NAME

dpost – troff postprocessor for PostScript printers

SYNOPSIS

dpost [**–c** *num*] [**–e** *num*] [**–m** *num*] [**–n** *num*] [**–o** *list*] [**–w** *num*] [**–x** *num*] [**–y** *num*]
[**–F** *dir*] [**–H** *dir*] [**–L** *file*] [**–O**] [**–T** *name*] [*file*. . .]

/usr/lib/lp/postscript/dpost

DESCRIPTION

dpost translates *files* created by **troff**(1) into PostScript and writes the results on the standard output. If no *files* are specified, or if – is one of the input *files*, the standard input is read.

The *files* should be prepared by **troff**. The default font files in **/usr/lib/font/devpost** produce the best and most efficient output. They assume a resolution of 720 dpi, and can be used to format files by adding the **–Tpost** option to the **troff** call. Older versions of the **eqn** and **pic** preprocessors need to know the resolution that **troff** will be using to format the *files*. If those are the versions installed on your system, use the **–r720** option with **eqn** and **–T720** with **pic**.

dpost makes no assumptions about resolutions. The first **x res** command sets the resolution used to translate the input *files*, the **DESC.out** file, usually **/usr/lib/font/devpost/DESC.out**, defines the resolution used in the binary font files, and the PostScript prologue is responsible for setting up an appropriate user coordinate system.

OPTIONS

–c *num* — Print *num* copies of each page. By default only one copy is printed.

–e *num* — Sets the text encoding level to *num*. The recognized choices are 0, 1, and 2. The size of the output file and print time should decrease as *num* increases. Level 2 encoding will typically be about 20 percent faster than level 0, which is the default and produces output essentially identical to previous versions of **dpost .**

–m *num* — Magnify each logical page by the factor *num*. Pages are scaled uniformly about the origin, which is located near the upper left corner of each page. The default magnification is **1.0.**

–n *num* — Print *num* logical pages on each piece of paper, where *num* can be any positive integer. By default, *num* is set to **1.**

–o *list* — Print those pages for which numbers are given in the comma-separated *list*. The list contains single numbers *N* and ranges *N1–N2.* A missing *N1* means the lowest numbered page, a missing *N2* means the highest. The page range is an expression of logical pages rather than physical sheets of paper. For example, if you are printing two logical pages to a sheet, and you specified a range of **4,** then two sheets of paper would print, containing four page layouts. If you specified a page range of **3-4,** when requesting two logical pages to a sheet; then *only* page 3 and page 4 layouts would print, and they would appear on one physical sheet of paper.

−p *mode* Print *files* in either portrait or landscape *mode*. Only the first character of *mode* is significant. The default *mode* is portrait.

−w *num* Set the line width used to implement *troff* graphics commands to *num* points, where a point is approximately 1/72 of an inch. By default, *num* is set to **0.3** points.

−x *num* Translate the origin *num* inches along the positive x axis. The default coordinate system has the origin fixed near the upper left corner of the page, with positive x to the right and positive y down the page. Positive *num* moves everything right. The default offset is **0** inches.

−y *num* Translate the origin *num* inches along the positive y axis. Positive *num* moves text up the page. The default offset is **0.**

−F *dir* Use *dir* as the font directory. The default *dir* is **/usr/lib/font**, and **dpost** reads binary font files from directory **/usr/lib/font/devpost**.

−H *dir* Use *dir* as the host resident font directory. Files in this directory should be complete PostScript font descriptions, and must be assigned a name that corresponds to the appropriate two-character **troff** font name. Each font file is copied to the output file only when needed and at most once during each job. There is no default directory.

−L *file* Use *file* as the PostScript prologue which, by default, is **/usr/lib/lp/postscript/dpost.ps**.

−O Disables PostScript picture inclusion. A recommended option when **dpost** is run by a spooler in a networked environment.

−T *name* Use font files for device *name* as the best description of available PostScript fonts. By default, *name* is set to **post** and **dpost** reads binary files from **/usr/lib/font/devpost**.

EXAMPLES

If the old versions of **eqn** and **pic** are installed on your system, you can obtain the best possible looking output by issuing a command line such as the following:

example% pic −T720 *file* **| tbl | eqn −r720 | troff −mm −Tpost | dpost**

Otherwise,

example% pic *file* **| tbl | eqn | troff −mm −Tpost | dpost**

should give the best results.

FILES

/usr/lib/font/devpost/*.out
/usr/lib/font/devpost/charlib/*
/usr/lib/lp/postscript/color.ps
/usr/lib/lp/postscript/draw.ps
/usr/lib/lp/postscript/forms.ps
/usr/lib/lp/postscript/ps.requests
/usr/lib/macros/pictures
/usr/lib/macros/color

SEE ALSO

download(1), **postdaisy**(1), **postdmd**(1), **postio**(1), **postmd**(1), **postprint**(1), **postreverse**(1), **posttek**(1), **troff**(1)

DIAGNOSTICS

An exit status of **0** is returned if *files* have been translated successfully, while **2** often indicates a syntax error in the input *files*.

NOTES

Output files often do not conform to Adobe's file structuring conventions. Piping the output of **dpost** through **postreverse**(1) should produce a minimally conforming PostScript file.

Although **dpost** can handle files formatted for any device, emulation is expensive and can easily double the print time and the size of the output file. No attempt has been made to implement the character sets or fonts available on all devices supported by **troff**. Missing characters will be replaced by white space, and unrecognized fonts will usually default to one of the Times fonts (that is, **R**, **I**, **B**, or **BI**).

An **x res** command must precede the first **x init** command, and all the input *files* should have been prepared for the same output device.

Use of the −**T** option is not encouraged. Its only purpose is to enable the use of other PostScript font and device description files, that perhaps use different resolutions, character sets, or fonts.

Although level 0 encoding is the only scheme that has been thoroughly tested, level 2 is fast and may be worth a try.