



*Advanced PLC program development
and documentation software*

Application Note TD-AN-34

Using TOPDOC
with Windows 95/98/NT Printers

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Using TOPDOC with Windows 95/98/NT Printers

This application note describes how to print hard-copy reports from TOPDOC for SoftPLC, PLC-5, or PLC-3 using standard Windows 95/98/NT printer selections, rather than entering the printer formatting hexadecimal escape codes into the TOPDOC Printer Setup area.

In summary, you will set TOPDOC to print to a disk file. Since TOPDOC prints only ASCII characters, you can then import the disk file into any Windows-based word processor or text editor you choose, and use it for your hard-copy output.

I. Setting TOPDOC to Print to a Disk File Usable by Word Processor/Text Editors

From the TOPDOC main menu **Setup/Printer** options, or from the Document Menu **Setup** option, you access TOPDOC's printer setup functions.

Select the **Port** option, then select **Disk file**. This sets the report output to go to the Path/Filename that you will next specify. The output file extension will be ".PRN".

NOTE: Once this is set, all selected reports will go to this file and append to it. (Therefore, you may want to delete the file, or change the file name if you will be printing multiple ladder programs or reports.)

You should next use the other printer setup options to select the report formatting you want. For printing to 8-½" x 11" paper, you should select the **Format/Report Width** to be 125 characters, and **Format/IBM Graphics** to be "N".

Save the new printer setup.

Now, select and print the reports you desire from TOPDOC.

II Loading/formatting the Output in the Text Editor

Once you have created the output file <filename>.PRN, you should load your word processor or text editor program. You will need to format the page for the report to format properly:

- A. Select a non-proportional font, one that uses the same space for each character. Common fonts like this are Courier and Monospace.
- B. Set the font size to 7. (If you use a larger font size you will need to use landscape formatted pages.)
- C. Set the left & right margins to a small number, such as 0.25" each.
- D. Set the top and bottom margins to 0.5".

The report should now appear properly formatted, with page breaks in the correct location. You can then Print the document.