Reference,

**Sample Card** Figure 5-6 shows a printed card along with the commands used.

**Figure 1-6**  
**Sample Monochrome Card**

Commands	Descriptions
%+RIB%4.]	Ribbon Type
%+C%3.]	Thermal Intensity
%F.]	Clear Monochrome Buffer
%B%512%600%4%0%2%4%100%1%TEST.]	Write Bar Code
%T%512%75%4%0%0%35%1%Company Name, Incorporated.]	Write Text
%T%200%200%0%1%0%50%1%FIRST NAME.]	Write Text
%T%200%300%0%1%0%50%1%LAST NAME.]	Write Text
%T%200%400%0%1%0%50%1%ACCOUNT NUMBER.]	Write Text
%T%65%320%7%1%0%50%0%Reverse text.]	Write Text
%L%15%80%970%4%1%.]	Write Line
%L.]	Print Monochrome

Reverse text

Company Name, Incorporated

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

ACCOUNT NUMBER

---

**Port Signals** P3xx and P4xx printers have an optional serial port. Serial equipped printers communicate with the host over an RS-232C interface using ACK/NAK flow control. Parallel ports are the standard. P500, P600, and Max Secure card printers have no serial option.

Card printers *with* Parallel Ports communicate with the host using the following signal lines:

<b>DATA (0~7)</b>	Eight bits of parallel data.
<b>STROBE (Pin 1)</b>	A host signal that indicates stable data.
<b>ACK/ (Pin 10)</b>	A printer signal that indicates data received. The host drops the STROBE signal in response.
<b>BUSY (Pin 11)</b>	A printer signal indicates an inability to accept commands due to ongoing processing. P500 and P600 card printers have two processors. A BUSY response from one processor does not imply a BUSY at the other processor.
<b>READY (Pin 13)</b>	A printer signal that indicate its availability to receive host commands.
<b>PAPER ERROR (Pin 12)</b>	Card printers report errors to the host by encoding the PAPER ERROR and ERROR lines (see Error Line Coding below).
<b>ERROR/ (Pin 15)</b>	Card printers report errors to the host by encoding the PAPER ERROR and ERROR lines (see Error Line Coding below).
<b>INIT (Pin 14)</b>	Only used by P600 card printers, where a high (1) directs commands to Module 1 (Master) and a low (0) directs commands to Module 2 (Slave).

---

### Error Line Coding

Paper Error	Error/	Description
0	1	No Error
0	0	Syntax Error
1	1	Ribbon End/Empty Feeder
1	0	Mechanical Error
Note: To clear an Error, Send: 1B 2E 0D Hex		



## ***COMMAND REFERENCE***

This section contains descriptions of printer commands used to print, magnetically encode, position, and control card movements. The following table groups commands by function. Note printer applicability to avoid using commands that do not apply to the targeted model(s).

## Command List

COMMAND	DESCRIPTION	P3xx Monochrome	P3xx/Color	P4xx Duplex Color	P500 Laminate	P600 Dual Print	Max Secure	PAGE
Setup Commands								
+O	Offset Start Print Position (X-axis)	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-10
+OY	Offset Start Print Position (Y-axis)	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-11
+OLP	Offset Overlamine Patch				•			2-12
+EC	Print Length (X-axis)	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-13
+LAYER	Choose Number of Card Layers (Max3300)						•	2-14
!R	Print Head Resistance	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-15
!FF	Set Ribbon Color Sequence		•	•	•	•	•	2-22
+RIB	Ribbon Type		•	•	•	•	•	2-23
+BS	Set Black Speed	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-30
+C	Adjust Thermal Transfer Intensity Level	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-50
+CV	Adjust Overlay Application Intensity Level		•	•	•	•		2-52
+\$L	Adjust Independent Color Intensity Level		•	•	•	•	•	2-57
+CH	Adjust Hologram Application Intensity		•	•	•	•		2-61
+\$C	Adjust Independent Color Contrast Level		•	•	•	•	•	2-58
+OS	Offset (X-axis) Smart Card	•	•	•	•	•		2-78
SXY	Center Image Maps (P310)		•					2-79
+OCL	Offset Contactless (Proximity Card)(P420)			•				2-80
MCL	Move Contactless ( $\pm 1$ -Step)(P420)			•				2-81
CRB	Card Rejects for REJECTED BOX FULL Error (P420)			•				2-82
+RB	Hopper Selection for Rejected Cards (P420)			•				2-83
Tests								
A	Print Test Card	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-33
IM	Print Color Test Card		•	•	•	•	•	2-31
IMB	Print Test Card	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-32
Initialize Commands								
.	Clears Error Status Lines	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-5
R	Reset Printer	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-6
F	Clear Monochrome Image Buffers	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-34
\$F	Clear Color Bit-maps		•	•	•	•	•	2-53
\$FP	Clear Specified Bit Map (P310/P420)		•	•			•	2-54

COMMAND	DESCRIPTION	P3xx Monochrome	P3xx/Color	P4xx Duplex Color	P500 Laminate	P600 Dual Print	Max Secure	PAGE
&R	Reset Encoder	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-63
&W	Change Encoding Direction	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-68
&D	Change Encoder Track Write Density	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-69
&CDER	Custom Encoder Read Density	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-70
&CDEW	Custom Encoder Write Density	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-72
&C	Set Encoder Coercivity	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-75
+B	Serial Interface Rate (Serial I/O)	•	•	•			•	2-84
+X	Change Control Character (Serial I/O)	•	•	•			•	2-86
SF	Synchronize Film (P500 Overlaminate Only)				•			2-90
TF	Film Type (P500 Laminator)				•			2-91
+TC	Set Temperature (P500 Laminator)				•		•	2-92
+DLAMI	Set Lamination Configuration (P500)				•			2-93
+VL	Set Lamination Speed				•		•	2-98
+VC	Reduce Color Print Speed (P310/P420/Max3300)		•	•				2-99
RCBC	Reset Rejected Card Box to Zero (P420)			•				2-10 0
Printer Query Commands								
V	Check Printer Type/Version	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-8
!V	Return Operational Parameter (Max3300)						•	2-9
E	Retransmit Last Response (Serial I/O)	•	•	•			•	2-85
!X	Check Command Initiator (Serial I/O)	•	•	•				2-87
&P	Check Card Presence - Encoder (Serial I/O)	•	•	•				2-88
%CLN	Check Due-for-Cleaning Set (P310/P420/Max3300)		•	•			•	2-89
Image Data Download Commands								
G	Initialize Monochrome Graphic	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-35
O/vO	Load Single Line Graphic Dots Download	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-36
Z/vZ	Multiple Line of Graphic Dots Download	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-38
P/vP	Write Dot	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-40
L/vL	Write Line	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-41
C/vC	Write Box	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-42
D/vD	Write Diagonal Line	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-43
T/vT	Write Text	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-44

COMMAND	DESCRIPTION	P3xx Monochrome	P3xx/Color	P4xx Duplex Color	P500 Laminated	P600 Dual Print	Max Secure	PAGE
B/vB	Write Bar Code	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-39
PS	Download Color Image Data		•	•	•	•	•	2-55
GS	Download Color Graphic		•	•	•	•	•	2-56
<b>Card Positioning Commands</b>								
MC	Clear Media Path	•	•	•	•	•		2-7
MI	Input Card To Print Position	•	•	•	•	•		2-17
MIB	Reverse Card to Print Position	•	•	•	•	•		2-18
ME	Exit Card To Output (Hopper)	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-19
MB	Back Card Into Feeder	•	•	•	•	•		2-20
MO	Exit Loaded Card To Output	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-21
MF	Flip-over the card 180°			•	•	•	•	2-62
MF	Switch to White Card (Max3000)						•	2-62
&T	Eject Card with Magnetic Encoder Option	•	•	•	•	•		2-74
MS	Move Smart Card to Programming Station	•	•	•	•	•		2-76
MRB	Move Card to Reject Box (P420)			•				2-77
<b>Print Commands</b>								
IS	Print Card Panel (YMC)		•	•	•	•	•	2-59
I	Print Card Monochrome Panel	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-48
IV	Print Varnish Overlay		•	•	•	•	•	2-51
IH	Print Hologram Overlay		•	•	•	•		2-60
J	Print Multiple Cards "N" times	•	•	•	•	•		2-49
<b>Magnetic Stripe Encoder Commands</b>								
&E	Encode Single Data Track	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-64
&B	Buffer Track Data	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-65
&E*	Encode All Data Tracks	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-66
&L	Read Single Track Data	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-67
<b>Miscellaneous Commands</b>								
M/m	Multiple Command Strings	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-16
!M	Move Print Head Up	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-25
!D	Move Print Head Down	•	•	•	•	•	•	2-26
!SA	Self Adjust (P310/420/Max3300)		•	•			•	2-27
CLNCARD	Set Cleaning Card Sequence (P310/P420/Max3300)		•	•			•	2-28
CLEAN	Start Cleaning Card Sequence (P310/P420/Max3300)		•	•			•	2-29

•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
		Max

## . Command - Clear Error Status

<b>Description</b>	Clears the Paper Error (Paper Fault) and Error (Fault) printer return signal status lines. Note that this command does not execute when sent via the Driver. Send the command directly to the printer port.
<b>Syntax</b>	ESC C
<b>Parameters</b>	None

- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## R Command - Reset

---

**Description** Reinitializes printer—also the Max3000 Printer module.

To reset another Max3000 module, direct the command to the Laminator/Die Cutter Station, or Encoder.

**Syntax**  $\text{^cR}\text{↵}$

**Syntax (Max3000 Laminator)**  $\text{^c}\text{#}\text{11}\text{^cR}\text{↵}$

**Parameters** None

•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
•	Max	

## MC Command - Clear Media Path

---

**Description** Sends any card in the Media Path of the printer to the Output Tray.

*Note: A Ribbon Error can leave a card in the printer. If issued at Power-On, this command assures a clear media path for subsequent operations.*

**Syntax** `ESC MC`

**Parameters** None

## V Command - Check Printer Type/Version

**Description** This command serves to check the model (and options) of a printer. Serial port connected printers respond with a model number and firmware version.

Parallel port connected printers respond with NACK when the 'V' command parameter received does not match the configuration. A matching printer parameter code produces an ACK response.

*Note that parallel-connected color printers do not report firmware and model. For this information, use the "A" command.*

**Syntax**  $\text{V}\{\text{p1}\}$   
 p1 = Optional Configuration Parameter (for Parallel I/O)  
 P3xx, P400, P500, and P600 Printers

None	SN<7000 Monochrome printers only.
10	P3xxCF
12	Magnetic Encoder Installed
13	Smart-Card Docking Installed
14	P400CF
20	Extended Memory Option Installed
30	Magnetic Encoder with expanded encoder command set. (Serial numbers > 5000)
50	Monochrome printer with Parallel or Serial Port (Serial numbers > 7000).
70	P500 Printer
80	P600 Printer
100	P310 Printer

### Max Secure Printers

80	Encoder and Laminator
81	Laminator only
82	Encoder only
83	Printer
85	Max3300



## !V Command - Return Operational Parameter

**Description** Returns value for a selected parameter.

*Note that this command only applies to Max3300 Printer and Laminator Modules.*

**Syntax**  $\text{!V}\{\text{SP}_{\text{p1}}\}\text{↵}$   
p1 = Requested Parameter

Where for Printer Module:

- None = Return Black Printing Parameters
- 0 = Return Black Printing Parameters
- 1 = Return X Offset
- 2 = Return Y Offset
- 3 = Return Print Head Resistance
- 4 = Return X offset for Clear Card Material
- 5 = (Not Used)
- 6 = Card Layers Set (0 for 2; 1 for 3)
- 7 = Return First Layer Cut Offset
- 8 = Return Third Layer Cut Offset

For Laminator Module:

- 0 = Bottom Roller Temp. (Layer Configuration Dependant)
- 1 = Die Cutter Offset (!CM 08)
- 2 = Lamination Speed (Layer Configuration Dependant)
- 3 = Good Lamination Counter
- 4 = Error Counter
- 5 = Movement Speed
- 6 = Idle Time in Standby Mode
- 7 = Standby Mode Temp.
- 8 = Layer Configuration (0 for 2; 1 for 3)
- 9 = Top Roller Temp. Setting (Layer Configuration Dependant)

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## +O Command - Print Offset X-axis

---

**Description** Alters the horizontal (X-axis) start print offset point, in dots.

**Syntax**  $^a_c + 0^{s_{p1}} p1 \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start print offset, in dots:

Where:

10 = Default (Std Memory)  
 10 = Default (Max3000)  
 8 = Default (Expanded Memory)  
 0~20 = Range (1~20 for Max Secure)

## +OY Command - Print Offset Y-axis

**Description** Offsets the vertical (Y-axis) start print location in dots.

**Syntax**  $^{\circ}_{\circ} + OY^{s_{MGT}} p1 \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Vertical (Y-axis) offset, in dots

Where:

15 = Default (Standard Memory)  
 6 = Default (Extended Memory)  
 6 = Default (Max)

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
P4xx  
• P500  
P600  
Max

## +OLP Command - Offset Overlamine Patch

**Description** Specifies the relationship between card positions and Ribbon Sync Markers used to place Lamination Patches on cards.

Note that except for the first patch, the firmware can use Ribbon Sync Marker sensing in concert with Flag Sensor Increment sensing to determine Ribbon Advance Step requirements for patch applications. However, a Ribbon Initialization leaves the firmware without an associated history for Ribbon Step requirements. Because of this, the firmware needs a beginning step value for use only to position the ribbon after an Initialization.

*Note: This command only applies to P500 Laminator Stations and ribbons with Sync Markers.*

**Syntax**  $\overset{a}{s}_c + OLP \overset{59_{K_{\text{E}}}}{p1} \overset{59_{K_{\text{C}}}}{p2} \overset{59_{K_{\text{E}}}}{p3} \downarrow$

**Parameters**

- p1 = Card Offset Count from Ribbon Sync. Marker sense to the point p2 takes effect. Only used to synchronize lamination patches that follow Initializations
- p2 = Offset between where patch applications start
- p3 = Count where patch applications end

**Default Settings**  $\overset{a}{s}_c + OLP \overset{59_{K_{\text{E}}}}{110} \overset{59_{K_{\text{C}}}}{140} \overset{59_{K_{\text{E}}}}{90} \downarrow$

## +EC Command - End of Print

**Description** Specifies a point, beyond which, no card printing occurs. Print stations with associated Extended Memory installed have storage for 1024 lines of imaging, which exceeds the x-axis image area on the cards.

The parameter for End of Print causes the print head to raise at the end-of-card point, not the end of data. If left down beyond the end of card, the print head can shear the ribbon as the print head abruptly drops below the surface of the card. Note that higher values of p1 result in shortened line counts.

**Syntax**  $\text{ESC} + \text{EC} \text{SPR} \text{p1} \text{LF}$

**Parameters** p1 = line count for end-of-print

Where:

8 = default (standard)  
 0 = default (Max3000)  
 0~24=range

**Example** The following example sets the End of Print to 8 (the default value).

$\text{ESC} + \text{EC} \text{SPR} 8 \text{LF}$

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
P4xx  
P500  
P600  
• Max

## +LAYER Command - Choose Number of Card Layers

---

**Description** Specifies creation of two- or three-layer cards

*Note that this command only applies to Max3300 Systems. When sent, both the Printer and Laminator receive this command.*

**Syntax** `^c+LAYER^p1^`

**Parameters** p1 = Number of Layers

Where:

0 = Two Layers

1 = Three Layers

## !R Command - Print Head Resistance

**Description** Enters manufacture's average resistance that appears on the print head label. Note that replacement to a print head with 10-micron glass can produce faint printing if not offset (typically from between 180 and 225 ohms). An offset that optimizes print quality should be found.

*Note: This setting interacts with the following commands:*

+C	Thermal Transfer Intensity
+\$L	Color Intensity
+\$C	Color Contrast

**Syntax** `!R p1`

**Parameters** p1 = Resistance

Where:

p1 range = 1400~2350

**Example** In the following example, 1567 ohms is entered based on the print head label.

`!R 1567`

## M/m Commands - Multiple Command

**Description** Groups and repeats a string of commands “N” times. “M” differs from “m” only regarding the response to errors. Errors encountered during commands linked by “m” commands abort any remaining commands, while M-linked commands resume after error removal.

*Note that Max3000s perform best with this kind of command linking for the print-related commands (see Appendix E).*

**Syntax**  $^{\circ}_{\text{c}}\text{M}^{\text{N}}_{\text{K}}\text{p1}^{\text{N}}_{\text{K}}\text{c1}[\text{c2}[\text{c3}...\text{c}_n\leftarrow]$

**Parameters** p1 = Number of times to repeat following command string.  
 C1~Cn = Series of linked commands repeated p1 times. *Note the square bracket (L) delimiters.*

**Example** This example shows an “M” command used to group and repeat four commands.

$^{\circ}_{\text{c}}\text{M}^{\text{N}}_{\text{K}}\text{3}^{\text{N}}_{\text{K}}\text{MI}[\text{!D}[\text{!M}[\text{MO}\leftarrow]$

The “M” command groups a command string. A card loads to the print ready position with the “MI” command. “!D” lowers the print head; “!M” raises the print head, and “MO” sends the card to the output tray.

The “M” command specifies three repeats of this sequence. If an error occurs (e.g., the input hopper runs out of cards) a command sequence linked by the “M” command terminates. In contrast, after error correction and an associated pressing of the Panel Button, a command sequence linked by the “m” command resumes.



# MI Command - Input Card To Print

**Description** Moves a card from the Card Input Hopper to the Print Ready position.

For P600:

Moves card to the Print Ready position of Module 1.

**Syntax**  $\text{MI}^{\text{Station}}\{\text{p1}\}\leftarrow$

**Parameters**

p1 =	none (Moves card to first Station)
p1 =	1 (Moves card to second station—P500 only)

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## MIB Command - Reverse Card To Card Feeder

---

**Description** For P300/P400:  
 Moves a card from beyond the print position back to the Print Ready position.

For P500/P600:  
 Sent to Module 1, returns a card from beyond the Print Ready position of Module 1 (not yet in Card Flip of Module 2) to the Print Ready position of Module 1.

Sent to Module 2, returns a card to Laminate Ready position from beyond Laminator of Module 2.

**Syntax**  $\text{MIB} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** None

•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
•	Max	

# ME Command - Exit Card To Output Tray

**Description** For P300, P310 and P400, moves and exits a single card from any position to the output tray.

For P500 and P600, moves and exits a single card from any position except the Feeder to the Output Tray.

Sent to Module 1, ejects a card anywhere in the card Module.

Sent to Module 2, ejects any card present in Module 2. If no card is present, a Ribbon End or Card-Feed error occurs.

**Syntax**  $\text{^{\text{e}}}_{\text{c}}\text{ME}\{\text{^{\text{s}}}_{\text{t}}\text{p1}\}\text{^{\text{e}}}_{\text{c}}\text{J}$

**Parameters** p1 =      Number of cards to pass through printer.

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## MB Command - Return Card To Card Feeder

---

**Description** Moves the card in the reverse direction and returns the card to the card feed point (just inside the card printer) from any position between the card feeder and the output tray.

Sent to Module 2 of P500 and P600:

Returns a card in Module 2 to the Module 1 exit point.

**Syntax** `^cMB←`

**Parameters** None

P3xx	M
P3xx	C
P4xx	
P500	
P600	
Max	

# MO Command - Exit Card To Output Tray

**Description** For P3xx and P400:  
 Moves and exits a single card from any position except the Input Hopper to the output tray.

For P500:  
 Sent to Module 1, ejects a card from anywhere in printer except the Input Hopper to the Output Tray.

Sent to Module 2, ejects a card in Module 2 to the Output Tray. If no card is present, printer responds ACK.

For P600:  
 Sent to Module 1, moves card to Module 2 from any position in Module 1, except the Input Hopper.

Sent to Module 2, moves card to Output Tray from any position in Module 2. If no card is present, printer responds ACK.

For Max:  
 Sent before an MF command, sends Clear Card to the Card Assembly Station. Sent after an MF command, sends a White Card to the Card Assembly Station, and if needed, sends the assembled cards to the Laminator and Die Cutter module.

**Syntax** ⓂMO↵

**Parameters** None

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## !FF Command - Set Ribbon Sequence

**Description** Resets and moves the ribbon to a selected panel.

The printer first aligns on the Cyan (and Black) panels and then counts ribbon panel positions from the Yellow "0" panel.

**Syntax** `%!FF%tp1↵`

**Parameters** `p1` = Panel detection number where:

`p1 = 0` = Move ribbon to Sync Position, as follows:

Ribbon	Sync Position
YMC	Yellow Panel
YMCKr	Yellow Panel
YMCKrO	Yellow Panel
YMCKrOKr	Yellow Panel
KsO	Mid Overlay
KrO	Mid Overlay

`p1 = 1` = Move to next transparent panel, unless already there

`p1 = 2` = Move to next non-transparent panel, unless already there

`p1 = 3` = Move to beginning of Black (for YMCKrO ribbons only)

P3xx	M
• P3xx	C
• P4xx	
• P500	
• P600	
• Max	

## +RIB Command - Set Ribbon Type

- Description

Sets printer operation for either a Standard or one of the nonstandard ribbons, as follows:

  - Standard Ribbons:
    - Kr (Monochrome—except P310 and Max3300)
    - YMCKrO
    - KsO
    - KrO
  - nonstandard Ribbons:
    - YMCKrOKr
    - YMC
    - YMCKr
    - YMCKrKr
    - YMCKr\_Kr

*Note: Parameter settings associated with this command establish the ribbon positioning that occurs following a long press of the Panel Button. P310s synchronize ribbons automatically after an unlatch and latch of the Print Head, but require a P1 setting of 4 to avoid attempted ribbon synchronization with monochrome ribbons installed. Without this setting, some ribbon waste occurs in an attempted synchronization.*

**Syntax**    °c + RIB <sup>Sp</sup>p1 ↵

- Parameters

p<sub>1</sub> =      Ribbon Type

Where:

  - 0 =    Standard Ribbon
  - 4 =    Monochrome Ribbon (P310/P420/Max3300 only)
  - 10 =   6-Panel Ribbon (YMCKrOKr)
  - 11 =   3-Panel Ribbon (YMC)
  - 13 =   4-Panel Ribbon (YMCKr)
  - 21 =   5-Panel Ribbon w/spaced Kr (YMCKr\_Kr)

P3xx M  
 • P3xx C  
 • P4xx  
 • P500  
 • P600  
 • Max

## +RIB Command - Set Ribbon Type Continued)

*Note: Card imaging using the YMCKOK ribbon requires the following command sequence:*

IS 0	Image Yellow
IS 1	Image Magenta
IS 2	Image Cyan
I	Image Black & Return (YMCKOK only)
IV 10	Image Varnish and Return
I 20	Image Black and Return
MO	Eject Card



•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
•	Max	

# !M Command - Move Print Head Up

**Description** Moves the Print Head assembly up from the card (and platen roller).

**Syntax** °:!**M**↵

**Parameters** None

- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## **!D Command - Move Print Head Down**

---

**Description** Moves the Print Head assembly down to the card (and platen roller).

**Syntax** `%!D↵`

**Parameters** None

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
P500
P600
• Max

## **!SA Command - Self Adjust**

---

Initiates a printer self-adjust sequence.

*Note that this command requires the prior installation of a 5-panel ribbon and works best with 10-mil cards. Successful completion results in adjustment of all sensors and voltages, confirmed by no errors indicated.*

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 printers.*

**Syntax**    `^c!SA↵`

**Parameters**    None



## CLNCARD Command - Establish Cleaning Card Sequence

---

Allows settings for a time-to-clean alert and the cycling of cleaning card in card path.

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 printers.*

**Syntax** `^cCLNCARD^Sp1^Sp2<|`

**Parameters** p1 = Ribbon Panel Count to Cleaning Notification (Default = 5000)

p2 = Number of Cleaning Card Passes Through Printer (Default = 5)

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
P500
P600
• Max

## **CLEAN Command - Start Cleaning Card Sequence**

---

This command requires the prior removal of any ribbon and a manual feed of a Cleaning Card. The following occurs:

- Raise Print Head
- Feed a card to a position under Print Head
- Lower Print Head
- Move card back and forth the number of times specified by CLNCARD Command.
- Raise Print Head
- Exit card

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 printers.*

**Syntax** %CLEAN<|

**Parameters** None

P3xx M  
 • P3xx C  
 • P4xx  
 • P500  
 • P600  
 • Max

## +BS Command - Set Black Speed

---

**Description** Optimizes Resin printing for either quality or print speed.

**Syntax**  $^a_c + BS^{50}_{10} p1 \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Speed

Where:

0 = High Speed Printing  
 1 = High Quality Printing

P3xx M  
• P3xx C  
• P4xx  
• P500  
• P600  
• Max

## IM Command - Print Color Test Card

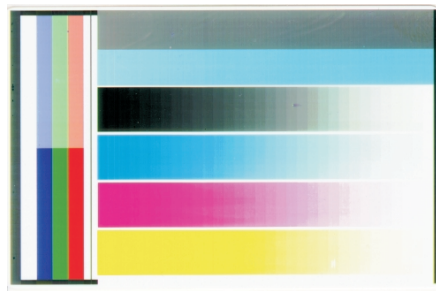
---

**Description** Prints a card with a color test pattern.

**Syntax** `^cIM<P>`

**Parameters** None

**Figure 2-1**  
**Color Test Card**



- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## IMB Command - Print Gray Test Card

---

**Description** Prints an all gray card. Typically this card serves as a basis for Print Head adjustments. Note that a black ribbon is required (PVC-L BLK preferred—Part Number 800015-001).

**Syntax** `°cIMB↵`

**Parameters** None

**Figure 2-2**  
**Print Black Test Card**





## A Command - Print Test Card

Description

Prints a standard test card with printer parameters, version number, and test pattern. Max systems print two cards—one for the Printer the other for the Laminator (if connected).

Syntax

$\text{^cA}\{\text{^Sp1}\}\text{^L}$

Parameters

p1 = Test Card

Where:

None =

Standard Test Card(s) (Includes a Test Card for each Max3000 Module connected)

1 =

Printer Test Card

2 =

Magnetic Encoder Test Card

3 =

Lamination Test Card

Figure 2-3

Standard Monochrome Test Card

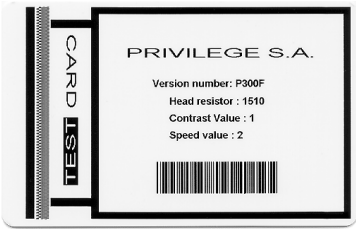


Figure 2-4

Standard Color Test Card



Figure 2-5

Max Printer and Laminator Card Pair



•	P3xx M
•	P3xx C
•	P4xx
•	P500
•	P600
•	Max

## F/vF Command - Clear Monochrome Image Buffers

---

**Description** Clears Monochrome image buffers of bit-maps and printable data (lines, text, bar codes, etc.).

**Syntax** %cF↵

**Parameters** None

## G/vG Command - Initialize Monochrome Graphic (B/W)

**Description** Initializes Monochrome graphic area using height, width and position.

**Syntax**  $\text{G} \text{ } p1 \text{ } p2 \text{ } p3 \text{ } p4 \text{ } p5 \text{ } p6 \text{ } \downarrow$

**Parameters**

- p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position (X) in dots.
- p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position (Y) in dots.
- p3 = Download Mode for Graphic (Bit-map):  
When using bytes, the byte count must be rounded upward to the next nearest whole byte.  
*Example:*  
25 dots = 3 bytes + 1 dot = 4 bytes

Value	Data	Description
0	Byte	Standard
1	Byte	Standard with Checksum
2	Byte	Compressed
3	Byte	Compressed with Checksum
10	Dot	Standard
11	Dot	Standard with Checksum
12	Dot	Compressed
13	Dot	Compressed with Checksum

- p4 = Vertical (Y-axis) height of graphic in bytes.  
Round up the number of bytes loading in multiples of 8 bits (i.e. Monochrome dots).
- p5 = Horizontal (X-axis) width of graphic in dots (i.e. horizontal lines).
- p6 = Graphic Mode:

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.

## O/vO Commands - Load Single Line Bit-map (Mono.)

---

**Description** Loads a single line of Monochrome bit-map data into a monochrome image buffer. The printer uses the proceeding “G” command to specify and control the line bit-map placement. An “O” command specifies a Monochrome Buffer used for Resin printing, and a vO command specifies a Monochrome Buffer used for Varnish printing.

**Syntax**  $^e_c Odata\{^{Sp_{Hex}}CHECKSUM\}\leftarrow$   
 $^e_c vOdata\{^{Sp_{Hex}}CHECKSUM\}\leftarrow$

*Note: NO space (20 Hex.) exists between the “O” and the “data.”*

**Parameters** *data* = Uncompressed or compressed Monochrome bit-map data. Data length should match the line length as specified in the proceeding “G” command.

See Chapter 1 for the relationship of Monochrome Bit-maps to *data*.

CHECKSUM = Single byte of XOR data generated from image *data*.

**Example** Proceeding Command is:

$^e_c G^{Sp_{Hex}}200^{Sp_{Hex}}200^{Sp_{Hex}}0^{Sp_{Hex}}2^{Sp_{Hex}}15^{Sp_{Hex}}1\leftarrow$

(This “G” command specifies 15 lines of 2-byte bit-map data)



Remember, any chance control characters that appear among the data require a preceding open bracket (I) character. Control characters include Escape (1B hex), Return (OD hex), and the Open Bracket (5B hex).

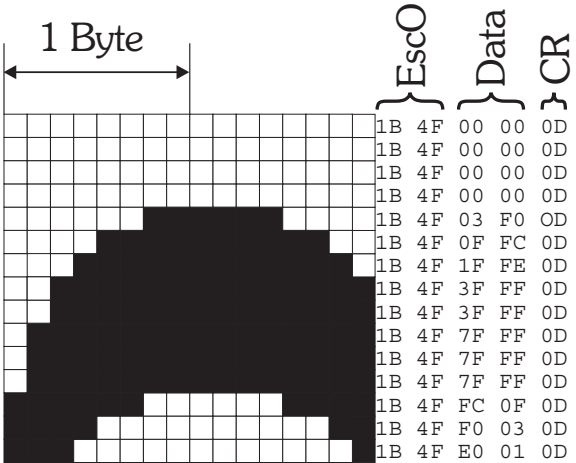
---

O/vO Commands - Load Single Line Bit-map (Continued)

The 15 “O” command lines immediately follow the “G” command as:

"OdataLine1  
"OdataLine2  
"OdataLine3  
etc.

Figure 2-6  
Line by Line  
Image Object &  
Hexadecimal Code



## Z/vZ Commands - Load Bit-map (Monochrome)

---

**Description** Loads a monochrome bit-map into a monochrome image buffer. The printer uses the proceeding “G” command to specify and control the bit-map placement.

The Z command places the bit-map in a buffer used for Resin printing, and the vZ command places the bit-map in a buffer used for Varnish printing.

**Syntax** `%Zdata{CHECKSUM}␣`  
`%vZdata{CHECKSUM}␣`

**Note:** NO space (20 Hex.) exists between the “Z/vZ” and the “data.”

**Parameters** *data* = Uncompressed or compressed Monochrome bit-map data. The bit-map data must match the size and dimension specified in the proceeding “G” command.

See Section 1 for the relationship on how monochrome bit-maps relate to *data*.

**CHECKSUM** =  
 Single byte of XOR data generated from the image data.



Remember, any chance control characters that appear among the data require a preceding open bracket (I) character. Control characters include Escape (1B hex), Return (OD hex), and the Open Bracket (5B hex).

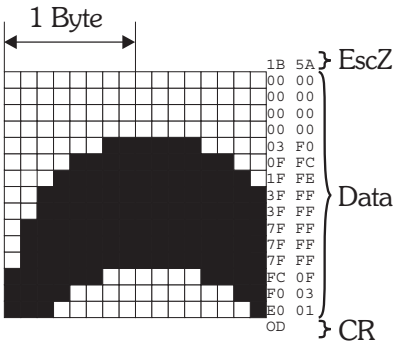
---

**Z/vZ Commands - Load Bit-map (Continued)**

*Example* The following command and figure shows a “G” command with an associated “Z” command containing data for the image buffer.

```
^G^S^N^C^200^S^N^C^200^S^N^C^0^S^N^C^2^S^N^C^15^S^N^C^1^J
^Zdata^J
```

*Figure 2-7  
Image Object &  
Hexadecimal Code*



P3xx	M
P3xx	C
P4xx	
P500	
P600	
Max	

## P/vP Commands - Write Dot (Monochrome)

**Description** Writes a single monochrome dot to a monochrome image buffer. The “P” command writes to the buffer used for Resin printing. The vP command writes to a buffer used for Varnish printing.

**Syntax**  $^{\circ}_{\text{c}} \text{P}^{\text{S}_{\text{H}_{\text{cf}}}} \text{p1}^{\text{S}_{\text{H}_{\text{cf}}}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}_{\text{H}_{\text{cf}}}} \text{p3} \leftarrow$

**Parameters**

- p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position (X) in dots.
- p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position (Y) in dots.
- p3 = Graphic Mode:

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.



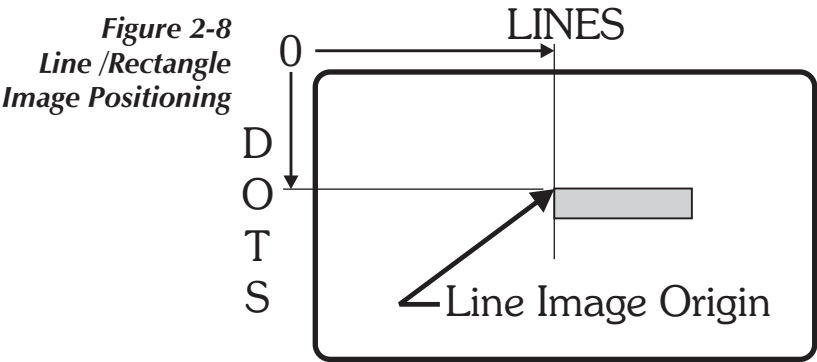
# L/vL Command - Write Line (Monochrome)

**Description** Writes a Monochrome graphic line using parameters to specify origin, height, and width. The resulting line overwrites any existing graphics data. The “L” command writes to the buffer used for Resin printing. The “vL” command writes to a buffer used for Varnish printing.

**Syntax** `°cLSPkCE p1SPkCE p2SPkCE p3SPkCE p4SPkCE p5SPkCE`

- Parameters**
- p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position (X) in dots.
  - p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position (Y) in dots.
  - p3 = Horizontal (X-axis) width of graphic in dots (i.e. horizontal lines).
  - p4 = Vertical (Y-axis) height of graphic in dots.
  - p5 = Graphic Mode

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.



## C/vC Command - Write Box (Monochrome)

**Description** Writes a hollow-box rectangle graphic to a monochrome image buffer by defining the height, width, line thickness (width) and origin. The “C” command writes to the buffer used for Resin printing. The “vC” command writes to a buffer used for Varnish printing.

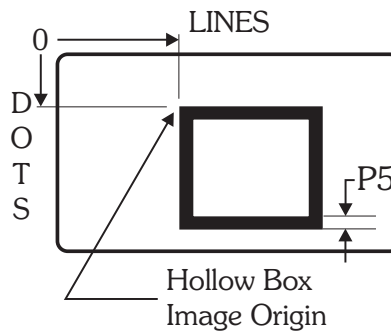
**Syntax**  ${}^{\text{e}}_{\text{C}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p1}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p2}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p3}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p4}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p5}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p6}} \leftarrow$   
 ${}^{\text{e}}_{\text{vC}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p1}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p2}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p3}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p4}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p5}} \text{ }^{\text{S}}_{\text{p6}} \leftarrow$

**Parameters**

- p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position in dots.
- p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position in dots.
- p3 = Horizontal (X-axis) width of graphic line in dots (i.e. horizontal lines).
- p4 = Vertical (Y-axis) height of graphic line in dots.
- p5 = Thickness/width of diagonal graphic line in dots.
- p6 = Graphic Mode

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.

**Figure 2-9**  
**Hollow Box**  
**Image Positioning**



## D/vD Commands - Write Diagonal (Monochrome)

**Description** Write a monochrome diagonal line graphic by defining the total height, total width, line thickness (width) and position in the Monochrome image buffer. The “D” command writes to the Resin buffer, and the “vD” command writes to the Varnish buffer. *The actual image placed is a rectangle.*

**Syntax** °cD <sup>SPACE</sup>p1 <sup>SPACE</sup>p2 <sup>SPACE</sup>p3 <sup>SPACE</sup>p4 <sup>SPACE</sup>p5 <sup>SPACE</sup>p6 <sup>SPACE</sup>p7 ↵

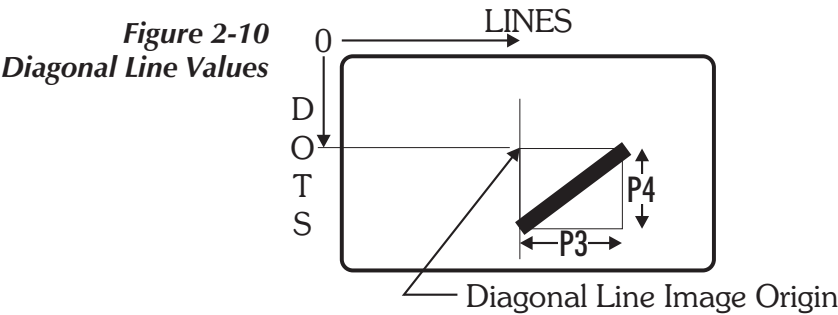
**Parameters**

- p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position, in dots.
- p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position, in dots.
- p3 = Horizontal (X-axis) width of graphic, in dots.
- p4 = Vertical (Y-axis) height of graphic, in dots.
- p5 = Thickness/width of the line, in dots.
- p6 = Rotation & Origin:

Value	Description	Origin
1	90 degrees	Lower Left
2	180 degrees	Lower Left

p7 = Graphic Mode:

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.



## T/vT Commands - ASCII Text (Monochrome)

**Description** Downloads a single line of modified ANSI Windows characters as text. See Appendix A for Character Map. The “T” command downloads to the Resin buffer, and the “vT” command downloads to the Varnish buffer.



A printer error occurs when text extends beyond the addressable buffer area. The resident fonts derive from proportionally-spaced 100-point Arial Bold and 100-point Arial Normal. Because of kerning, characters spacing is minimized.

**Syntax**  $\begin{matrix} e_s \\ e_c \end{matrix} T^{space} p1^{space} p2^{space} p3^{space} p4^{space} p5^{space} p6^{space} p7^{space} data \downarrow$   
 $\begin{matrix} e_s \\ e_c \end{matrix} vT^{space} p1^{space} p2^{space} p3^{space} p4^{space} p5^{space} p6^{space} p7^{space} data \downarrow$

**Parameters**

- p1 = Horizontal (X) start position in dots.
- p2 = Vertical (Y) start position in dots (position of lower case descender, if used).
- p3 = Rotation & Origin

Value	Description	Origin
0	No rotation	Lower Left
1	90 degrees	Lower Left
2	180 degrees	Lower Left
3	270 degrees	Lower Left
4	No rotation	Centered
5	90 degrees	Centered
6	180 degrees	Centered
7	270 degrees	Centered

p4 = Font selection

Value	Description
0	Arial, 100 points “Normal”
1	Arial, 100 points “Bold”

p5 = Horizontal (X-axis) width (before rotation) of text (data string) graphic in dots. If the value is zero (0) the text maintains normal font proportions and scales according to the value of the Y-axis (p<sub>6</sub>) value.

## T/vT Commands - ASCII Text (Continued)

---

$p_6$  = Vertical (Y-axis) height (before rotation) of text (data string) graphic in dots.

Examples:

For 28-point normal,  $p_6$  = 104

For 28-point bold,  $p_6$  = 140

*Note:*

With  $p_5$  a "0," fonts maintain normal proportions, and just  $p_6$  determines font size.

$p_7$  = Graphic Mode:

Value	Description
0	<b>Reverse Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load reverse bit-map image
1	<b>Standard Bit-map</b> - Clear print area and load bit-map image
2	<b>Merge Bit-map</b> - Overwrite background bit-map image with printable dot locations leaving non-printing dot locations alone.

*data* = Represents a single line modified ANSI text data field.  
See Appendix A for a supported character font map.



The printer interprets the **Space** character as a command field delimiter and the **Carriage Return** character as a command terminator. However, except as the first character, the **Space** character may be used within a text data string.

To use the **Space** character at the beginning of a text data field, the **Leading Bracket** character ( "[" Dec. 91 or 5B Hex.) must be added as the first character of the text string. Also, to print a **Leading Bracket** character two Leading Bracket characters must be entered.

---

## B/vB Command - Write Bar Code

**Description** This command is used to print standard bar codes. See Appendix A for character maps and unique parameter settings for each bar code type.

**Syntax** %B<sup>SPACE</sup> p1<sup>SPACE</sup> p2<sup>SPACE</sup> p3<sup>SPACE</sup> p4<sup>SPACE</sup> p5<sup>SPACE</sup> p6<sup>SPACE</sup> p7<sup>SPACE</sup> p8<sup>SPACE</sup> data↵

**Parameters** p1 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position, in dots  
 p2 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position, in dots.  
 p3 = Rotation:

Value	Description	Origin
0	No rotation	Lower Left
1	90 degrees	Lower Left
2	180 degrees	Lower Left
3	270 degrees	Lower Left
4	No rotation	Centered
5	90 degrees	Centered
6	180 degrees	Centered
7	270 degrees	Centered

p4 = Bar Code selection - See Appendix A

Value	Bar Code Type
0	Code 39 (3 of 9) (alphanumeric)
1	2/5 Interleaved (Numeric, Even No count.)
2	2/5 Industrial (Numeric)
3	EAN8 (Numeric, 7 digits encoded)
4	EAN13 (Numeric, 12 digits encoded)
5	UPC - A (Numeric, 12 digits encoded)
6	Reserved for MONARCH
7	Code 128 C without check digits * (Numeric Only, Even Number Printed)
107	Code 128 C with check digits * (Numeric Only, Even Number Printed)
8	Code 128 B without check digits * ( <b>alphanumeric</b> )
108	Code 128 B with check digits * ( <b>alphanumeric</b> )

\* -Not supported by some Monochrome printer models

## B/vB Command - Write Bar Code (Continued)

---

p5 = Bar width ratio:

Value	Narrow Bar	Wide Bar	Ratio
0	1 dot	2 dots	2:1
1	1 dot	3 dots	3:1
2	2 dots	5 dots	2.5:1 or 2:5

*Note: Some bar code types have a selectable bar code width ratio. See Appendix A for supported ratio and settings.*

p6 = Bar code bar width multiplier. Range 3~9 for all Eltron card bar codes except UPC-A, EAN-8 and EAN-13 which have a range of 4~7. For a selected bar width ratio of 2:5, the range is 2~4.

*Note: Each bar code type has a specified standard for the width range of a narrow bar width. See Appendix A for optimal values.*

p7 = Bar code height in dots.

*Note: Each bar code type has an industry specified minimum height standard. See Appendix A for optimal values.*

p8 = Print human readable code. Acceptable values are 1 = yes or 0 = no.

data = Represents a fixed data field. Each bar code type has a differing data field length and allowable character requirements. See Appendix A.



A printer error occurs when a bar code extends beyond the addressable area of the image buffer. See Appendix A for field size calculations for total bar code length and height.

---

P3xx M
P3xx C
P4xx
P500
P600
Max

## I Command - Print Monochrome Graphics

**Description** This command serves to print a monochrome graphic panel from a card image previously stored in the buffer designated for Resin images.

After print completion, the card may be ejected to the output tray (hopper) or repositioned to print another image (ribbon panel). Typically the clear varnish, or for some models, the hologram lamination prints next. Then, a duplex printer may produce additional printing after flipping the card to the opposite side.

Ribbon panels advance during printing, making the installed ribbon the overriding factor in choosing buffers for imaging.

**Syntax**  $\text{e}_{\text{c}}\{\text{syncp1}\}\leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = *Optional Command Parameter*

### Print Options

Value	Description
None	Prints Monochrome image buffer and Ejects card.
10	Prints card and returns the card to the print ready position.
20	<i>For Ribbons with Monochrome (1 panel) and clear veneer (1 panel) with printer firmware versions 2.00 and above</i> - Prints card and returns the card to the print ready position. Also, if appropriate, synchronizes multiple-panel ribbon for the next print pass. <i>For P500s using YMCKOK ribbon</i> , the card ejects after the last application of either Kr or laminate, and a prior +DLAM command determines whether or not the I 20 command invokes lamination. <i>For Max3300s using KrO ribbon</i> , informs printer to synchronize to print Overlay panels.
30	Print Card but leave in place (Allows preparation for Module 2 with Module 2 BUSY in P600s.

Max3300 with KrO Ribbon Example:

I 20  
IV  
MO  
MF  
I 20  
IV  
MO



•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
•	Max	

## J Command - Print Multiple Monochrome Cards

---

**Description** *Note: This command only applies to monochrome printing using a Monochrome ribbon having a single continuous color and material; i.e., all black, all red, all green, etc.*

This command serves to print several Monochrome cards from an image previously stored in the Resin image buffer.

P600:

P600 Printers do not respond to this command.

**Syntax** `^J%ncp1↵`

**Parameters** p1 = Number of cards to print.

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## +C Command - Adjusts Monochrome Intensity

---

**Description** Sets the Monochrome ribbon transfer intensity (heat) level. Varying the intensity level affects the “Dot Gain” or size of the dot and the density (opaqueness) of the transferred material. Note that higher values raise the transfer heat.

**Syntax** `^C^M p1^J`

**Parameters** P1 = Intensity

Where:

3 = Printer Default

0~10 = Range

IV Command - Print Clear Veneer

**Description** This command serves either to print the entire addressable image buffer or to reverse print with the clear veneer or any image data (line, rectangles, graphics, text, etc.) previously stored in a monochrome image buffer.

After printing is complete, the card may be ejected to the output tray (hopper) or repositioned to print more ribbon panels for models that support the hologram, lamination, or the duplex operations.

The ribbon panels advance during printing such that completion of printing from one ribbon panel leaves the ribbon ready to print the next panel.

**Syntax**  $\text{^cIV}\{\text{^Np1}\}\text{^L}$

**Parameters** p1 = *Optional Command Parameter*

**Print Options**

Value	Description
None	Prints 100% of image buffer with the clear veneer material and ejects card.
1	Prints the inverse of the image buffer data and ejects card.
10	Prints card and returns the card to the print ready position.
11	Print inverse of image buffer and return card to print ready position.
30	Print card, but leave in place (facilitates advancing card in Module 1 in preparation for not BUSY in Module 2 (P500s and P600s).
31	Similar to 30, but print inverse image.

P3xx M  
 • P3xx C  
 • P4xx  
 • P500  
 • P600  
 • Max

## +CV Command - Adjust Clear Veneer Intensity

**Description** Sets the clear veneer ribbon transfer intensity (heat) level. Varying the intensity level affects the density (amount) of the transferred material.

**Syntax**  $\text{P}_{3c} + \text{CV}^{\text{P}_{4t}} \text{p1} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Intensity  
 Where:  
 3 = Default  
 0~10 = Range

P3xx	M
• P3xx	C
• P4xx	
• P500	
• P600	
•	Max

# \$F Command - Clear Color Image Buffers

*Description* Clears the color image buffers.



This command can be used in conjunction with the “IS” print command to advance the ribbon without printing any data.

*Syntax* ♂:\$F↵

*Parameters* None

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## \$FP Command - Clear Specified Bit-Maps

---

Allows Extended Memory users to clear areas reserved for specified colors.

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 printers.*

**Syntax** `^C$FP^M p1^J`

**Parameters** p1 = Area Cleared

Where:

- 0 = Yellow
- 1 = Magenta
- 2 = Cyan
- 3 = Dye Black (Using Ks0 Ribbon)

PS Command - Download Color Image Buffer

Description

Initializes and downloads separated color data (C, M, Y, or K) for an associated complete single-color image buffer.

Syntax

%cPS<sup>sp<sub>ACE</sub></sup> p1<sup>sp<sub>ACE</sub></sup> p2<sup>sp<sub>ACE</sub></sup> data<J

Parameters

p1 =

Color image buffer number:

0 = Yellow (Y)

1 = Magenta (M)

2 = Cyan (C)

3 = Thermal Transfer Black (K)

p2 =

Data Mode:

32 = Uncompressed Data - 256 levels (00~FF Hex.)

30 = Compressed Data - 32 levels (00~1F Hex.)

data =

Uncompressed or compressed color bit-map data for a single separated color.

Where the color buffer maximums are:

628,992 Compressed Bytes (Standard Printer)

655,360 Compressed Bytes (Extended. Memory)

683,296 Compressed Bytes (Max3300 Memory)

P3xx	M
• P3xx	C
• P4xx	
• P500	
• P600	
• Max	

## GS Command - Download Color Graphic

**Description** Initializes, downloads, and positions individual color-separated data (C,M,Y, or K) for a partial image. Defines the height, width and position of the graphic.

**Syntax** `GS p1 p2 p3 p4 p5 p6 data`

**Parameters**

- p1 = Color image buffer number:
  - 0 = Yellow (Y)
  - 1 = Magenta (M)
  - 2 = Cyan (C)
  - 3 = Dye Sublimation Black (Ks)
- p2 = Data Mode:
  - 32 = Uncompressed Data - 256 levels (00-FF Hex.)
  - 30 = Compressed Data - 32 levels (00-1F Hex.)
- p3 = Horizontal (X-axis) start position, in dots.
- p4 = Vertical (Y-axis) start position, in dots.
- p5 = Horizontal (X-axis) width of graphic, in dots (i.e. horizontal lines).
- p6 = Vertical (Y-axis) height of graphic, in bytes.
- data = Uncompressed or compressed color bit-map data for a single separated color.



# +\$L Command - Adjust Color Intensity

**Description** Sets the maximum color intensity (heat) level applied to a selected dye sublimation ribbon panel.

**Syntax**   <sup>o</sup><sub>s</sub>+\$L<sup>SPKLE</sup> p1<sup>SPKLE</sup> p2↵

**Parameters**   p1 =   Color image buffer number:  
Where:  
                  0 =   Yellow (Y)  
                  1 =   Magenta (M)  
                  2 =   Cyan (C)  
                  3 =   Dye Sublimation Black (Ks)  
  
                  p2 =   Intensity  
Where:  
                  5 =   Printer Default5  
                  0~10 = Range

P3xx	M
P3xx	C
P4xx	
P500	
P600	
Max	

## **+\$C Command - Adjust Color Contrast**

---

**Description** Sets the range from the maximum to the minimum color intensity (heat) level applied to a selected dye sublimation ribbon panel.

**Syntax**  $\overset{0}{s}_c + \$C \overset{5}{p}_{Kc} p1 \overset{5}{p}_{Kc} p2 \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Color image buffer

Where:

- 0 = Yellow (Y)
- 1 = Magenta (M)
- 2 = Cyan (C)
- 3 = Dye Sublimation Black (Ks)

p2 = Contrast:

Where:

- 5 = Printer Default
- 0~10 = Range

# IS Command - Print Color Graphic

**Description** This command serves to print from a selected color dye sublimation ribbon panel using data from an associated image buffer.

After completing a printing pass, the card is repositioned to print the next ribbon panel.

The ribbon panel advances during printing such that completion of one panel leaves the ribbon ready to print the next panel.

*Note: Printing for Dye Sublimation Black occurs using data from a color buffer in conjunction with a KsO ribbon.*

**Syntax** `^cIS^Rp1`

**Parameters** p1 = Color image buffer number:

Where:

- 0 = Yellow (Y)
- 1 = Magenta (M)
- 2 = Cyan (C)
- 3 = Dye Sublimation Black (Ks)

*Note: Card imaging using the YMCKOK ribbon requires the following command sequence:*

- IS 0 Image Yellow
- IS 1 Image Magenta
- IS 2 Image Cyan
- I Image Black and Return (YMCKOK only)
- IV 10 Image Varnish and Return
- I 20 Image Black and Return
- MO Eject Card

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## IH Command - Print Hologram

**Description** This command serves to print the entire addressable Varnish image buffer or to reverse print any image data (line, rectangles, graphics, text, etc.) previously stored in the Resin image buffer.

After printing is complete, the card may be ejected to the output tray (hopper) or repositioned to print more ribbon panels for models that support the duplex option.

The ribbon panel advances during printing such that the next panel is ready to print.

**Syntax**  $\text{^cIH}\{\text{^m}\{p1\}\}\text{^L}$

**Parameters** p1 = Optional Command Parameter, as follows:

### Print Options

Value	Description
None	Prints 100% of image buffer as hologram lamination and ejects card.
1	Prints the inverse of the image data to card and ejects card.
10	Prints card and returns the card to the print-ready position.

## +CH Command - Adjust Hologram Intensity

**Description** Sets the Hologram material transfer intensity (heat) level. Varying the intensity level affects the “Dot Gain” or size of the dot and the density (opaqueness) of the transferred material.

**Syntax**  $\text{P}_{3xx} + \text{CH}^{\text{Syntax}} \text{p1} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Intensity

Where:

5 = Printer Default  
0~10 = Range

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
• P4xx  
• P500  
• P600  
Max

## MF Command - Rotate Card To Duplex

---

**Description** Flips the card 180° for duplex printing.

*Note that for user safety, a card-flip requires a closed cover.*

For P400:

Card remains in the Card-Flip Assembly.

For P500:

If a card is in the printer, places card in Card-Flip, flips card, and returns card to Print-Ready position.

If no card is in the printer, feeds a card prior to placing a card in Card Flip, flipping card, and returning card to Print-Ready position.

For P600:

If a card is anywhere in Module 2, places the card in Card-Flip and flips card.

If a card is in Module 1, waits for card to arrive in Module 2 and then flips card.

For Max3000:

No flip occurs. Instead, white card printing is initiated.

**Syntax** °MF↵

**Parameters** None

**Example** See +DLAMI Command (Omit +DLAMI for P400)

•	P3xx	M
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
•	P500	
•	P600	
•	Max	

# &R Command - Reset Magnetic Encoder

**Description** Clears the magnetic encoder command and data buffers.

*Note: This command does not return the track data format or density to default values.*

**Syntax** °&R↵

**Parameters** None

## &E Command - Write Single Track

---

**Description** Encode, Write and Read (verify) a single track of data.

The printer feeds a card (if a card is not loaded) and magnetically writes data to the selected ISO track. The card automatically read-verifies the encoded data. The card then moves to the print-ready position.

**Syntax** `%c&Ep1Spdata↵`

**Parameters**  $p_1$  = Encoding Track Number (1~3).

*data* = ISO track



The actual data encoded onto the card is converted from ASCII to the encoding format previously specified for the associated ISO card track. See Appendix C for default ANSI/ISO data formats and custom encoding commands.

---



&B Command - Write Buffer Single Track

**Description** Load data into the write buffer for a single selected track of encoding.

**Syntax** `^c&B^p1^data^`

**Parameters** p1 = Encoding Physical Track Number.  
1 = Track 1 Decimal data  
2 = Track 2 Decimal data  
3 = Track 3 Decimal data  
11= Track 1 Hexadecimal data\*  
12= Track 2 Hexadecimal data\*  
13= Track 3 Hexadecimal data\*  
  
data = Each track has unique character and length limitations due to formatting. For p1 values of 1~3, the printer automatically inserts the required ISO control characters (start and stop sentinel, longitudinal redundancy check character, etc.) into the data.

Track	Characters (Default ANSI/ISO)	Field Separator	Length
1	^ \$ ( ) - . / 0 through 9 A through Z (All Caps)	^	76
2	0 through 9	=	37
3	0 through 9	=	104
11*	Hexadecimal	N/A	*
12*	Hexadecimal	N/A	*
13*	Hexadecimal	N/A	*
* - For encoders with printer serial number 5000 and greater, see Appendix C for extended encoder command set and custom track data and control parameters.			



The actual data encoded on to the card is converted from ASCII to an ISO track’s specified encoding format. See Appendix C for default ANSI/ISO data formats and custom data encoding commands.

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## &E\* Command - Write Track Buffers

---

**Description** Encodes, Writes, and Reads (verifies) for all tracks of data stored in printer memory.

The printer feeds a card (if a card is not loaded) and magnetically writes data (stored in memory) to the pre-selected ISO track(s). The card automatically repositions and read-verifies the encoded data. The card then is repositioned to the print ready position. The encoder data buffer is cleared for the next operation.

**Syntax** °&E\*↵

**Parameters** None

# &L Command - Read Single Track

**Description** Reads data for a single track from a magnetic card.

**Syntax** `&Lp1`

**Parameters** p1 = Track Number.  
1 = Track 1 Decimal data per following table  
2 = Track 2 Decimal data per following table  
3 = Track 3 Decimal data per following table

*Note: p1 values of 11, 12, and 13, require a preceding space.*

11= Track 1 Hexadecimal data  
12= Track 2 Hexadecimal data  
13= Track 3 Hexadecimal data

Track	Characters (Default)	Field Separator	Length
1	0 through 9 A through Z (All Caps)	^	76
2	0 through 9	=	37
3	0 through 9	=	104
11	Hexadecimal*	N/A	*
12	Hexadecimal*	N/A	*
13	Hexadecimal*	N/A	*
* - For encoders with printer serial numbers 5000 and greater, see Appendix C.			



The actual data encoded on to the card is converted automatically from an ISO track's specified encoding format to ASCII. See Appendix C for default ANSI/ISO data formats and custom data encoding commands.

- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## &W Command - Change Encoding Direction

**Description** Change the direction that the encoder starts writing and reading operations.

**Syntax** `%c&W%xxp1↵`

**Parameters** p1 = Direction Select, as follows:

Value	Description
0	Forward
1	Reverse

# &D Command - Change Track Density



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. Printers with parallel interfaces cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error). The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** Change an individual track data encoding and decoding density.

*Note: To send this command directly to the Max3000 Encoder, use an  $\text{ESC} \# 21 \text{ESC}$  Initiation instead of an Escape.*

**Syntax**  $\text{ESC} \&D \text{SPK} p1 \text{SPK} p2 \text{LF}$

**Parameters**  $p1 =$  Track Select, as follows:

Value	Description
1	Track 1 and 3
2	Track 2
3	Track 3

$p2 =$  Density Select, as follows:

Value	Description
75	75 bpi
210	210 bpi

## &CDER Command - Read Custom Track Data



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through a parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** Set the encoder to read a selected data format.

The &CDER command in conjunction with the &CDEW command resets the encoder to the default ISO track density and data format settings.

*Note: To send this command directly to the Max3000 Encoder, use an  $^{\text{esc}}\text{\#}^{\text{skt}}21^{\text{skt}}$  Initiation instead of just an Escape.*

**Syntax**  $^{\text{esc}}\&\text{CDER}^{\text{skt}}\text{p1}^{\text{skt}}\text{p2}^{\text{skt}}$  ← ISO Data  
 $^{\text{esc}}\&\text{CDER}^{\text{skt}}\text{p1}^{\text{skt}}\text{p2}^{\text{skt}}\text{p3}^{\text{skt}}$  ← Raw Data

**Parameters** p1 = Track Select: (values 1, 2, 3, or 0 (zero)).

Where:

*0 resets ALL tracks to ISO default configuration parameters.*

p2 = Custom Data Select, as follows:

Value	Description - ISO Format Data
0	Resets ALL tracks to ISO default configuration parameters.
<b>Default Format Select</b>	
Q	ISO Track 1 Data Format to Track 1
R	ISO Track 2 Data Format to Track 2
S	ISO Track 3 Data Format to Track 3
<b>Custom ISO Track Format Location</b>	
qX	Track 1 with ISO Track "X" Format
rX	Track 2 with ISO Track "X" Format
sX	Track 3 with ISO Track "X" Format
X = 1, 2, or 3 as the ISO default track format applied to the selected track (e.g., Q=q1, R=r2, and S=s3).	

## &CDER Command (Continued)

---

p2 = Custom Data Select, as follows:

Value	Description - Raw Data Format
<b>Read Forward - "Raw" Data</b>	
U	Track 1
U_	Track 1 read data with NULs in data string
V	Track 2
V_	Track 2 read data with NULs in data string
W	Track 3
W_	Track 3 read data with NULs in data string
<b>Read Reverse - "Raw" Data</b>	
u	Track 1
u_	Track 1 read data with NULs in data string
v	Track 2
v_	Track 2 read data with NULs in data string
w	Track 3
w_	Track 3 read data with NULs in data string

p3 = Data Block Size Select in Bits

Where:

Acceptable values = 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7



The encoder cannot decode and convert "Raw" data into ASCII data. The encoder only reports data read after the process has completed.

---

## &CDEW Command - Write Custom Track Data



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through a parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** Configure the write data to encode a single, selected track of data.

The &CDEW command in conjunction with the &CDER command resets the encoder to the default ISO track density and data format settings.

*Note: To send this command directly to a Max Encoder, use an  $\text{ESC} \# 21 \text{ESC}$  Initiation instead of just an Escape.*

**Syntax**  $\text{ESC} \&\text{CDEW} \text{STK}_{\text{p1}} \text{STK}_{\text{p2}} \leftarrow \text{ISO Data}$   
 $\text{ESC} \&\text{CDEW} \text{STK}_{\text{p1}} \text{STK}_{\text{p2}} \text{STK}_{\text{p3}} \leftarrow \text{Raw Data}$

**Parameters** p1 = Track Select: (values 1, 2, 3 or 0 (zero))  
 Where:

0 resets ALL tracks to ISO default configuration parameters.

p2 = Data Format Select, as follows:

Value	Description - ISO Format Data
0	Reset ALL tracks to ISO default configuration parameters.
<b>Default Format Select</b>	
A	ISO Track 1 Data Format to Track 1
B	ISO Track 2 Data Format to Track 2
C	ISO Track 3 Data Format to Track 3
<b>Custom ISO Track Format Select</b>	
aX	Track 1 with ISO Track "X" Format
bX	Track 2 with ISO Track "X" Format
cX	Track 3 with ISO Track "X" Format
X = ISO default track format applied to the selected track (e.g., A=a1, B=b2, and C=c3).	



## &CDEW Command - Continued

---

p2 = Custom Data Select, as follows:

Value	Description - Raw Data Format
<b>Read Forward - “Raw” Data</b>	
E	Track 1
E_	Track 1 read data with NULs in data string
F	Track 2
F_	Track 2 read data with NULs in data string
G	Track 3
G_	Track 3 read data with NULs in data string

p3 = Data Block Size Select in Bits

Where:

Acceptable values = 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7



The encoder cannot encode and convert ASCII data into “Raw” data. The encoder only reports data write process has completed.

---

- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## &T Command - Mag. Encoder - Eject Card

---

Moves and exits a single card from any position between the card feeder to the output tray.

*Note: To send this command directly to the Max3000 Encoder, use an  $\text{^c\#}^{s_{h_{c21}} s_{h_{c\epsilon}}}$  Initiation instead of just an Escape.*

**Syntax**  $\text{^c\&T}\text{^}$

**Parameters** None

# &C Command - Set Coercivity

**Description** This command sets the Encoder to record on either High- or Low-Coercivity magnetic stripes.

*Note: Recognition of this command requires an Encoder board that can change between high and low coercivity.*

*Note: To send this command directly to the Max3000 Encoder, use an  $\text{^c\#21}$  Initiation instead of just an Escape.*

**Syntax**  $\text{^c\&C^np1}$

**Parameters** p1 = Coercivity

Where:  
0 = Low  
1 = High

P3xx M
• P3xx C
• P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## MS Command - Move To Smart Card Programmer

---

**Description** Moves a card to the Smart Card programming station.

*Pins 5 and 9 of the DB-9 connector interconnect to notify an external programming device that the card is ready to program.*

**Syntax** °MS↵

**Parameters** None

# MRB Command - Move Card to Rejected Box

P420 Printers have a Hopper used to collect rejected cards. This command places the card being processed into this hopper.

**Syntax**    ⌘MRB⏏

**Parameters**    None

P3xx M  
 • P3xx C  
 • P4xx  
 • P500  
 • P600  
 • Max

## +OS Command - Smart Card Y-axis Offset

---

**Description** Offsets the horizontal (X-axis) Smart Card programmer location in dots.

**Syntax**  $^a_c + OS^{50_{X_{\text{off}}}} p1 \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Horizontal start position (X) in dots  
 Where:  
 112 = Default  
 0~192 = Range

# SXY Command - Center Image Maps

Printers without Extended Memory can place images in an area 624-by-1008 dots, which measures slightly smaller than full-card dimensions. In contrast, Extended Memory equips the printers for 640-by-1024 dot images, an area sufficient for full-card images. If one placed a 624-by-1008 dot image using extended memory and no compensation, an off center card image would result. This command serves as a means to center a 624-by-1008 dot image on a card imaged using Extended Memory.

*Note that this command only applies to P310F and P420 Printers.*

**Syntax**    `^cSXY^Sp1`

**Parameters**    `p1` =    Offset ON or OFF  
Where:  
0 =    Origin Offset of 6 Dots in Both X and Y  
1 =    No Origin Offset

P3xx M  
 • P3xx C  
 • P4xx  
 P500  
 P600  
 Max

## +OCL Command - Offset Contactless

---

P310F and P420 Printers offer a means to program Proximity Cards (also called Contactless Cards). This command includes a parameter that specifies the steps from the Card Sensor to a card position suitable for Proximity Card programming.

**Syntax**  $^{\text{e}}_{\text{c}} + \text{OCL}^{\text{p}}_{\text{c}} \text{p1} \downarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Steps past Card Sensor (Defaults to 2000)



P3:xx	M
P3:xx	C
P4:xx	
P5:00	
P6:00	
Max	

## MCL Command - Move Contactless

P310 and P420 Printers offer a means to step Proximity Cards (also called Contactless Cards) forward or backward relative to the Card Sensor.

**Syntax**  $\text{P}_{3:xx} \text{MCL}_{S_{N_{C_1}}} \text{p1}_{S_{N_{C_2}}} \text{p2}_{\leftarrow}$

**Parameters** p1 = Steps Moved

p2 = Direction

Where:

0 = Forward

1 = Backward

**Example**  $\text{P}_{3:xx} \text{MCL}_{S_{N_{C_1}}} 200_{S_{N_{C_2}}} 1_{\leftarrow}$

This example places a card 1800 steps past the Card Sensor  
i.e., +OCL Command Default (2000) - MCL Command p1(200) =  
1800

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
• P4xx  
P500  
P600  
Max

## CRB Command - Set Counter for Rejected Box

---

P410 Printers have a counter that keeps track of the number of cards sent to the Rejected Card Hopper. This command allows selection of a card count that produces the REJECTED BOX FULL message on the LCD. Note that, as with other errors, users correct the condition and press the Panel Button. For this command, release of the Panel Button resets the counter. Twenty 30-mil cards will not overflow the hopper, and P420s ship with this setting. Users of less thick cards may wish to increase the count.

**Syntax**  $\text{^cCRB}^{\text{p1}}\text{p1}\text{↵}$

Where until changed:

p1 = 20

# +RB Command - Set Rejected Box

In P420s, this command determines the hopper used to collect cards rejected because of printing or encoding errors. Unless changed, the printer sends Encoding Rejects to the Reject Hopper and Printing Rejects to the Output Hopper.

**Syntax**     $\text{^}_{\text{c}} + \text{RB}^{\text{sn}_{\text{ct}}}_{\text{p1}}^{\text{sn}_{\text{ct}}}_{\text{p2}} \downarrow$

Where:

- p1 = Error Type
  - 0 = Encoding & Printing
  - 1 = Encoding only
  - 2 = Printing only
- p2 = Hopper Used
  - 0 = Exit Hopper
  - 1 = Reject Hopper

- P3xx M
- P3xx C
- P4xx
- P500
- P600
- Max

## +B Command - Serial Interface Rate



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. Printers with parallel interfaces cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error). The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** This command changes the baud rate of printers with serial interfaces.

**Syntax**  $\text{^c} + \text{B}\{\text{^np1}\} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Serial Interface Baud Rate Options, as follows:

Select	Baud Rate
0	9600 (Default)
1	19200
2	38400
3	57600

# E Command - Retransmit Last Response



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through the printer's parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** This command directs the printer to repeat the last status message.

**Syntax** `^E`

**Parameters** None

## +X Command - Change Command Initiator

---



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through the printer's parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

---

**Description** This command adds an alternate command initiation character. Some host systems cannot transmit an Escape command character. The printer then responds to both the Escape character and the added command initiation character.

**Syntax**  $\text{^c} + X^{\text{Hex}} p1 \text{^L}$

**Parameters**  $p1 =$  A single ASCII character

Where:

33~255 = Decimal

21~FF = Hexadecimal

*Note: To remove an alternate command initiation character, send +X with  $p_1 < 20\text{Hex}$  (except for  $0D\text{Hex}$ ). A NACK response results, with error code 10 (Syntax Error). Then, Escape remains as the only command initiation character.*

## !X Command - Check Command Initiator

---



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through the printer's parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

---

**Description** This command checks for an alternate command initiator. The printer either reports the alternate command initiation character or nothing.

**Syntax** °:!X↵

**Parameters** None

## &P Command - Check Card Present - Encoder

---



The card printer responds to commands (with data or error codes) via the bi-directional serial interface only. The card printer cannot respond to this command, (other than flagging an error), through the printer's parallel interface. The card printer can operate with both interfaces attached and communicating with the printer.

**Description** This command is used to check for the presence of a card in the magnetic encoder station.

**Syntax** `^c&P<`

**Parameters** None

**Response** Typical status response:  
 (NACK)05(EOT) - Card in magnetic encoder.  
 (NACK)06(EOT) - Card not in magnetic encoder.



P3xx	M
• P3xx	C
• P4xx	
• P500	
• P600	
• Max	

# **%CLN Command - Check Due-for-Cleaning Parameters**

---

**Description** Reports current values for the Printing, Cleaning and Cleaning Pass counters

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 Systems*

**Syntax (sent)** %CLN.

**Syntax (received)** Cpt imp:p1 next clean Prn:p2 nb pass:p3

Where:  
 p1 = Total number of head-down image passes made by printer since new (note that each ribbon panel used counts as a pass)  
 p2 = Current setting for image passes that trigger a cleaning alert (default = 00005000—see CLNCARD Command)  
 p3 = Current setting for passes performed using Cleaning Card (default = 5—see CLNCARD Command)

**Example** Cpt imp:00025000 next clean Prn:00005000 nb pass:5

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
P4xx  
• P500  
P600  
Max

## SF Command - Synchronize Film (Overlamine)

**Description** Positions Overlamine Lamination Ribbon with black index mark at sensor. This is a first-time ribbon synchronization used to position a die-cut panel a known offset from the Laminator Station of P500 card printers. The command is only required for an initialization just after installing an Overlamine ribbon. Subsequent applications of die-cut Overlamine panels occur via offsets from the previous panel application.

*Note: A Laminator previously set for the application of Varnish (see TF Command) does not respond to this command.*

**Syntax**  $\text{e}_c \# \text{sync}_i | \text{sync}_c \text{SF} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** None

**Description** Specifies either Overlamine or Varnish as the type of Ribbon installed in the Laminator Station of P500s.

**Syntax**  $\textcircled{\text{S}}_{\text{C}} \# \text{SPACE} \text{I} \text{SPACE} \text{TF} \text{SPACE} \text{p1} \leftarrow$

**Parameters**    pl =    Type of Laminator Ribbon

**Where:**

0 = Varnish

1 = Overlamine

P3xx M
P3xx C
P4xx
• P500
• P600
• Max

## +TC Command - Set Temperature

**Description** Sets amount of heat applied in transferring material or die-cut panels from the Laminator Ribbon to the cards.

**P500 Syntax**     $^{\circ}_{s_c} \#^{s_{N_{TC}}} [^{s_{N_{TC}}} + TC^{s_{N_{TC}}} p1 \leftarrow ]$

**Max3000 Syntax**     $^{\circ}_{s_c} \#^{s_{N_{TC}}} [1^{s_{N_{TC}}} + TC^{s_{N_{TC}}} p1 \leftarrow ]$

**Parameters**    p1 =    Temperature (degrees C)  
Where:  
165 ≡ P500 Overlamine  
155 ≡ P500 Varnish  
185 ≡ Max3000 Laminate

## +DLAMI Command - Set Lamination Configuration

**Description** Allows enabling or disabling of Print Station varnish or Laminator lamination. The associated application occurs with issuance of an IV command, or in some instances, an I command (In the following Examples, look for the +DLAMI that precedes an I or IV).

*Note 1: This command applies to Module-1 and, therefore, requires no #<sup>snr</sup>1 preface.*

*Note 2: Only one card surface can receive lamination material.*

**Syntax**    <sup>snr</sup>c +DLAMI <sup>snr</sup>c1<sup>snr</sup>c2↵

**Parameters**

p1 =        Print Station Varnish  
              0 =    Disable  
              1 =    Enable

p2 =        Laminator Station Application  
              0 =    Disable  
              1 =    Enable  
              2 =    Enable and flip to laminate (applies to YMCKO and YMCK ribbons to laminate the color side after imaging Kr on the monochrome side)

**Examples Using YMCKO Ribbon**    Print YMCK on both sides then laminate first side:

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled ( side-1 default)
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 0 0	Disable both varnish & lamination
IS 0	Print Y (side 2)
IS 1	Print M (side 2)
IS 2	Print C (side 2)
I	Print K (side 2)
IV	Flip card, laminate, eject (no varnish)

## **+DLAMI Command - Set Lamination Configuration (Continued)**

---

On first side, print YMCK then laminate. On second side, print YMCKO panels (no laminate):

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 0	Print Y (side 2)
IS 1	Print M (side 2)
IS 2	Print C (side 2)
I	Print K (side 2)
IV	Print O (side 2), flip, laminate, & eject

Print all ribbon panels on both sides without lamination:

+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	Print O (side 1) & return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 0	Print Y (side 2)
IS 1	Print M (side 2)
IS 2	Print C (side 2)
I	Print K (side 2)
IV	Print O (side 2) & eject

# **+DLAMI Command - Set Lamination Configuration (Continued)** ---

<i>Examples Using YMCKOK Ribbon</i>	On first side, print YMCK panels then laminate. On second side, print last K panel then laminate:
+ RIB 10	YMCKOK ribbon in use
+ DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card
+ DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled
I 20	Print K (side 2)
MO	Flip Card, Laminate, & Eject
	On first side, print YMCK panels then laminate. On second side, print just last K panel:
+ RIB 10	YMCKOK ribbon in use
+ DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card & return
+ DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
I 20	Print K (side 2) & return
MO	Flip card, laminate, & eject

## **+DLAMI Command - Set Lamination Configuration (Continued)**

---

On first side, print YMCKO panels (no lamination).  
On second side, print just last K panel (No lamination):

+RIB 10	YMCKOK ribbon in use
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 0	Print Y (side 1)
IS 1	Print M (side 1)
IS 2	Print C (side 1)
I	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	Print O & return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
I 20	Print K (side 2) & return
MO	Eject card

**Examples Using KsO Ribbon** Print Ks and laminate side one and print Ks on side two:

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
IS 3	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 0 0	Disable both varnish & laminate
IS 3	Print K (side 2)
IV	Flip card, laminate, & eject

On first side, print K and laminate. On second side, print K and varnish:

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
IS 3	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	No varnish, just a return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 3	Print K (side 2)
IV	Print O, flip card, & laminate



# **+DLAMI Command - Set Lamination Configuration (Continued)** ---

Print KsO on both sides without lamination:

+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 3	Print K (side 1)
IV 10	Print O (side 2) & return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
IS 3	Print K (side 2)
IV	Print O (side 2) & eject

## ***Examples Using Monochrome Ribbon***

Print K and laminate side one:

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
I 10	Place at print ready
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 0 0	Disable both varnish & laminate
I	Print K, flip card, laminate & eject

On first side, print K and laminate. On second side just print K:

+DLAMI 0 1	Laminate enabled (side-1 default)
I 10	Print K (side 1), & return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
I	Print K, flip card, & eject

Print K on both sides without lamination:

+DLAMI 1 0	Varnish enabled
I 10	Print K & return
MF	Flip Card & return
+DLAMI 0 0	Disable both varnish & laminate
I	Print K & eject card

P3xx M  
P3xx C  
P4xx  
• P500  
• P600  
• Max

## +VL Command - Set Lamination Speed

---

**Description** This command determines the speed that cards pass through the Lamination Rollers. An attempt to enhance performance by increasing speed here in concert with a higher lamination temperature can result in heat-distorted cards. Card distortion can produce encoding errors.

**Syntax**  $\text{e}_{\text{c}} \# \text{sp}_{\text{L}} \text{11} \text{sp}_{\text{L}} + \text{VL} \text{sp}_{\text{L}} \text{p1} \downarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Speed

For 1-mil overlamine ribbon:  
p1 = 4500 (default — 4.8mm/s)

For 0.6-mil overlamine ribbon:  
p1 = 2000 (11mm/s)

P3xx	M	
•	P3xx	C
•	P4xx	
	P500	
	P600	
•	Max	

## +VC Command - Reduce Color Print Speed

**Description** Allows a reduction in print speed for color printing, which can produce an increase in print quality.

*Note that this command only applies to P310, P420, and Max3300 printers.*

**Syntax**  $\text{^}_{\text{c}} + \text{VC}^{\text{SPX}} \text{p1} \leftarrow$

**Parameters** p1 = Speed Value

Where:

p1 = 0 ~ 10 (Default = 0)

P3:xx M
P3:xx C
P4:xx
P5:00
P6:00
Max

## RCBC Command - Reset Card Count of Reject Hopper

---

In P420s, this command resets the counter that keeps track of the number of cards placed in the Reject Hopper.

**Syntax**    <sup>6</sup><sub>c</sub>RCBC,↓

## ***Appendix A***

This section contains a listing of all fonts, bar codes, and their respective character sets supported by the Eltron Card Printer programming language.

**Resident Fonts** The programming language supports 2 different fonts based on Arial “Normal” and Arial “Bold.” The fonts are proportionally generated by the printer from Arial 100 point “Normal” and Arial 100 point “Bold” font descriptions.

		Hexidecimal - Most Significant Digit															
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
Hexidecimal - Least Significant Digit	0	0	16	32	48	64	80	96	112	128	144	160	176	192	208	224	240
	1	1	17	33	49	65	81	97	113	129	145	161	177	193	209	225	241
	2	2	18	34	50	66	82	98	114	130	146	162	178	194	210	226	242
	3	3	19	35	51	67	83	99	115	131	147	163	179	195	211	227	243
	4	4	20	36	52	68	84	100	116	132	148	164	180	196	212	228	244
	5	5	21	37	53	69	85	101	117	133	149	165	181	197	213	229	245
	6	6	22	38	54	70	86	102	118	134	150	166	182	198	214	230	246
	7	7	23	39	55	71	87	103	119	135	151	167	183	199	215	231	247
	8	8	24	40	56	72	88	104	120	136	152	168	184	200	216	232	248
	9	9	25	41	57	73	89	105	121	137	153	169	185	201	217	233	249
	A	A	26	42	58	74	90	106	122	138	154	170	186	202	218	234	250
	B	B	27	43	59	75	91	107	123	139	155	171	187	203	219	235	251
	C	C	28	44	60	76	92	108	124	140	156	172	188	204	220	236	252
	D	D	29	45	61	77	93	109	125	141	157	173	189	205	221	237	253
	E	E	30	46	62	78	94	110	126	142	158	174	190	206	222	238	254
	F	F	31	47	63	79	95	111	127	143	159	175	191	207	223	239	255

**Code 39** Code 39 is an alphanumeric bar code. Each character consists of 5 bars and 4 spaces. 3 of the 9 bars or spaces are wide. The wide to narrow bar and space width is set by the ratio. **The minimum narrow bar or space is 3 dots or 0.010 inch (0.254 mm).**

The supported ratio of narrow bar to wide bar widths are: **2:1, 5:2 (2.5:1), and 3:1**. The equation to calculate the Code 39 bar code length is:

$$L = [(C+2)(3R+7)-1]X$$

L = Length of bar code

C = Number of characters

R = Ratio of wide to narrow bars

X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.0847 mm per dot)

For the 5:2 ratio, the X = Dots times 2

The specified minimum recommended height of a Code 39 bar code is **0.25 inches (6.35 mm) or 75 dots**. The recommend "Quiet Zone" is **0.25" (6.35mm or 75 dots) or 10 times X** if larger.

Eltron card printers support Code 39 with the following 43 data characters, shown below:

Hexidecimal - Most Significant Digit

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	16	32	48	64	80	96	112
1	1	17	33	49	65	81	97	113
2	2	18	34	50	66	82	98	114
3	3	19	35	51	67	83	99	115
4	4	20	36	52	68	84	100	116
5	5	21	37	53	69	85	101	117
6	6	22	38	54	70	86	102	118
7	7	23	39	55	71	87	103	119
8	8	24	40	56	72	88	104	120
9	9	25	41	57	73	89	105	121
A	10	26	42	58	74	90	106	122
B	11	27	43	59	75	91	107	123
C	12	28	44	60	76	92	108	124
D	13	29	45	61	77	93	109	125
E	14	30	46	62	78	94	110	126
F	15	31	47	63	79	95	111	127

---

**Standard 2 of 5** The Two of Five code symbology encodes all information in the width of the bars. None of the information is carried by the spaces. Bars are wide or narrow and the wide bars are set by the ratio. Spaces are the same width as the narrow bars.  
**(Code 2/5)**

Two of Five code supports the numeric characters:

**0123456789**

The supported ratio of narrow bar to wide bar widths are: **2:1, 5:2 (2.5:1), and 3:1.**

The equation to calculate the Code 2/5 bar code length is:

$$L = [ ( C (2R + 8) ) + 14 ] X$$

L = Length of bar code  
C = Number of characters  
R = Ratio of wide to narrow bars (5:2=2.5)  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)  
For 5:2 ratio, the X = Dots times 2

The specified minimum recommended height of a Code 2/5 bar code is **0.25 inches (6.35 mm) or 75 dots**. The recommend "Quiet Zone" is **0.25" (6.35mm or 75 dots) or 10 times X** if larger.



---

**Interleaved 2 Of 5 (Code 1 2/5)** The name Interleaved 2 of 5 is derived from the method used to encode two characters. In the symbol, two characters are paired, using bars to represent the first character and the interleaved spaces to represent the second character. Each character has two sets, one bars and one spaces. Each consisting of two wide elements and three narrow elements. Bars and spaces are wide or narrow and the wide bars are set by the ratio.

Interleaved Two of Five code support the numeric characters:

**0123456789**

The printer will automatically add a leading zero ('0') to the odd number of bar code data characters.

The supported ratio of narrow bar to wide bar widths are: **2:1, 2:5 (2.5:1), and 3:1.**

The equation to calculate the Code 2/5 bar code length is:

$$L = [ C (2R + 3) ] + 6 + R ] X$$

L = Length of bar code

C = Number of characters

R = Ratio of wide to narrow bars (5:2=2.5)

X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

The minimum recommended height of a Code 2/5 bar code is **0.25 inches (6.35 mm) or 75 dots.** Ideally the bar code height should be 15% of the bar code length. The recommend "Quiet Zone" is **0.25" (6.35mm or 75 dots) or 10 times X** if larger.

---

**UPC-A** UPC (Universal Product Code) version A is the basic version of UPC and is usually the version seen on grocery store items in the United States. The symbology is used to encode the ten-digit Universal Product Code number. An eleventh digit, at the beginning, indicates the type of product and a twelfth digit is a module check digit.

The UPC code number and check digit are assigned by:

Uniform Code Council (UCC)  
8163 Old Yankee Rd., Ste. J, Dayton, OH 45458  
Phone (513) 435-3870; Fax: (513) 435-4749

UPC-A code support the numeric characters:

**0123456789**

The ratio command parameter (narrow bar to wide bar width) is ignored by the printer.

The equation to calculate the UPC-A bar code length is:

$$L = (91) X$$

L = Length of bar code  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

UPC-A bar code height, by specification, is six (6) individual UPC-A bar code characters high. The following equation can be used to calculate the industry specified height in Dots.

$$H = (42) X$$

H = Height of bar code in Dot  
X = Bar code Multiplier

Multiply the height of the bar code in dots by 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot) to get the actual bar code height.

---

**EAN-8** European Article Numbering, now also called IAN (International Article Numbering), is the international standard bar code for retail food packages corresponding to the Universal Product Code (UPC) in the United States. The symbology is used to encode a seven-digit EAN-8 number. An eight digit is a check digit that is automatically generated by the printer.

The EAN code number and check digit are assigned by numerous international agencies. See the list at the end of this appendix.

EAN-8 code support the numeric characters:

**0123456789**

The ratio command parameter (narrow bar to wide bar width) is ignored by the printer.

The equation to calculate the EAN-8 bar code length is:

$$L = (67) X$$

L = Length of bar code  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

EAN-8 bar code height, by specification, is six (6) individual EAN-8 bar code characters high. The following equation can be used to calculate the industry specified height in Dots.

$$H = (42) X$$

H = Height of bar code in Dot  
X = Bar code Multiplier

Multiply the height of the bar code in dots by 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot) to get the actual bar code height.

---

**EAN-13** EAN-13 is one of two versions of the European Article Numbering system (EAN) and is a super set of UPC. EAN-13 has the same number of bar as UPC version A, but encodes a 13th digit. The 12th and 13th digit define the country code. The codes 00-04 and 06-09 are assigned to the United States.

The EAN-13 code numbers are assigned by numerous international agencies. See the list at the end of this appendix.

EAN-13 code support the numeric characters:

**0123456789**

The ratio command parameter (narrow bar to wide bar width) is ignored by the printer.

The equation to calculate the EAN-13 bar code length is:

$$L = (98) X$$

L = Length of bar code  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

EAN-13 bar code height, by specification, is six (6) individual EAN-13 bar code characters high. The following equation can be used to calculate the industry specified height in Dots.

$$H = (42) X$$

H = Height of bar code in Dot  
X = Bar code Multiplier

Multiply the height of the bar code in dots by 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot) to get the actual bar code height.

**Code 128** Code 128 is a high density alphanumeric bar code.  
**Subsets B & C** Eltron printers in Code 128 B mode encode single digit alphanumeric as a single bar code character. The printer in Code 128 C mode encodes two (2) numeric digits as a single bar code character.

The printer accepts ASCII input data and encodes with a Code 128 bar code value (or digit). The following table represents the Code 128 B encoded value and the corresponding ASCII characters supported by the Eltron card printer. Code 128 C encodes numeric ASCII pairs, i.e. 0 & 5 would encode to a single Code 128 C digit 05. The printer will automatically add a leading zero ('0') to the odd number of Code 128 C bar code data characters.

Encoded Value	Code A	Code B	Code C	Encoded Value	Code A	Code B	Code C	Encoded Value	Code A	Code B	Code C
0	SP	SP	00	36	D	D	36	72	BS	h	72
1	!	!	01	37	E	E	37	73	HT	i	73
2	"	"	02	38	F	F	38	74	LF	j	74
3	#	#	03	39	G	G	39	75	VT	k	75
4	\$	\$	04	40	H	H	40	76	FF	l	76
5	%	%	05	41	I	I	41	77	CR	m	77
6	&	&	06	42	J	J	42	78	SO	n	78
7	'	'	07	43	K	K	43	79	SI	o	79
8	(	(	08	44	L	L	44	80	DLE	p	80
9	)	)	09	45	M	M	45	81	DC1	q	81
10	*	*	10	46	N	N	46	82	DC2	r	82
11	+	+	11	47	O	O	47	83	DC3	s	83
12	,	,	12	48	P	P	48	84	DC4	t	84
13	-	-	13	49	Q	Q	49	85	NAK	u	85
14	.	.	14	50	R	R	50	86	SYN	v	86
15	/	/	15	51	S	S	51	87	ETB	w	87
16	0	0	16	52	T	T	52	88	CAN	x	88
17	1	1	17	53	U	U	53	89	EM	y	89
18	2	2	18	54	V	V	54	90	SUB	z	90
19	3	3	19	55	W	W	55	91	ESC	{	91
20	4	4	20	56	X	X	56	92	FS		92
21	5	5	21	57	Y	Y	57	93	GS	}	93
22	6	6	22	58	Z	Z	58	94	RS	~	94
23	7	7	23	59	[	[	59	95	US	DEL	95
24	8	8	24	60	\	\	60	96	FNC3	FNC3	96
25	9	9	25	61	]	]	61	97	FNC2	FNC2	97
26	:	:	26	62	^	^	62	98	SHIFT	SHIFT	98
27	;	;	27	63	_	_	63	99	CodeC	CodeC	99
28	<	<	28	64	NUL	.	64	100	CodeB	FNC4	CodeB
29	=	=	29	65	SOH	a	65	101	FNC4	CodeA	CodeA
30	>	>	30	66	STX	b	66	102	FNC1	FNC1	FNC1
31	?	?	31	67	ETX	c	67	103	Start A	Start A	Start A
32	@	@	32	68	EOT	d	68	104	Start B	Start B	Start B
33	A	A	33	69	ENQ	e	69	105	Start C	Start C	Start C
34	B	B	34	70	ACK	f	70				
35	C	C	35	71	BEL	g	71				

The percentile (%) character must be preceded by another percentile character to encode.  
 Example: %% = %

The ratio command parameter (narrow bar to wide bar width) is ignored by the printer.

The equation to calculate the Code 128 B bar-code length is:

$$L = [ \textcircled{11} + 24 ] X$$

L = Length of bar code  
C = Number of characters & checksum character  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

The equation to calculate the Code 128 C bar code length is:

$$L = [ \textcircled{11} / 2 + 24 ] X$$

L = Length of bar code  
C = Number of characters (rounded up to the next even digit) & checksum character  
X = Number of Dots times 0.0033 inches per dot (0.08847 mm per dot)

The minimum recommended height of a Code 128 bar code is **0.25 inches (6.35 mm) or 75 dots**. Ideally the bar code height should be 15% of the bar code length. The recommend "Quite Zone" is **0.25" (6.35mm or 75 dots) or 10 times X** if larger.

---

***EAN International* General Specifications for the Article Symbol Marking (1987), EAN Prefix List**  
***Regulation Agencies***

EAN International (EAN)  
Rue Royale 29, B-1000 Bruxelles (Belgium)  
Reinhold Van Lennep, Secretary General

**prEN 797 Bar coding - Symbology specifications - EAN/UPC**

NNI  
P.O. Box 5059, NL-2600 GB DELFT  
THE NETHERLANDS

**ANSI**

11 West 42nd Street, 13th floor  
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Mexico

**New Zealand EAN Coding Authority**

**New Zealand Product Number Association,  
Ltd.**  
PO Box 11-110, Wellington, New Zealand

**South Africa EAN Coding Authority**

**South Africa Numbering Association**  
PO Box 41417, Craighall, 2024, Johannesburg,  
South Africa





# Appendix B

This section contains status and error reporting information for color and monochrome card printers.

**Parallel Port Printer Data Handshake Signal Lines** The Busy and Acknowledge signal lines are used to transfer data to the printer only.

**Parallel Port Printer Error Response** The color card printers will respond to error conditions with combinations of the Error and Paper Error signals at the printer’s parallel interface. Detailed error responses are sent via the serial port only.

Paper Error	Error/	Description
0	1	No Error
0	0	Syntax Error
1	1	Ribbon End or Empty Feeder
1	0	Mechanical Error
Note: To clear an Error, Send: ␣␣␣ (1B 2E 0D Hex)		

---

**Serial Port Printer Data Handshake** Some programs, like WindCard Mono, use Acknowledge (ACK) and Not Acknowledge (NACK) to display these communication protocol responses. The ACK response signifies 'Command Accepted, Waiting for Command'. The NACK response signifies an 'Error' or 'Check Status' condition exists and typically includes a corresponding error/status code. The NACK can also signify that the printer input buffer is full.

---

**Serial Port Printer Error Response** The printers will respond, via the serial port, to various conditions with status and error codes.

Status/Error responses have the following format:

**(NACK)05(EOT)** - Card in magnetic encoder.

Code	Error	Status	Condition
-1	✓		Mechanical Error - Printer
01	✓		Ribbon Broken / Missing
02	✓		Temperature
03	✓		Mechanical
04	✓		Feeder Empty
05		✓	Card In Encoder
06		✓	Card Not In Encoder
10	✓		Invalid Command or Parameter
11	✓		Invalid Coordinates (Image placement)
12	✓		Unknown Bar Code Reference
13	✓		Unknown Text/Font Reference
14	✓		Unknown Command
20	✓		Bar Code Data Syntax
21	✓		Text Data Syntax
22	✓		Graphic Data Syntax
30	✓		Graphic Image Initialization - Failed

Code	Error	Status	Condition
31	✓		Graphic Image Maximum Width Exceeded
32	✓		Graphic Image Maximum Height Exceeded
33	✓		Graphic Image Data Checksum Error
34		✓	Data Transfer Time-out
40	✓		Parameter / Syntax
41	✓		Mag. Encoder Write
42	✓		Mag. Encoder Read/Verify
43	✓		Mag. Encoder Mechanical
44	✓		Mag. Encoder Not Responding
45	✓		1) Magnetic Stripe Missing 2) Card Jam



## Appendix C

This section contains information on the magnetic stripe card encoder operation and formatting for all models except the Max Secure Series.

---

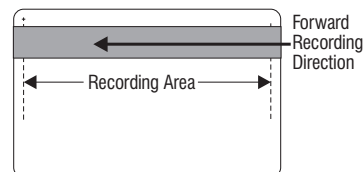
**Magnetic Encoders** All printers with encoders write and read ANSI 4.16 and ISO 7811/2/3. The encoder track positions are fixed and cannot be modified.

The current units with serial numbers 5000 and above, have two (2) possible encoder mounting options:

**Forward** - mounting the encoder to read the magnetic stripe up and:

**Reverse** - mounting the encoder to read the card with the magnetic stripe down.

Both current encoder options mount the encoder after the print head. *Older printers with serial numbers less than 5000, have the encoder mounted before the print head.*



---

**Encoder Operation** The encoder executes commands received one at a time. When the encoder receives a command, it performs the requested action and reports the result. The printer cannot execute a new encoder command until the previous encoder command has been completed. Detailed encoder (and general printer) status information is reported to the host via optional serial interface ports only. See Appendix B for a detailed listing of printer and encoder responses.

**Write** The encoder, in default configuration, can write in the forward or reverse directions and then automatically perform a write-verify data read. The printer then repositions the card to the print-ready position. Note that for ISO encoding, the Encoder attaches the Start, Stop, and LRC characters, which should not appear in the data sent.

**Read** The encoder can only read (back to the host) a single track of data at a time. The “&L” command performs read-only operations, see Command Reference, page 2-67.

The “M or m” multiple commands can serve to group several read commands. The encoder performs each command in the string until command string is completed. An error terminates an “M” Command string, while command execution resumes with error correction for an “m” command string. The “M” command concatenates the read data into a single response to the host.

**Example of Multiple Read Command String**

*(Escape and Carriage Returns not shown)*

Track 1 data = 1111

Track 2 data = 2222

Track 3 data = 3333

Multiple read command string is:

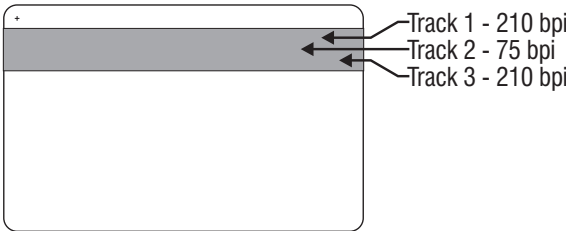
M 1 &L1[&L2[&L3

Data sent to the host, in a single response:

111122223333

**Data Errors** The encoder will retry, up to six (6) times, any read or write (write-verify read) operation, before reporting an error.

**Encoder Default Configuration** The printer's encoder will read and write the standard ANSI/ISO track data formats in the standard ANSI/ISO track locations. See the simple diagram below for the three standard ANSI/ISO tracks.



Each track can be encoded and decoded with ASCII characters in the standard default ANSI/ISO data formats.

Encoder ANSI/ISO (Default) Track Data Formats				
Track	Density	Data Format	Data Characters	Data Separator
1	210 BPI	7 Bit (6 data, 1 parity)	\$ ( ) - . / 0 through 9 A through Z (All Caps)	^
2	75 BPI	5 Bit (4 data, 1 parity)	0 through 9	=
3	210 BPI	5 Bit (4 data, 1 parity)	0 through 9	=

The ANSI/ISO data formats include a preamble (all zeros), a start character, data (7-bit or 5-bit as specified by ANSI/ISO), a stop character, and a longitudinal redundancy check character. The 7-bit data format has 6 bits of encoded data and a parity bit. The 5-bit data format has 4 bits of encoded data and a parity bit.

The ANSI/ISO data formats include a “data field” separator (or delimiter) that allows the encoded data on a track to be parsed. An example of separate data fields would be the American Bankers Association (ABA) data format (normally located on track 2) that includes a primary account number

(PAN) field and an account information field (for expiration date, country code, etc.).



The encoder reports a data error when the total number of data characters has exceeded the maximum allowed by physical encoding (bit density) and the data format in any read or write data function.

---

**Basic Commands** All card printers with encoders, perform the basic functions of reading and writing to ANSI/ISO track and data formats. The commands for these basic encoder functions are listed below.

Basic Encoder Commands		Page
&E	Encode Single Data Track	2-64
&B	Buffer Single Track Data	2-65
&E*	Encode All Data Tracks	2-66
&L	Read Single Track Data	2-67

---

**Advanced Encoder Commands** Printers with magnetic stripe encoders, that have serial numbers 5000 or greater, have an expanded encoder command set. These commands allow the programmer to create custom data and track formats.

The encoder can be programmed to read and write custom data and formats. The encoder can be programmed to use a standard ANSI/ISO data formats on one of other ANSI/ISO track locations. For example, the encoder can be programmed to read and write ANSI/ISO Track 3 data format on Track 1. When in this mode, the advanced encoder commands support encoding of and decoding to host with ASCII character data. The encode automatically adds the selected ANSI/ISO data format. The encoder will report errors when reading and writing in this mode.





The encoder will not accept ASCII characters that are not part of the selected ANSI/ISO data character set. See C-3 for table of character sets.

The following lists the advanced encoder commands:

Advanced Encoder Commands		
&R	Reset Encoder	2-63
&B	Buffer Track Data	2-65
&L	Read Single Track Data	2-67
&W	Change Encoding Direction	2-68
&D	Change Track Density	2-69
&CDEW	Custom Write Format	2-72
&CDER	Custom Read Format	2-70



The encoder does not write data unless the read buffer is programmed to read identical data parameters. Otherwise, an error occurs.

**Resetting The Encoder To ANSI/ISO Track Defaults** To ensure that the encoder is in the proper configuration, the programmer should reset the encoder to ANSI/ISO track data, format, density and location.

Reset the encoder to ANSI/ISO defaults with the following command sequence.

**Example:** (Escape and Carriage Returns not shown)  
&R  
&CDEW 0 0  
&CDER 0 0



The encoder stores the track settings in flash memory. If the encoder is powered down, the printer retains the last encoder read, write, and track density settings.

---

**Change Track Density** The &D command allows changes in the density of a track. &D command changes occur to a given track density without changing the related data format or character set. See Command Reference &D, page 2-69 for command details.

---

**Changing Read Configuration** The &CDER command serves to change the read data format configuration. This command can configure a given track to:

- Its ANSI/ISO data format.
- Change it to another ANSI/ISO track format.
- To allow forward or reverse data reads.
- Change to “Raw” data format that has custom track data format and data block encoding.

---



The &L read command needs to be configured to read “Raw” (or hexadecimal) custom data.

---

**Changing Write Configurations** The &CDEW command allows changes to the read data format configuration. This command can configure a given track to:

- Its ANSI/ISO data format.
- Change it to another ANSI/ISO track format.
- Change to “Raw” data format that has custom track data format and data block encoding.

---



The &B read command needs to be configured to store to write “Raw” (or hexadecimal) custom data.

---

---

**Custom ISO Data** The encoder can be configured to process ISO track data in non-ISO track locations. The printer interprets and processes the ASCII data normally. The custom data control commands; &D (track density), &CDER (read data format) and the &CDEW (write data format).

---



The printer automatically read verifies after a write, so all three commands (&D, &CDER, and &CDEW) must be properly configured to function without reporting a data error.

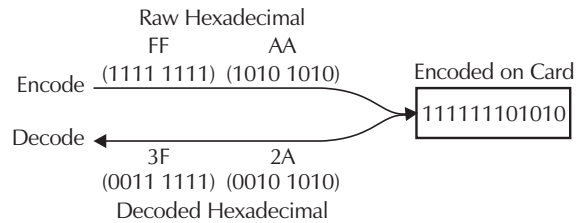
---



---

**Unique Custom Data Formats** The encoder is capable of reading and writing non-ANSI/ISO data. The data block and the track's data string formatting is "stripped" and "passed through" the encoder (and printer) without error checking, encoding or decoding. The host sends and receives "Raw" hexadecimal data strings.

Each hexadecimal block sent to the encoder represent a block of magnetic card encoded data. The encoder stripes the most significant bits of the data blocks off of each hexadecimal block.



“Raw” hexadecimal data, when encoded, requires the following elements in the final binary data string:

- **Preamble data** - minimum number of leading binary “0” bits, i.e. NUL characters. Note: the NUL (00 hexadecimal) is normally sent to the printer with a character like the @ symbol (40 hexadecimal) and is encoded as all zero bits in 6 (or lower) bit data mode.  
75bpi - 20 min., 24 nominal, 1024 max.  
210bpi - 40 min., 68 nominal, 1024 max.
- **Start Bit** - The first binary “1” bit detected will start the data block grouping. The LSB (least significant bit) of the first character sited in data block is the Start Bit.
- **NUL Data Block** - Without NULs enabled, the encoder terminates the data string or causes the data string to “restart” when a new “start bit”, a data block with a “1’s” bit.
- **NUL Data Block with NULs enabled** - Allow the inclusion of NUL data character blocks within the data string.
- **Postamble** - binary “0” bits, i.e. NUL characters, fill remainder of track.

## ***Appendix D***

This Appendix includes an example of a P600 command sequence that offers both optimization and loopback features for duplex printing.

## Start

Before sending the image, check Module 1 for Error-Free and Ready status.

Wait for Module-1 ACK + Error-Free Status

$$^{\theta}_{\text{SC}} \text{GS} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_0 \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p1}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p2}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p3}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p4}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p5}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{p6}} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}}_{\text{data}} \leftarrow$$
$$^{\circ} \text{ } _{\text{C}} \text{GS} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} 1 \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p1} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p2} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p3} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p4} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p5} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{p6} \text{ } ^{\text{SPACE}} \text{data} \leftarrow$$
$${}^{\Theta}_{\text{S}}\text{GS}\text{SPACE}2\text{SPACE}p1\text{SPACE}p2\text{SPACE}p3\text{SPACE}p4\text{SPACE}p5\text{SPACE}p6\text{SPACE}data\leftarrow$$
$$^{\Theta}_{\mathcal{S}_C} G^{SPACE} p1^{SPACE} p2^{SPACE} p3^{SPACE} p4^{SPACE} p5^{SPACE} p6^{SPACE} data \leftarrow$$
$${}^{\Theta} s_c vL \text{ SPACE } p1 \text{ SPACE } p2 \text{ SPACE } p3 \text{ SPACE } p4 \text{ SPACE } p5 \leftarrow$$
$$^{\oplus} s_c m \text{ SPACE } 1 \text{ SPACE } 1 \text{ SPACE } 0 [ \text{IS SPACE } 1 [ \text{IS SPACE } 2 [ \text{I} [ \text{IV SPACE } x x \leftarrow$$

```
xx = 30 (do not move after varnish)
xx = 31 (invert K for varnish and do not move after)
xx = 10 (return to print-ready after varnish)
xx = 11 (invert K for varnish, and return to print-ready)
```

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Before sending the image, check Module 2 for Error-Free and Ready status.

Select Module 2 (INIT = 0)

Wait for Module-2 ACK + Error-Free Status

If necessary, correct error.

Download Yellow Buffer data to Module 2 and wait for Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$\text{GS}^{\text{S}}_0 \text{p1}^{\text{S}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}} \text{p3}^{\text{S}} \text{p4}^{\text{S}} \text{p5}^{\text{S}} \text{p6}^{\text{S}} \text{data} \leftarrow$

Download Magenta Buffer data to Module 2 and wait for Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$\text{GS}^{\text{S}}_1 \text{p1}^{\text{S}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}} \text{p3}^{\text{S}} \text{p4}^{\text{S}} \text{p5}^{\text{S}} \text{p6}^{\text{S}} \text{data} \leftarrow$

Download Cyan Buffer data to Module 2 and wait for Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$\text{GS}^{\text{S}}_2 \text{p1}^{\text{S}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}} \text{p3}^{\text{S}} \text{p4}^{\text{S}} \text{p5}^{\text{S}} \text{p6}^{\text{S}} \text{data} \leftarrow$

Download Black Buffer data to Module 2 and wait for Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$\text{G}^{\text{S}} \text{p1}^{\text{S}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}} \text{p3}^{\text{S}} \text{p4}^{\text{S}} \text{p5}^{\text{S}} \text{p6}^{\text{S}} \text{data} \leftarrow$

If different from inverted black, download Varnish buffer data to Module 2, and wait for Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$\text{vL}^{\text{S}} \text{p1}^{\text{S}} \text{p2}^{\text{S}} \text{p3}^{\text{S}} \text{p4}^{\text{S}} \text{p5}^{\text{S}} \leftarrow$

Before exiting the card from Module 1, check Module 1 for Error-Free and Ready status.

Select Module 1 (INIT = 1)

Wait for Module-1 ACK + Error-Free Status

If necessary, correct error.

Select Module 2 (INIT = 0)

Wait for Module-2 ACK + Error-Free Status

If necessary, correct error.

Make a Card Flip pending in Module 2, and **do not** wait for Ready + Error-Free status:

$^{\circ}cMF \leftarrow$

Select Module 1 (INIT = 1)

Exit card from Module 1, and check for Ready + Error-Free status:

$^{\circ}cMO \leftarrow$

Select Module 2 (INIT = 0)

Wait for Module-2 ACK + Error-Free Status

Print Image Buffers using Link command, and **do not** wait for Module 2 Ready + Error-Free status, for example:

$^{\circ}cm^{S_{PKC}}1^{S_{PKC}}IS^{S_{PKC}}0[IS^{S_{PKC}}1[IS^{S_{PKC}}2[I[IV^{S_{PKC}}xx \leftarrow$

Where:

xx = 30 (do not move after varnish)

xx = 31 (invert K for varnish and do not move after)

xx = 10 (return to print-ready after varnish)

xx = 11 (invert K for varnish, and return to print-ready)

**Loop to Start**



## ***Appendix E***

This Appendix offers examples of Max Secure command sequences for the various ribbon types.

Note that for Max3000s the best sequence links print commands using the “M” operator. For Max3300s, data downloads alternated with print commands takes advantage of a related capability to overlap, and thereby, speed up these operations.

For error support, the firmware maintains two buffers. The data and command series for printing stay in a respective buffer until an associated card composite passes through all the Max Secure modules error free. If an error occurs somewhere during the process, the command and associated data remain available, and the firmware initiates another card printing automatically.

Imagine, for example, an error that occurs in the Laminator while the Printer has begun another card. Data associated with the error-producing card would remain in place while printing continues on the card next begun. Following print completion on this card, another printing begins using the data retained for use to replicate the card that produced the error.

---

**Sample Max3000**  
**Command Sequences**

**YMCKrO Ribbon**    *Setup and Data Download Series:*  
+ RIB 0    Specifies ribbon type  
\$F    Erases color buffer  
F    Erases monochrome buffer used for Clear Card imaging  
vF    Erases monochrome buffer used for White Card imaging  
GS...    Sends color buffer data  
G ...    Sends monochrome buffer data for Clear Card  
vG    Sends monochrome buffer data for White Card  
...    Send configuration commands (Contrast, Speed, etc.)  
*Card Print Series:*  
M # IS 0[IS 1[IS 2[MO[MF[I[IV[MO

**YMCKr Ribbon**    *Setup and Download Series:*  
+ RIB 13    Specifies ribbon type  
\$F    Erases color buffer  
F    Erases monochrome buffer used for Clear Card imaging  
vF    Erases monochrome buffer used for White Card imaging  
GS...    Sends color buffer data  
G ...    Sends monochrome buffer data for Clear Card  
vG    Sends monochrome buffer data for White Card  
...    Send configuration commands (Contrast, Speed, etc.)  
*Card Print Series:*  
M # IS 0[IS 1[IS 2[MO[MF[I[MO

**YMCKrKr Ribbon** *Setup and Download Series:*  
 +RIB 20 Specifies ribbon type  
 \$F Erases color buffer  
 F Erases monochrome buffer used for Clear Card imaging  
 vF Erases monochrome buffer used for White Card imaging  
 GS... Sends color buffer data  
 G ... Sends monochrome buffer data for Clear Card  
 vG Sends monochrome buffer data for White Card  
 ... Send configuration commands (Contrast, Speed, etc.)  
*Card Print Series:*  
 M # IS 0[IS 1[IS 2[I[MO[MF[I[MO

**YMCKr\_Kr Ribbon** *Setup and Download Series:*  
 +RIB 21 Specifies ribbon type  
 \$F Erases color buffer  
 F Erases monochrome buffer used for Clear Card imaging  
 vF Erases monochrome buffer used for White Card imaging  
 GS... Sends color buffer data  
 G ... Sends monochrome buffer data for Clear Card  
 vG Sends monochrome buffer data for White Card  
 ... Send configuration commands (Contrast, Speed, etc.)  
*Card Print Series:*  
 M # IS 0[IS 1[IS 2[I[MO[MF[I[MO

---

**Sample Max3300**  
**Command Sequences**

**KsO Ribbon** Note that no Ks White Card printing can occur  
+ RIB 0 Specifies Standard ribbon type  
\$F Clear Color Buffers  
GS 3 Download Data  
IS 3 Print Black (Gray Scale)  
IV Print Varnish (Panel & Card advance only)  
MO Exit Clear Card  
MF Begin White Sequence  
MO Exit White Card

**KrO Ribbon** For Clear and White Card printing:  
+ RIB 0 Specifies Standard Ribbon type  
F Clear monochrome buffer  
G Initialize monochrome graphic  
O, Z, etc. Download monochrome data  
I 20 Print Clear Card  
IV Skip over Overlay panel  
MO Exit Clear Card  
MF Begin White Sequence  
vF Clear monochrome buffer  
vG Initialize monochrome buffer  
vO, vZ, etc. Download monochrome data  
I 20 Print White Card  
IV Print White Card  
MO Exit White

For Clear Card only printing:  
 +RIB 0 Specifies Standard Ribbon type  
 F Clear monochrome buffer  
 G Initialize monochrome graphic  
 O, Z, etc. Download monochrome data  
 I 20 Print Clear Card  
 IV Skip over Overlay panel  
 MO Exit Clear Card  
 MF Begin White Sequence  
 MO Exit White Card

**YMCKr Ribbon** For Clear Card only printing:  
 +RIB 13 Specifies 4-panel ribbon  
 \$F Clear Color Buffers  
 GS 0 Download Yellow  
 IS 0 Print Yellow  
 GS 1 Download Magenta  
 IS 1 Print Magenta  
 GS 2 Download Cyan  
 IS 2 Print Cyan  
 F Clear monochrome buffer  
 G Initialize monochrome buffer  
 O, Z, etc. Download monochrome data  
 I Print White Card  
 MO Exit Clear Card  
 MF Begin White Sequence  
 MO Exit White Card

For Clear and White Card printing:  
+ RIB 13 Specifies 4-panel ribbon

\$F	Clear Color Buffers
GS 0	Download Yellow
IS 0	Print Yellow
GS 1	Download Magenta
IS 1	Print Magenta
GS 2	Download Cyan
IS 2	Print Cyan
MO	Exit Clear
MF	Begin White Sequence
vF	Clear monochrome buffer
vG	Initialize monochrome buffer
vO, vZ, etc.	Download monochrome data
I	Print White Card
MO	Exit Clear Card

**YMCKr\_Kr Ribbon** + RIB 21 Specifies 6-panel ribbon

\$F	Clear Color Buffers
GS 0	Download Yellow
IS 0	Print Yellow
GS 1	Download Magenta
IS 1	Print Magenta
GS 2	Download Cyan
IS 2	Print Cyan
F	Clear monochrome buffer
G	Initialize monochrome buffer
I	Print monochrome buffer
MO	Exit Clear Card
MF	Begin White Sequence
vF	Clear monochrome buffer
vG	Initialize monochrome buffer
vO, vZ, etc.	Download monochrome data
I	Print monochrome data
MO	Exit White Card



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1001 Flynn Road  
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FAX: +33 1 55 20 93 99  
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Phone: +1 (305) 558 8470  
FAX: +1 (305) 558 8485  
e-mail: latinsales@eltron.com

### **Zebra Technologies Corporation Eltron Card Printer Products, Asia/Pacific**

1 Sims Lane # 06-11  
387355, Singapore  
Phone: +65 84 20 322  
FAX: +65 84 20 514  
e-mail: asiasales@eltron.com

### **CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS Zebra Technologies Corporation**

333 Corporate Woods Parkway  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061-3109 USA  
Phone: +1 (847) 634 6700  
FAX: +1 (847) 913 8766  
e-mail: sales@zebra.com



**Zebra Technologies Corporation**



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