Linx 5900 & 7900

How To Configure the Message Editor and Logo Editor

LINX

THINKING ALONG YOUR LINES

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1 Introduction

This document describes how you use the **Editor Defaults** page to define the default parameters of new messages and, for the 7900 printer only, any logos that you create.

Any changes you make to the **Editor Defaults** become the starting settings for new messages and logos that you create.

You need a User Level B password to perform all the tasks that are described in this document with the exception of setting date offset limits which requires a User Level D password.

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*.
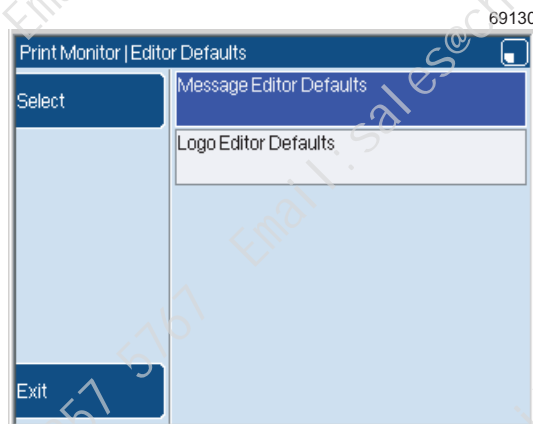
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2 Editor Defaults

All the options described in this document are accessed from the **Editor Defaults** page.

To access the **Editor Defaults** page from the **Print Monitor** page, select **Menu** > **Setup** > **Editor Defaults**. The printer displays the **Editor Defaults** page.
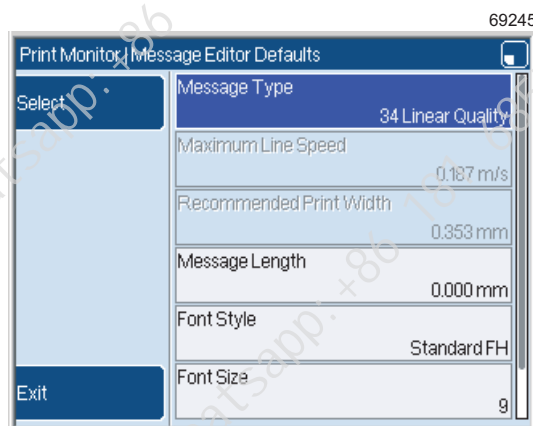

Figure 1. Editor Defaults page

NOTE: The Logo Editor Defaults option is not available on the 5900 printer.

You can now select either the **Message Editor Defaults** page described below, or the **Logo Editor Defaults** page. See 'Logo Editor Defaults' on page 12 for information about the **Logo Defaults** page.

2.1 Message Editor Defaults

The options in this section are accessed from the **Message Editor Defaults** page.

Figure 2. Message Editor Defaults page

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2.1.1 Message Type

The printer can use a number of different message types to print. The message types set the total height of the printed message and the maximum line speed. The available range of message types depends on the printer configuration and the printhead type. The maximum line speed is different for each message type.
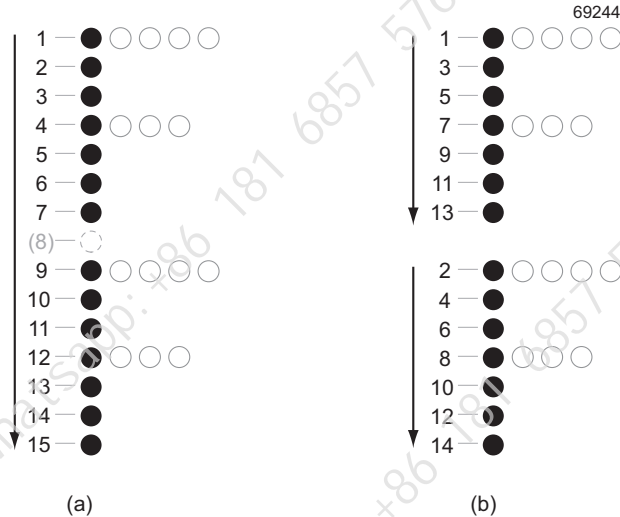
The height of the message (number of drops) can be from 5 drops to 34 drops for the 7900 printer and up to 25 drops for the 5900 printer. The name of the message type tells you the total height of the message. For example, the total height of the 21 Linear Quality message is 21 ink drops.

You can set the Font Size for the text characters in the message. The **Font Size** sets the height of the text characters in the message. Refer to 'Font Size' on page 8.

You can set the **Print Height** for the message. This setting makes small adjustments to the height of the printed message. The adjustment range depends on the message type. Refer to *How to Change the Print Settings*.

Linear and stitched message types

Figure 3 shows two messages that contain the same two lines of text. Each line begins with the letter "F" which is made from 7×5 drops of ink. Two different message types are used. The illustration shows how the printer uses 14 ink drops to make the left edges of the characters.

Figure 3. Linear and Stitched message types

Figure 3 (a) shows a 16-Linear message type. The 14 drops are printed in two straight lines (1 to 7 and 9 to 15). To make a space between the lines of text, the drop in position 8 is not printed. To print the continuous lines of ink drops the printer must insert a delay between each pair (1 and 2, 2 and 3, 3 and 4, …). This delay is necessary because the printer cannot print one drop next to another drop accurately unless there is a delay between the drops. During the delay, the printer generates additional drops that are not printed.

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Figure 3 (b) shows a 2×8 Stitched message type. The order of the drops is different, as shown. The stitched message type is faster than the linear type because each pair of drops is separated, so that no time delay is needed. For example, there is a space between drop 1 and drop 3 in the first line because the printer puts drop 2 into the second line.

The stitched message types are available for Quality, Speed, or Wide message types, and can print two, three, or four lines of text. Because the lines of text are separated and the line of ink drops is not continuous, you cannot use these message types for logos or graphics.

Flexible, Quality, Speed, and Wide message types

The 'Flexible' message type allows you to lock the aspect ratio for the message. If you lock the aspect ratio, the printer makes small adjustments to the **Print Width** if you adjust the **Print Height**. These small adjustments maintain the aspect ratio. The option to lock the aspect ratio is not available unless you use a 'Flexible' message type. Refer to *How to Change the Print Settings* for more information.

The 'Quality' message type allows you to print the message at high quality. To print a 'Quality' message type, the printer includes additional drops that are not printed for each character. This mode increases the time taken to print each character. The maximum line speed when you use a 'Quality' message type is lower than for other message types.

The 'Speed' message type allows you to print the message at high speed. To print a 'Speed' message type the printer decreases the number of additional drops that are not printed for each character. This mode decreases the time taken to print each character. The maximum line speed when you use a 'Speed' message type is faster than for other message types. When you use this message type, each character has the same width.

NOTE: If you use a 'Speed' message type with a low line speed, characters can print at low quality.

The 'Wide' message type uses wide characters to print the message.

When you select the message type, the printer calculates the **Recommended Print Width** setting for that message type.

2.1.2 Maximum Line Speed

The printer needs a minimum time to generate the characters and print each character on the product. The time that is needed depends on the message type. The printer displays the maximum line speed for the message type that you selected and you cannot change the value.

If the line speed is greater than the maximum line speed, the printer prints characters that are wider than the **Recommended Print Width**.

NOTE: When you print at or near the maximum line speed, stitched message types provide better print quality than linear message types.

2.1.3 Recommended Print Width

To get the best print quality a 1:1 aspect ratio for the position of the printed drops is needed—the vertical pitch (drop spacing) must equal the horizontal pitch. This drop pitch is the '*Ideal Raster Pitch*'. The Ideal Raster Pitch depends on the type of printhead and the message type.
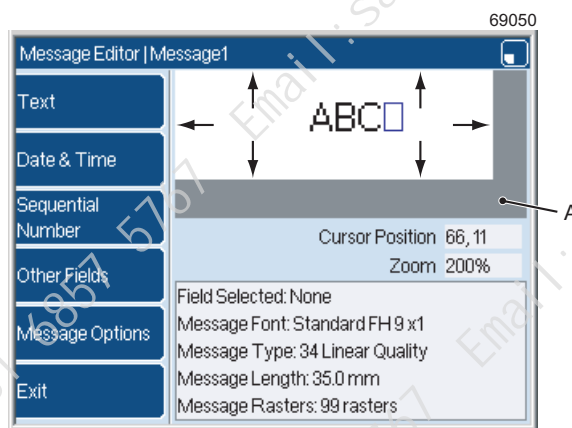
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For more information about Ideal Raster Pitch, refer to *How To Install and Set Up the 5900 & 7900 Printer*.

The **Recommended Print Width** option displays the Ideal Raster Pitch for the message type that you selected and you cannot change the value.

2.1.4 Message Length

You can use this option to set the maximum length of the message. The **Message Editor** page shows the height and width of the message. In Figure 4, the arrows indicate the message boundary (the white area). The grey area (A) is outside the boundary.

Figure 4. Message boundary

The lower edge of the white rectangle indicates the height of the message, which depends on the message type.

The minimum length is 1 mm and the maximum length is 32,000 rasters, which is approximately 10,000 mm for the 7900 printer, or 3,800 rasters, which is approximately 1,200 mm for the 5900 printer. If the **Message Length** option is set to zero, the printer sets the Message Length to match the message contents.

NOTE: The printer does not print outside the message boundary. If there are characters or parts of characters outside the boundary, the **Message Editor**, **Message Store**, and **Print Monitor** pages shows them in red. See Figure 8 on page 8.

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2.1.5 Font Style

This option sets the font style for the message. Select the **Font Style** option to display the **Font Style** page.
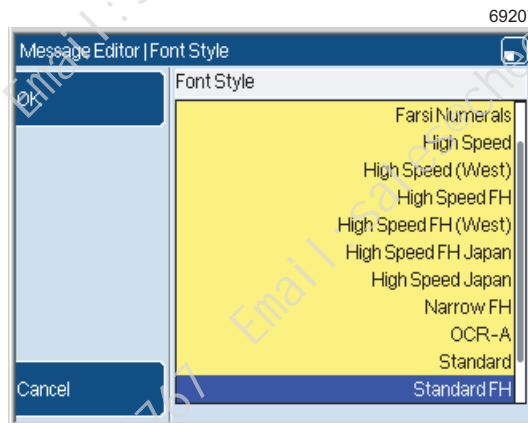
69207

Figure 5. Font Style page

NOTE: Not all font styles shown in Figure 5 are available on the 5900 printer.

Highlight a font style then press the **OK** key. If you change the default font style, you must also select the default font size. The printer automatically displays the **Font Size** page (see 'Font Size' on page 8).

Non-FH and FH fonts

Figure 6 (a) shows a normal font, where some lower case letters have a lower base than the other letters. Figure 6 (b) shows an FH font. The lower case letters are raised if necessary, so that all the letters are on the same baseline.
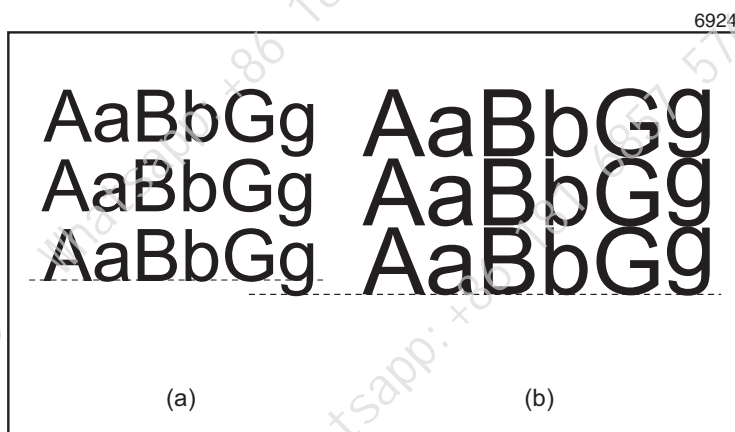
69248

(a)   (b)

Figure 6. Non-FH and FH fonts

The FH fonts generate larger characters than the normal fonts when the same font size is used. For example a 9-high character in an FH font is as large as a 12-high character in a normal font. If you use an FH font you can put the lines of text closer together, as shown in Figure 6 (b).

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Standard and High Speed fonts

Standard fonts can provide high quality characters, but print at lower speeds. Standard fonts also provide proportional spacing between characters, so that the text is easier to read.

High speed fonts have fixed width and fixed character spacing, and print at high speed.

NOTE: Only high speed fonts are available on the 5900 printer.

2.1.6 Font Size

This option sets the default font size for new messages. Select the **Font Size** option to display the **Font Size** page.
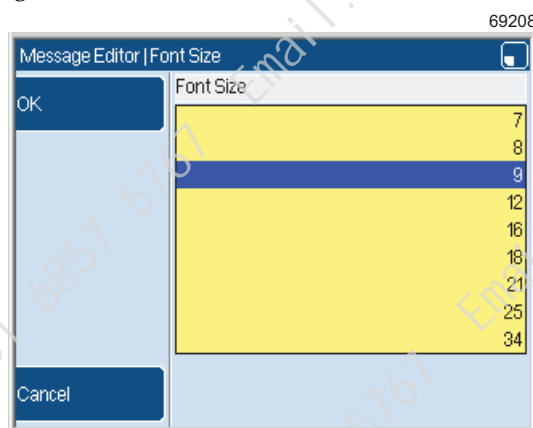

Figure 7. Font Size page

NOTE: Not all font sizes shown in Figure 7 are available on the 5900 printer.

Highlight the font size you require then press the **OK** key.

NOTE: If you set a font size that is more than the height allowed by the message type, parts of the message will not print. The parts of the message that will not print are shown in red on the **Print Monitor** page, as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8. Non-printing part of message

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2.1.7 Allow Save in Message

When you create a message you can insert a date & time format, a shift code sequence, a logo, or a text sequence (7900 only) in the message. The printer must save this additional information. The **Allow Save in Message** option allows you to set where the printer saves the additional information:

- If you set the **Allow Save in Message** option to Yes, the printer allows you to save the additional information in the store or in the message.

- If you set the **Allow Save in Message** option to No, the printer always saves the additional information in the store. There is no option to save the additional information in the message.

NOTE: You can use additional information saved in the store in more than one message, but if this information changes it changes in all the messages that use the information.

2.1.8 Default Orientation

The printer allows you to print a message field in a different direction with a horizontal or vertical or horizontal and vertical flip. You can set the default orientation of fields within a message. Select the **Default Orientation** option to display the **Default Orientation** page.
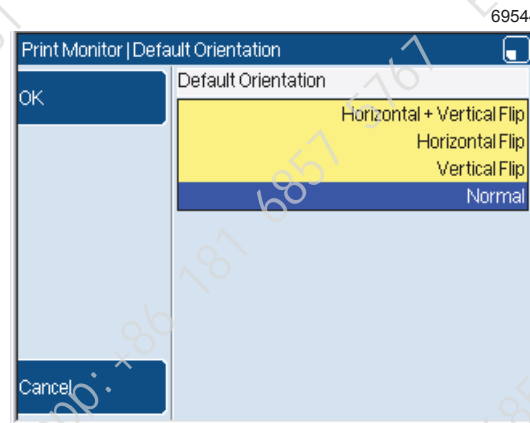

Figure 9. Default Orientation page

The orientation options are as follows:

- **Horizontal + Vertical Flip**—the field orientation is turned horizontally and vertically as shown below.

⊥SƎ⊥ 6113

- **Horizontal Flip**—the field orientation is turned horizontally as shown below.

⊥SƎ⊥ 6110

- **Vertical Flip**—the field orientation is turned vertically as shown below.
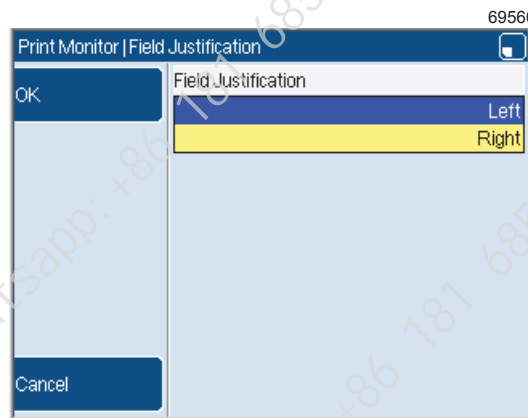
⊥SƎ⊥ 6111

- **Normal**—the field orientation is not changed as shown below. This option is the default option.

TEST 6109

Highlight the orientation you require then press the **OK** key.

2.1.9 Default Field Justification

This option allows you to set the default justification of any text within a message field to either right justified or left justified. Select the **Default Field Justification** option to display the **Field Justification** page and select either Right or Left.

69560

Print Monitor | Field Justification	
OK	Field Justification
	Left
	Right
Cancel	

Figure 10. Field Justification page

The default justification is Left. For languages that are written from right to left on a page (like Hebrew, Arabic, and Farsi) you can use Right justification. This option makes sure that the text in the message field displays correctly when you use these language options.

2.1.10 Date Offset Limits

NOTE: You need a User Level D password to set date offset limits on the printer. This option is set to No by default.

If this option is set to Yes, your supervisor can set the type of offset units used (for example days only). They can set an upper and lower limit for each date offset unit (days or weeks or months or years) or for all four units. If date offset limits are set, at User Level C or below you cannot enter a date offset value outside the selected range. Any invalid value entered is shown in red. The default limits for each unit are shown in Figure 11.

69634

Figure 11. Date Offset Limits
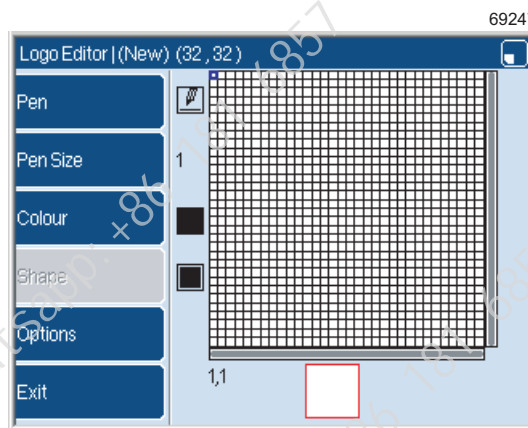
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2.2 Logo Editor Defaults

The options in this section are accessed from the **Logo Editor Defaults** page. These options are only available on the 7900 printer.

To access the **Logo Editor Defaults** page from the **Print Monitor** page, select **Menu** > **Setup** > **Editor Defaults** > **Logo Editor Defaults**. The printer displays the **Logo Editor Defaults** page.

Figure 12. Logo Editor Defaults page

You can use the options on this page to change the default width and height of a new logo. The width and height are displayed at the top of the **Logo Editor** page.

Figure 13. Logo Editor: new logo

2.2.1 Logo Width

Use this option to change the default width for a new logo. The minimum value is 1 and the maximum value is 256.

2.2.2 Logo Height

Use this option to change the default height for a new logo. The minimum value is 1 and the maximum value is 34.