

## Chapter 1

# Introduction

Welcome to the PlotWorks® Client. The Client consists of two basic modules: the Client and the Image Viewer.

The Client is a customized version of PlotWorks that is installed on remote workstations. It is used to create electronic “job tickets”, called PLP files, at remote sites that are then sent to a PlotWorks Job Queue for printing. PLP files list the images to print along with their printing parameters.

The Image Viewer can be launched from the Client to view images and to make other adjustments to the image before the job is saved.

### Before You Start

This manual assumes that the reader has an understanding of:

- Basic computer use, including keyboard and mouse operation
- Windows conventions such as toolbars, pull-down menus, the Start menu, and Windows Explorer
- The image file formats being used
- Peripherals used, including scanners, modems, network servers, and removable media drives

If you are unfamiliar with any of the above topics, please research the appropriate documentation before proceeding.

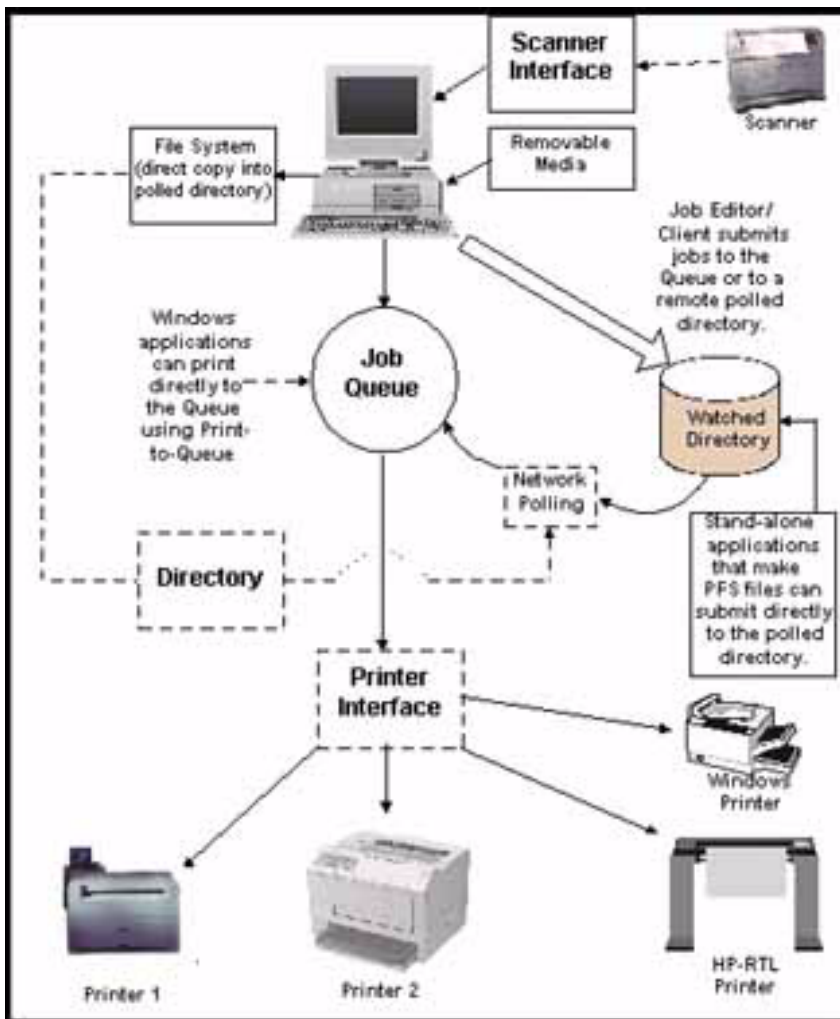
### System Requirements

PlotWorks Client, requires a computer running Windows 98, 2000, XP or NT. If running Windows NT, Internet Explorer 5.5.1 or newer is required.

---

## How It Works

*Fig 1.1*  
*Client*  
*Process*



## Documentation Conventions

This guide uses several conventions to help you identify different types of information. As much as possible, these conventions correspond to those found in other Windows product documentation.

Menu names and commands are printed in **bold** type. For example:

Open the **File** menu and select **Exit**.

Dialog box names begin with uppercase letters. For example:

This is the Configure Destination dialog box.

Information to be typed is displayed in Courier text. For example:

Type this sentence.



Many menu commands also are accessible as buttons on the toolbar. Any available buttons are displayed in the margin (see left).

This guide also provides warnings to help avoid errors and prevent damage to your system. These warnings are pulled out from the main text of the guide and are marked with a caution sign:



*Do not ignore these warnings!*

---

Special tips and hints also are pulled out from the main text. These are marked with a light bulb icon.



*These tips make your job easier!*

---

## Supported File Formats

PlotWorks supports the following image file formats:

- AutoCAD files (DWG, DXF)
  - HP-GL, HP-GL/2, HP-RTL
  - CalComp plot files (906/907)
  - TIFF and TIFF 5.5.1 (Subset of TIFF is supported)
  - CALS (Type 1)
  - PostScript (Levels 1, 2, 3)
  - CGM, DGN (MicroStation must be installed for either format)
  - VRF (vector format only)
  - PDF
  - BMP
  - DCX
  - JPG
  - PCX
  - XIF
-

- VIC
- JOB

Support for some of these formats is optional and must be purchased separately. Verify that your service provider supports your file formats before sending jobs.

When creating plot files (HP-GL or CalComp) in the source application, choose the following plot drivers:

- For HP-GL, select model 7585B
- For HP-GL/2, select HP-DesignJet 750 driver
- For HP-RTL, select HP-DesignJet 750 driver (Windows system)
- For CalComp, select model 1043 or 1044

### **PLP files are not downward compatible**

PLP files created with newer versions of PlotWorks cannot be opened in older versions of PlotWorks. When a PlotWorks 5.5 job enters an older version of the PlotWorks Job Queue, the error message "Unable to process job because it is empty" displays. If the user double clicks on a PlotWorks 5.5 job to view it in an older version of the Job Client, the Job Client will not successfully open the job.

### **Online Help**

The PlotWorks Client components contain an online Help file that provides detailed information on operating the program. To access an online Help file from within a program:

- press **F1**, or
- open the **Help** menu and select **Help Topics**.

### **Technical Support**

You can contact PLP technical support at:

PLP Digital Systems

2300 Clarendon Boulevard

Suite 711

Arlington, Virginia 22201-3367 USA

Phone: (703) 740-8909 / (800)-444-7568

Fax: (703) 995-4398

E-mail: support@plp.com

---