

New Command Specification

Send Printer Status To Host Computer, currently on CLP 521/621, 7200, 8 and 9000 series printers

Command: [SOH] | (also known as SOH-Pipe)
<01_H> <7C_H>
<01_D> <124_D>

Firmware Version: Beta: CN010302A

Description: Send SOH-I command to printer and receive 4-byte return plus <CR> code. Explanation for 4-byte return is shown below

Function / Error	During Error	No Problem
1st Byte		
Bit 7 fixed		Always 0
Bit 6 fixed		Always 1
Bit 5 PAUSE state	Paused=1	Ready=0
Bit 4 reserved		Always 0
Bit 3 Head Error	Error = 1	No Error = 0
Bit 2 Board Low temperature	Low = 1	Not Low = 0
Bit 1 Head Low Temperature	Low = 1	Not Low = 0
Bit 0 Low Battery	Low = 1	Not Low = 0
2nd Byte		
Bit 7 fixed		Always 0
Bit 6 fixed		Always 1
Bit 5 Paper End	Paper End=1	Paper Ready=0
Bit 4 Head Open	Opened = 1	Closed = 0
Bit 3 reserved		Always 0
Bit 2 reserved		Always 0
Bit 1 Head High Temperature	High = 1	Not High = 0
Bit 0 reserved		Always 0
3rd Byte		
Bit 7 fixed		Always 0
Bit 6 fixed		Always 1
Bit 5 Cutter Error	Error = 1	No Error = 0
Bit 4 Option Board Error	Error = 1	No Error = 0
Bit 3 reserved		Always 0
Bit 2 Board High temperature	High = 1	Not High = 0
Bit 1 Ribbon End	End = 1	Paper Ready = 0
Bit 0 Paper out	Paper Out = 1	Not Out = 0

4th Byte

Bit 7	fixed		Always 0
Bit 6	fixed		Always 1
Bit 5	Cutter Error	Error = 1	No Error = 0
Bit 4	Option Board Error	Error = 1	No Error = 0
Bit 3	reserved		Always 0
Bit 2	Board High temperature	High = 1	Not High = 0
Bit 1	Ribbon End	End = 1	Not End = 0
Bit 0	Fan Motor Stopped	Stop = 1	Not Stop = 0

CR (0D_H) is added automatically to the end of the command.

For example, when the return value is '@@@@<CR>' (40_H, 40_H, 40_H, 40_H, 0D_H), printer indicates no error.

The reason that Bit 7 is 'always 0' and Bit 6 is 'always 1' is to ensure the character is always a "printable character". This is usual for Citizen label and barcode printers, especially for compatibility with legacy systems.

An Example

Set up Hyper Terminal to communicate with the printer (see "521-621 Hyper Terminal V2.doc" on how to do this)

Once you know Hyper Terminal is working/communicating with the printer, reset it to the baud rate currently set in the printer, by default 9600 but it may be different.

Press the Control key and A at the same time, this is the SOH command required by the printer.

Next Press the Shift Key and A at the same time, this is the status request.

Hyper Terminal monitor reports: NNNNNNNN

Now press the Stop button on the printer, effectively taking it off line.

Repeat the process above

Hyper Terminal monitor reports: NNNNNYNN

The printer has reported back that it is PAUSED (see above 1st byte bit 5)