

Common network settings using Seagull Printer driver

Directly from an email sent by Seagull Support.

1. I would first suggest that if your customer is not already using it to upgrade the printer driver to the latest version (v7.0.4) which can be downloaded from our website.

Before you install the new v7.0.4 printer driver, first remove any of the older Seagull printer drivers. Many common driver problems are caused by conflicts with older driver files. Simply deleting a printer from the printer's folder does not remove all associated files and registry entries from the system. We now provide a utility that will thoroughly clean your system of older printer drivers. To run this utility, open the v7.0.4 driver installation folder (the default is "C:\Seagull") and run the "DriverCleaner.exe" application. Follow the on-screen instructions provided by the Driver Cleaner wizard.

You may download a copy of our latest Windows printer drivers from the Seagull website at the following location: http://www.seagullscientific.com/asp/thermal_95.aspx

2. With this and one or two previous releases we added a new feature that may be of interest to your customer. From the printer driver properties, select the "Tools" tab and click the "Driver Options" button and then select the "Network Settings" tab from the dialog that opens. The features in question are two checkboxes labelled, "Share settings between all users", "Share settings between all documents", I include below an explanation of each.

Share settings between all users. By default, Windows maintains a separate set of printing preferences for each user. When this feature is enabled, all users will share the same set of printing preferences. The Security setting will apply to printing preferences when they are shared between users. This feature allows an administrator to configure the printing preferences for all users on the network. This feature is not supported under Windows 98 and Me.

Share settings between all documents. Some applications store printing preferences when saving documents. When this feature is enabled, the printing preferences specified from the Printers Folder will always be used, and any settings stored with documents will be ignored. This feature is not supported under Windows 98 and Me.

3. Set the default settings of a driver by opening the printer properties, select the "Advanced" tab and from there; click the "Printing Defaults" button. Make your default driver settings from the printer driver preferences dialog that opens.

4. Normally such settings are more easily shared by using the "Presets" option as found under the "Page Setup" tab of the driver. The presets make it much easier to switch between very different driver configurations.

One thing you may wish to try is installing your printer drivers with a modified "defaults.sds" file. This file can contain paper sizes, printer setting presets, barfonts etc. If the printer driver is, for whatever reason being reset, then it will reset to the values contained in this file.

What you need to do is install the latest (v7.0.4) driver onto a PC and create all the paper sizes, presets, barfonts etc that you want in the driver properties. Once done, export these settings to a file named "Defaults.sds". Do this via the "Tools" tab, click the "Driver Options" button and under the "Administration" tab click the "Export" button, making sure all the driver settings options are ticked. Now replace the "Defaults.sds" in the driver installation folder ("C:\Seagull" by default) with the "Defaults.sds" file you have just created.

When you install the driver to a PC it needs to be a clean installation with no other Seagull driver already installed. You can remove any previous installations by using the "DriverCleaner.exe" program found in the driver installation folder. Follow the on-screen instructions provided by the Driver Cleaner wizard, making sure to remove the "Seagull" folder in the C drive as well to be completely sure the old driver files have gone completely.

Any driver installation made with these files will install the driver with your settings pre-made.