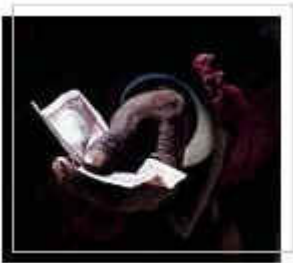


Welcome

Jack Roffel & Associates

"Software Designed With Rebuilders in Mind"

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Using a USB Printer

Since USB (Universal Serial Bus) printers have become almost a standard we have had many requests from users who wish to use them with Shop Trac. This is NOT difficult, but it does require a few assumptions:

- The printer in question needs to be compatible with an existing Shop Trac printer driver or .PD file. This means that your USB printer has to be capable of emulating an existing fixed width font printer. In the case of laser printers this is NOT usually a problem as most laser printers emulate an HP Laserjet. The HPLASER.PD file that ships with Shop Trac is for such a printer. Shop Trac does not (and will not) support most ink jet printers as they normally do not have any built in fixed width fonts.
- Using a USB printer requires Windows 2000 or later including Windows XP and Windows server versions. This method has not been tested using Windows 98 or Windows 95 as the proper commands are not available with these operating systems.
- Microsoft Networking is installed. If you run a multi-user version of Shop Trac this will already be the case. Printer sharing also needs to be enabled. Networking settings are accessed from the 'Network' icon in the 'Control Panel'.
- The USB printer has been installed and is working from within Windows.
- You will need to know the network name of the computer that is hosting the printer. In our example we will use the computer name as SERVER

Shop Trac cannot print to a USB port directly as DOS has no USB support built into it. In order to connect to a USB printer we need to connect to it as a network printer that in turn has been mapped to a standard LPT port.

The following are the steps to configure this printer using Shop Trac:

- Share the printer from Windows. From the printer folder right click the printer and choose 'Properties'. From the 'Sharing' tab share and assign a share name to this printer. For the sake of this example we will share the printer as LASER
- From a command prompt issue the following command to share assign an LPT port to the printer: (the command prompt is normally in the 'Accessories' menu. LPT Ports are numbered 1,2,3 etc. You must use a port that is NOT used by your existing hardware. If this computer has no other printer attached, then LPT1 should be ok. Make changes to this command as needed.

```
NET USE LPT1 \\SERVER\LASER /PERSISTENT:YES
```

A message should indicate that this command completed successfully.

- Create or edit a printer driver file using the Setup | Printers option in Shop Trac. Make sure that the output port is set to the same port as used with the NET USE command. The HPLASER.PD file was designed to work with most HP Compatible printers. A copy of this file can be downloaded [here](#).

Up

Web Site News!

This box will always give you the latest news about changes to this site.

New Shop Trac and IMS/ACTR/ACTP Tech Tips.

New price lists have been posted:

Stanadyne
Canadian (Cadel)
01-2005
Stanadyne US 2005

The latest Shop Trac Update is dated 01/10/2004. The latest IMS/ACTR/ACTP Update is dated 11/30/2003.

If this printer is being shared on the network, then the LPT port used should be available to ALL network computers. In this case it may be best to use a normally non-existent port such as LPT3

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