

# Raster Blaster Tips

## Xitron Raster Blaster Technical Note

December 9, 1999

If problems occur while installing or running Raster Blaster, check the following list to be sure the system and settings are correct. Each item is critical to proper function of the Raster Blaster.

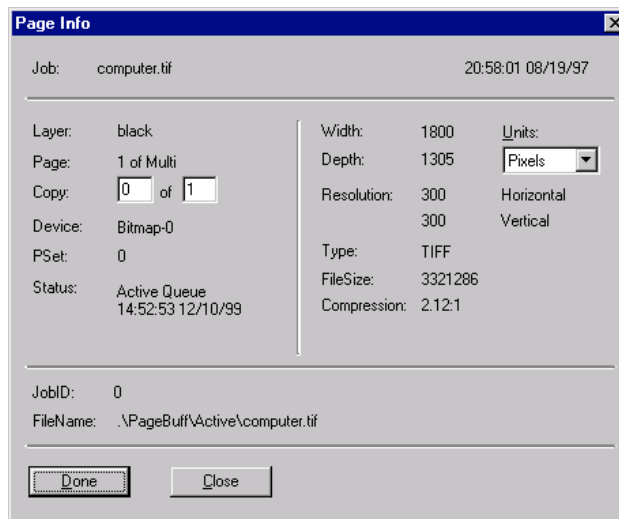
1. Make sure all physical pieces are in good condition and connected properly.

For new installations: Check to be sure no cards shifted during shipping. Turn off the Raster Blaster and the imagesetter. Carefully unplug and re-plug the cable(s) running between the Raster Blaster and the imagesetter. Unplug the power cable and open the Raster Blaster. Check to make sure none of the internal cards or cables came loose during shipping.

For existing installations: Turn off the Raster Blaster and the imagesetter. Carefully unplug and re-plug the cable(s) running between the Raster Blaster and the imagesetter.

2. Review the Device Driver Manual for the device you are connecting to. These Manuals can be found on the Raster Blaster Installation CD, as well as on the Xitron web site: [www.xitron.com](http://www.xitron.com).
3. If a file will not run, try sending a different file. The first one may be damaged or corrupted. Always try more than one file before deciding that Raster Blaster is malfunctioning.
4. A file will not image if it is not associated with a Device.

To check to be sure that the file is associated with a Device, double click on the file, or highlight the file and press the Info. button. The file information window will appear (see example below). Make sure the proper Device, or Device and Pset, is listed in the Page Info window.



5. The resolution of the incoming TIFF file, the resolution settings in the Device (or Setup if one is being used), and the resolution of the output device must all match exactly.

NOTE: if a Setup is used, only the Setup resolution need mach the file and output device.

If resolutions don't match, any numbers of errors can occur, including:

- The output is the wrong size.
  - The file will appear to image, but will not clear the imaging window after the imagesetter is finished.
  - The imagesetter will never finish imaging.
  - Raster Blaster will error whenever an attempt is made to image the job.
6. The TIFF file being sent to Raster Blaster must use proper compression. Raster Blaster is capable of using files that have compression of: None, Packbits, and LZW.

Different programs apply compression in different ways and may use different versions of the above compression types that are not supported. If a file will not run, try sending a file using a different form of compression.