

# Linx 5900 & 7900



An Introduction to the  
Operating Instructions for the  
Linx 5900 & 7900 Printers



**THINKING ALONG YOUR LINES**

# An Introduction to the Operating Instructions for the Linx 5900 & 7900 Printers



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# An Introduction to the Operating Instructions for the Linx 5900 & 7900 Printers



## 1 Introduction

This document provides an introduction to the *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide* and 'How To...' guides and the information they contain.

### 1.1 Health and Safety

Make sure that you read and understand the Health and Safety information in the 'Safety' section of the *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide*.

### 1.2 About the Quick Start and 'How To...' guides

Linx supplies a number of documents to provide instructions on how to operate the 5900 and 7900 printers:

- *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide*

This document provides an introduction to the basic and common functions of the 5900 and 7900 printers.

- 'How To...' guides

Instead of a large manual of instructions about advanced functions, this information is now arranged in short documents that describe single topics, called 'How To...' guides. This makes it easier for operators to find the information they require.

We hope the new style for the operating instructions is easier to use and less complex than having one large, complete manual. Any comments about the introduction of the 'How To...' guides are welcome. Contact Linx Technical Publications at [techpubs@linx.co.uk](mailto:techpubs@linx.co.uk).

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## 2 Content of Quick Start and 'How To...' guides

The following Quick Start and 'How To...' guides are available:

- Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide
- How To Install and Set Up the 5900 & 7900 Printer ('How To...' guide 01)
- How To Change the Print Settings ('How To...' guide 02)
- How To Change the System Setup ('How To...' guide 03)
- How To Create Date and Time Formats ('How To...' guide 04)
- How To Create Text and Orientation Sequences ('How To...' guide 05)
- How To Configure the Message Editor and Logo Editor ('How To...' guide 06)
- How To Diagnose Problems ('How To...' guide 07)
- How To Create a Logo ('How To...' guide 08—7900 only)
- How To Create a Shift Code ('How To...' guide 09)
- How To Create Bar Codes ('How To...' guide 10—7900 only)
- How To Create a Sequential Number ('How To...' guide 11)
- How To Use the Spectrum Printer ('How To...' guide 12—7900 only)
- How To Create a Remote Field ('How To...' guide 13)
- How To Create a Production Schedule ('How To...' guide 14—7900 only)
- How To Use the Parallel I/O Option ('How To...' guide 15)
- How To Use the Communications Options ('How To...' guide 16)
- How To Use Keyboard Shortcuts ('How To...' guide 17)
- How To Use Advanced Editing ('How To...' guide 18)
- How To Use a Different Keyboard ('How To...' guide 19)
- How To Use the 7900 Food Grade Printer ('How To...' guide 20—7900 only)
- How To Use the USB Connection ('How To...' guide 21)
- How To Use Prompted Fields ('How To...' guide 22)
- How To Use Dynamic Message Orientation ('How To...' guide 23—5900 only)

The contents of the Quick Start and 'How To...' guides are divided as follows.

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## 2.1 Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide

The *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide* helps you do the most common jobs on the 5900 and 7900 printers. The guide describes the layout of the printers, the controls, and the displays. The guide shows you how to do the following tasks:

- Switch on the printer.
- Create a message to print.
- Select a font style and a font size for your message.
- Create a Date field or a Time field and edit the field.
- Edit a message.
- Print a message on a product.
- Pause printing.
- Change the print position on a product.
- Stop the printer and turn it off.

## 2.2 'How To...' guides

### *01 How To Install and Set Up the 5900 & 7900 Printer*

This document describes how to install and set up the 5900 and 7900 printers. You can use these instructions to move the printer or make changes to the production line setup.

### *02 How To Change the Print Settings*

This document describes how to change the Print Settings on the 5900 and 7900 printers. The **Print Settings** page contains the following options:

- Print Delay
- Print Width
- Print Height
- Lock Aspect Ratio
- Print Count
- Message Orientation Mode (5900 only)
- Message Orientation
- Reset All Message Sequences
- Total Print Count

This document is for operators and line supervisors who know how to use the printer, and have performed the tasks described in the *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide*.

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## 03 How To Change the System Setup

This document describes the Line setup options and the Installation setup options for the 5900 and 7900 printers. The following options are described:

- Trigger setup
- Line speed
- Alarm setup
- Installation options
- Security options

## 04 How To Create Date and Time Formats

This document lists the available date and time formats for the 5900 and 7900 printers. It also shows how you can make new Date and Time field formats for the 7900 printer.

## 05 How To Create Text and Orientation Sequences

This document describes the Text and Orientation sequences in the 7900 printer and shows how you create new Text and Orientation sequences. This functionality is not available on the 5900 printer.

## 06 How To Configure the Message Editor and Logo Editor

This document describes how you use the **Editor Defaults** page to define the default parameters of new messages and logos that you create. Any changes you make to Editor Defaults become the starting settings for new messages and logos that you create.

## 07 How To Diagnose Problems

This document describes how you check the condition of the 5900 and 7900 printers and find the cause of any problems. It includes information on test messages, the event log, the **Monitor Jet** page, maintenance times, and the **Print and Consumables** pages.

The System Events (warnings and faults) are described in the *Linx 5900 & 7900 Quick Start Guide* and are not described in this document.

## 08 How To Create a Logo

This document describes how to create and use logos for the 7900 printer. A logo is an image that is made from a grid of square picture elements ('pixels'). You can use the Logo Editor to set each pixel to make a complete image. You can import logos to the 5900 printer via a USB memory stick.

## 09 How To Create a Shift Code

This document describes how to set up shift codes for the printer. A shift code records the time or the day of the week during which a message was printed. You can use the shift code to help you identify each batch of products. The 5900 and 7900 printers can generate two types of shift code field:

- Daily—this type of shift code is repeated each day and indicates the time during which a message was printed.
- Weekly—this type of shift code is repeated each week and indicates the day on which a message was printed.



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## ***10 How To Create Bar Codes***

This document describes how you create and edit bar codes for the 7900 printer. The printer can generate bar codes in a number of formats. There are two methods that you can use to create a bar code:

- Edit an existing field and encode the field.
- Create a bar code field, then enter the source data or link the bar code to an existing field.

This functionality is not available on the 5900 printer.

## ***11 How To Create a Sequential Number***

This document describes how to create a Sequential Number field for the 5900 and 7900 printers. A Sequential Number field is a field that contains a number that is updated automatically. The printer updates the number at each occurrence of a trigger event, which you can define.

## ***12 How To Use the Spectrum Printer***

This document contains additional information for anyone who uses the 7900 Spectrum printer. The guide includes information about the Mixing Sequence, system events, and maintenance.

## ***13 How To Create a Remote Field***

This document describes how to create a remote field for the 5900 and 7900 printers. A remote field in a message reserves an area that you can use for data downloaded from a remote computer or other equipment. A single message can have more than one remote field, and you can use the remote field data in more than one message.

## ***14 How To Create a Production Schedule***

This document tells you how you create a Production Schedule for the 7900 printer. A production schedule allows you to print a sequence of messages automatically. You can set the number of repeats for each message, or use a trigger signal to change to the next message. You can use an external device or an internal signal (for example, the time or date) to provide the trigger signal.

This functionality is not available on the 5900 printer.

## ***15 How To Use the Parallel I/O Option***

This document tells you how to configure the Parallel I/O (Parallel Input/Output) option on the 5900 and 7900 printers. This option allows a remote host device (PLC or computer) to control the printer, or monitor the printer status.

## ***16 How To Use the Communications Options***

This document describes how to set up the 5900 and 7900 printers for remote communications. The printers use protocols to enable communication with remote devices like bar code scanners, programmable logic controllers (PLCs) and PCs. You can use remote devices to control the printers and to download messages and data for printing.

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## ***17 How To Use Keyboard Shortcuts***

This document describes how to use keyboard shortcuts to access printer pages or common functions on the 5900 and 7900 printers.

## ***18 How To Use Advanced Editing***

This document describes some additional options that you can use to edit messages on the 5900 and 7900 printers.

## ***19 How To Use a Different Keyboard***

This document describes how to use different keyboards on the 5900 and 7900 printers. It tells you how to access the extended character sets from the keyboard and the additional character set through the character selector for the European keyboard. This document also tells you how to use the Pinyin system for Traditional and Simplified Chinese, and the Korean character selector.

## ***20 How to Use the 7900 Food Grade Printer***

This document contains information for anyone who uses the 7900 Food Grade printer. The guide includes information about how to clean the MidiEC printhead.

## ***21 How to Use the USB Connection***

This document describes how to use the USB connection of the 5900 and 7900 printers to save messages from the printer to a USB memory stick and transfer messages and logos to the printer from a memory stick. This document also tells you how to make a backup of the printer settings to a memory stick. You can restore the settings to the same printer, or transfer the settings to another printer.

## ***22 How to Use Prompted Fields***

This document describes how to create prompted fields for the 5900 and 7900 printers. Prompted fields are fields within a message that require the user to enter or select text before a message is printed. They reduce the need to edit a message and make sure that all message data is entered before a message is printed. Prompted fields also allow you to reuse message content between messages. For example, you can copy messages, and then edit the prompted fields that they contain.

## ***23 How to Use Dynamic Message Orientation***

This document describes how to configure message orientation settings and printer hardware for traversing operations on the 5900 Dairy Coder printer. This functionality is available on the 7900 printer through the use of orientation sequences (see *How to Create Text and Orientation Sequences*).