

The Intermec logo, featuring the word "Intermec" in a bold, italicized sans-serif font. A stylized graphic of overlapping circles and lines is positioned behind the text.

Quick Start Guide



EasyCoder PL4
Printer

Intermec Technologies Corporation
6001 36th Avenue West
Everett, WA 98203

U.S. service and technical support: 1-800-755-5505
U.S. media supplies ordering information: 1-800-227-9947

Canadian service and technical support: 1-800-668-7043
Canadian media supplies ordering information: 1-800-268-6936

Outside U.S.A. and Canada: Contact your local Intermec service supplier.

The information contained herein is proprietary and is provided solely for the purpose of allowing customers to operate and/or service Intermec manufactured equipment and is not to be released, reproduced, or used for any other purpose without written permission of Intermec.

Information and specifications in this manual are subject to change without notice.

© 2003 by Intermec Technologies Corporation
All Rights Reserved

The word Intermec, the Intermec logo, MobileLAN, JANUS, Trakker Antares, EZBuilder, Data Collection Browser, dcBrowser, EasyCoder, EasyLAN, TE 2000, Universal Access Point, UAP, IRL, and CrossBar are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Intermec Corporation.

Throughout this manual, trademarked names may be used. Rather than put a trademark (™ or ®) symbol in every occurrence of a trademarked name, we state that we are using the names only in an editorial fashion, and to the benefit of the trademark owner, with no intention of infringement.

There are U.S. and foreign patents pending.

Contents

- Introducing the EasyCoder PL4 Printer 4
 - Unpacking and Inspecting..... 4
 - Reporting Damage 5
- Learning About the Printer 5
- Installing the Battery..... 7
- Charging the Battery..... 8
- Understanding the Control Panels 9
 - Standard Control Panel 9
 - LCD Control Panel..... 11
- Loading the Media..... 13
- Verifying the Printer Is Working 17
- Using the Belt Clip..... 22
- Using the Adjustable Shoulder Strap..... 23
- What To Do Next 24
- Specifications 24

Introducing the EasyCoder PL4 Printer

Thank you for choosing the Intermec EasyCoder® PL4 Printer. This rugged printer is sure to become a productive and efficient addition to your workplace thanks to its innovative design. Intermec ensures world-class support for all of your bar code printers, software, and supplies.

This quick start guide gives you the information you need to confirm the printer is working and start printing. For information on connecting your printer to your network or terminals, see the *EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide* (P/N 073204).

The PL4 uses the CPL programming language. To create and print labels using the CPL language, refer to the *EasyCoder PL-Series Printer Programmer's Reference Manual* (P/N 073210). You can also use our Intermec PL-Series Utility Software (PLUS™) to create labels and send files to your printer. The manual and Intermec PLUS are available on the CD that came with your printer and on our web site at www.intermec.com.

Unpacking and Inspecting

Remove the accessories, packing material, and printer from the shipping container. Verify the contents of the shipping container against the next list:

- PL4 printer with belt clip
- Battery
- Shoulder strap
- Cleaning pen
- PL4 Companion CD. This CD contains the *EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide*, the *EasyCoder PL-Series Printer Programmer's Reference Manual*, the Intermec PLUS application, Windows drivers, and sample labels.
- A sample roll of continuous media
- Information on ordering media and contacting Intermec product support
- This guide and *Important PL-Series Printer Information!*

Inspect the printer for possible shipping damage:

- Check all exterior surfaces for damage.
- Open the media cover (refer to “Loading the Media” later in this guide) and inspect the media compartment for damage.

In case shipping is required, save the carton and all packing material.

Reporting Damage

If you discover shipping damage:

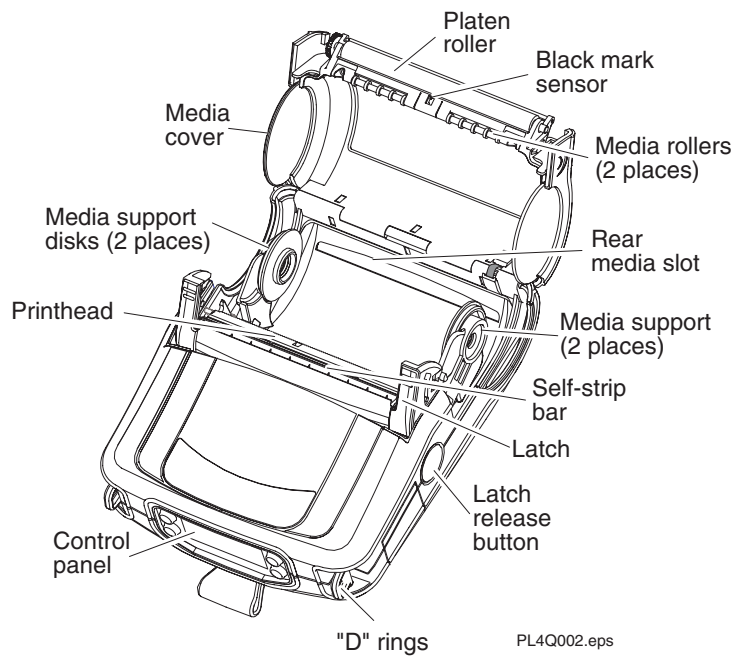
- Immediately notify and file a damage report with the shipping company. Intermec is not responsible for any damage incurred during shipment of the printer and will not cover the repair of this damage under its warranty policy.
- Keep the carton and all packing material for inspection.
- Notify your authorized Intermec reseller or sales representative.

Learning About the Printer

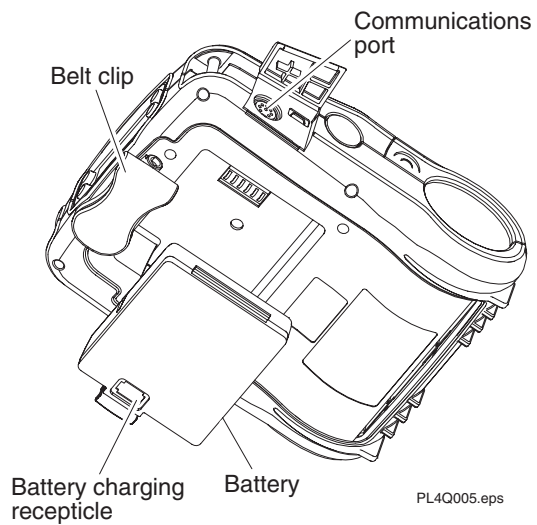
The EasyCoder PL4 printer is a rugged mobile label and receipt printer that provides:

- Print resolution of 203 dpi
- Print speeds up to 7.62 cm (3 inches) per second
- Serial or wireless communications options

Use the next two illustrations to familiarize yourself with the printer.



Front view of the EasyCoder PL4



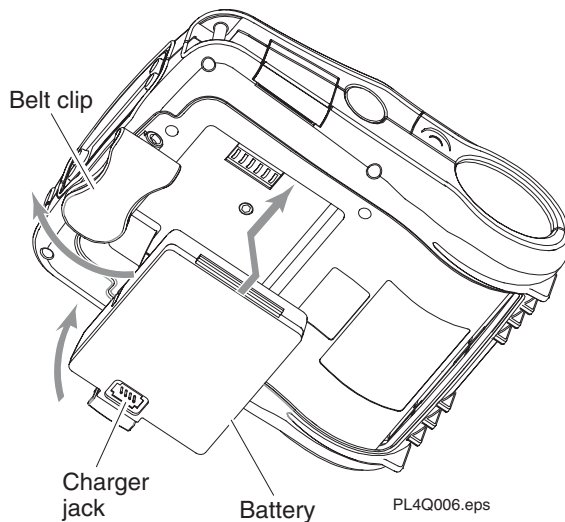
Back view of the EasyCoder PL4

Installing the Battery



Note: Batteries are shipped uncharged.

- 1 Unwrap the battery.
- 2 Rotate the belt clip to allow access to the battery compartment.
- 3 Insert the battery into the printer.



- 4 Press the battery into the printer until it locks in place.

When the battery is first installed, the Control Panel indicators may briefly turn on and then go off, which indicates the battery is not fully charged. For help, see “Charging the Battery” and “Understanding the Control Panels” later in this guide.

Charging the Battery

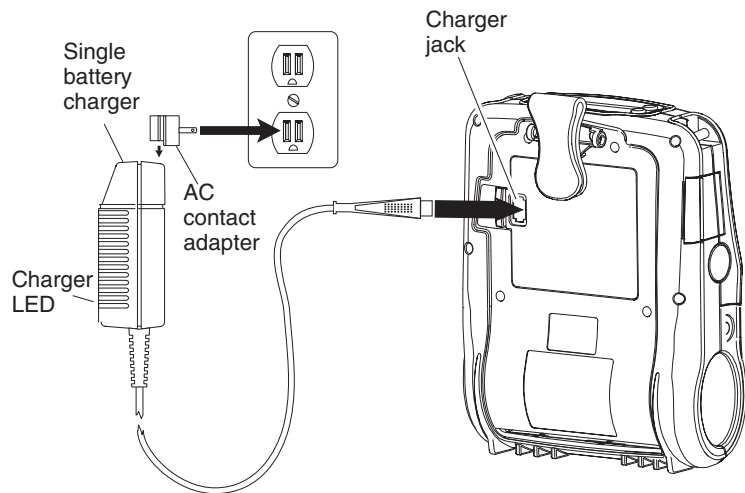


Do not attempt to charge batteries with the charger while printing. Attempting to print while charging can result in improperly charged batteries.

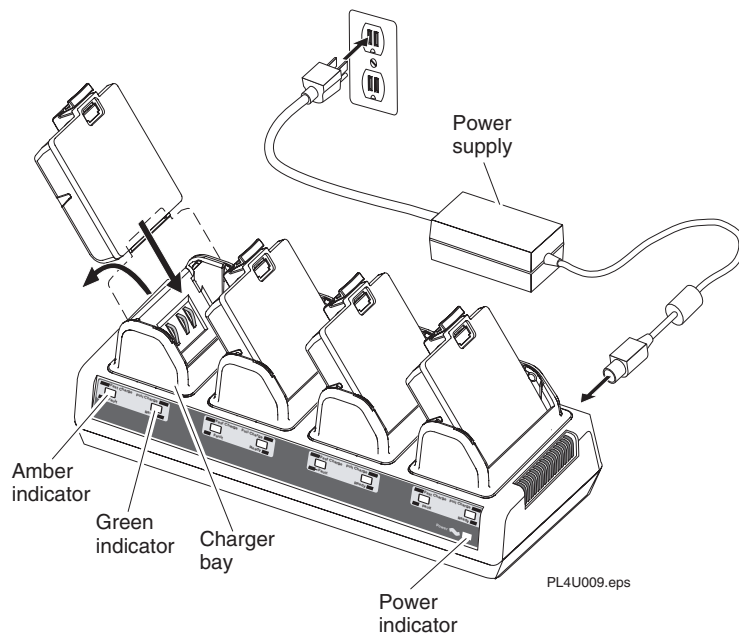
Attention: Ne pas essayer de charger des batteries à l'aide du chargeur pendant l'impression. Toute tentative d'impression pendant le processus de charge risque de produire des batteries mal chargées.

You can order two chargers for the battery:

- Single battery charger (P/N AT15759-7) that comes with an AC contact adapter for the U.S.A (110V). You can also order a package of international contact adapters (P/N AN16740-1).



- 4-Pack battery charger (P/N AT16305-2). You will need a power supply for the charger.



For help using the chargers, see the documentation that came with the chargers.

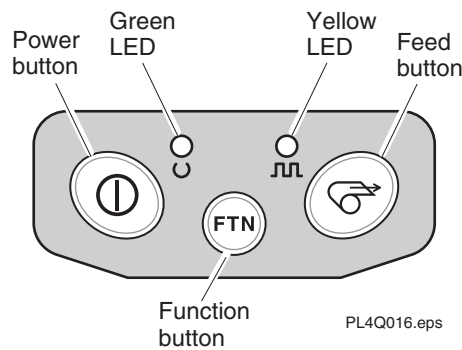
Understanding the Control Panels

The EasyCoder PL4 comes with one of two possible control panels:

- Standard control panel
- LCD control panel

Standard Control Panel

The next illustration shows the standard control panel with its three buttons and two LEDs.



Standard Control Panel Functions

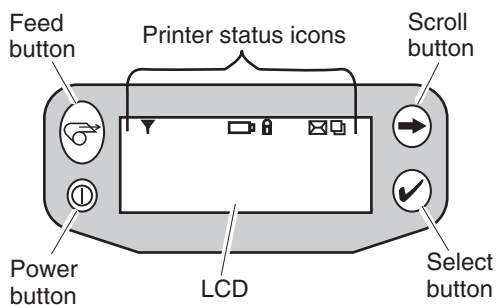
Button or LED	Function
Power button	Turns the printer on and off.
Green LED	Steady on light indicates power on or an established RF link. Fast blinking light indicates no RF link (on RF equipped printers only). Slow blink indicates a low battery. For more information, see the <i>EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide</i> .
Yellow LED	Steady on light indicates an out of media or media cover not closed error condition. Fast blink indicates RF activity (on RF equipped printers only). Fast blink with a chime indicates that no application is loaded. For more information, see the <i>EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide</i> .
Feed button	Advances the media out one label or a software determined length of media.

Standard Control Panel Functions (continued)

Button or LED	Function
Function button	<p>Performs functions controlled by the printer application such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print a battery level report • Print the Local Area Network (LAN) status • Print the status of the Bluetooth radio • Print a media supply report <p>For information on printer applications, see the <i>EasyCoder PL-Series Printer Programmer's Reference Manual</i>.</p>

LCD Control Panel

The LCD control panel has buttons for the power on/off and media feed functions just as in the standard control panel. In addition, it has two keys that allow easy navigation and selection of menu options affecting many printer functions.








PL4Q017.eps

LCD Control Panel Functions

Button or LED	Function
Feed	Advances the media out one label or a software determined length of media.
Scroll	Scrolls through the options and settings.
Select	Selects an option or setting.
Power	Turns the printer on and off.

The top of the screen has a row of status icons that indicate the state of various printer functions.

Status Icon Functions

Icon	Function
	Indicates the printer is associated with a wireless LAN. This icon is functional only with PL4 802.11b network printers.
	A flashing icon indicates low battery status. You should suspend any printing operations and recharge or replace the battery pack as soon as possible.
	A flashing icon indicates that the media cover is open or not properly latched.
	A flashing icon indicates that a file is being downloaded to the printer.
	A flashing icon indicates that the printer does not detect any media. This could indicate an out of media condition or improperly loaded media.

In addition to the status icons, the LCD control panel can display many of the printer's settings and functions as text. Refer to the next table, "LCD Functions," for the full set of printer features that you can see with the LCD panel. To set these functions, see the *EasyCoder PL-Series Printer Programmer's Reference Manual*.

LCD Functions

Function	Default Setting	Options
Sensor Type	Gap	Black mark Gap
Baud Rate	19200	9600 19200 38400* 57600 115200
Data Bits	8	7 8
WLAN ID**	Factory Set Value	N/A
Label Top-of-Form	000	Increase (+120 dots max) Decrease (-120 dots max)

LCD Functions (continued)

Function	Default Setting	Options
Left Position	000	Increase (+120 dots max) Decrease (-120 dots max)
LCD Contrast	0	Increase Decrease
No activity Timeout**	60 sec.	60 sec. 5 min. 10 min. 30 min. Custom
Tear-off Position	00	Increase (+120 dots max) Decrease (-120 dots max)
Media Type	Label	Label Continuous
LCD Backlight	Off	On Off Momentary on with time delay
Factory Reset	No	No Yes

* The highest baud rate with consistent results is 38400.

** Some parameters, such as the WLAN ID number and non-standard no-activity timeout values can be set using a PC running Intermec PLUS and a data cable link to the printer.

The LCD has a backlight option that allows viewing of the screen in a dark environment or provides better contrast in a very bright environment. Using the backlight decreases the time the printer runs between charges. For more information on battery life, see the *EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide*.

Loading the Media

You can operate this printer in one of two different modes: Tear-Off or Self-Strip. Tear-Off mode allows you to tear off each label (or a strip of labels) after it is printed. In Self-Strip mode, the backing material is peeled away from the label as the label advances. After you remove this label, the next one is printed.

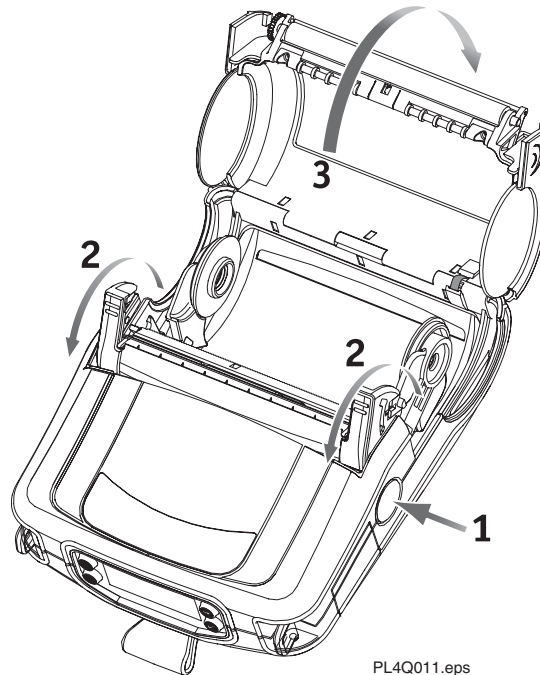
The PL4 printer supports direct thermal receipt, label, or tag media.



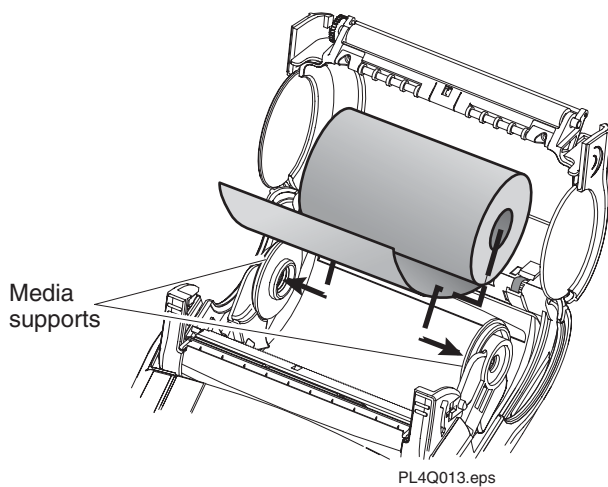
Note: To print a configuration label, you need to load continuous media (media with no black marks or gaps) into the printer. The printer shipped with a sample roll of continuous media. For help printing a configuration label, see “Verifying the Printer Is Working” later in this guide.

To load the media

- 1 Press the latch release button on the side of the printer. The latch assembly flips open automatically.
- 2 Rotate the media cover back to expose the media compartment and the adjustable media supports.



- 3 Pull the media supports apart, insert the roll of media between them, and let the media supports close. Make sure the media pulls off the core in the direction shown in the next illustration.



The supports adjust themselves to the width of the media. The media should be able to spin freely on the supports.

- 4 If you want to use the printer in Tear-Off mode, continue with Step 6.

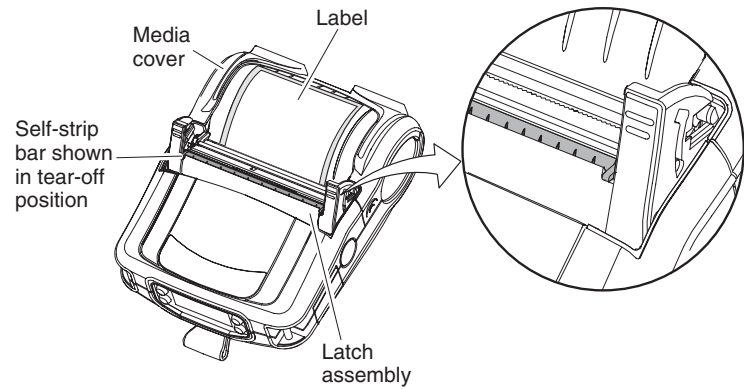
If you want to use the printer in Self-Strip mode, peel one or two labels off of the backing material.

- 5 Close the media cover.

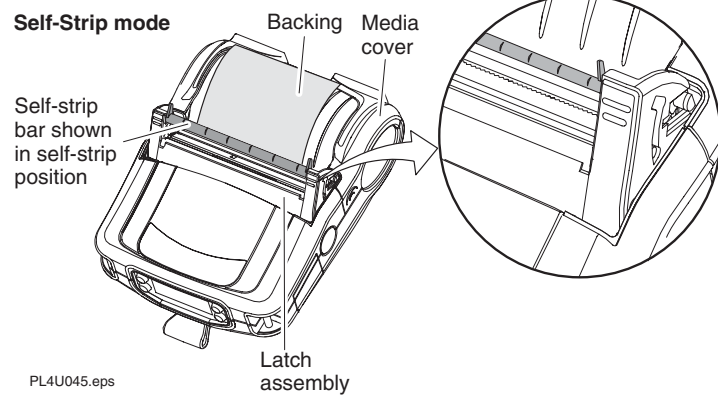
- 6 If you want to use the printer in Tear-Off mode, flip the self-strip bar down away from the latch assembly.

If you want to use the printer in Self-Strip mode, slide the self-strip bar up with your thumbs until it locks into place on the latch assembly.

Tear-Off mode

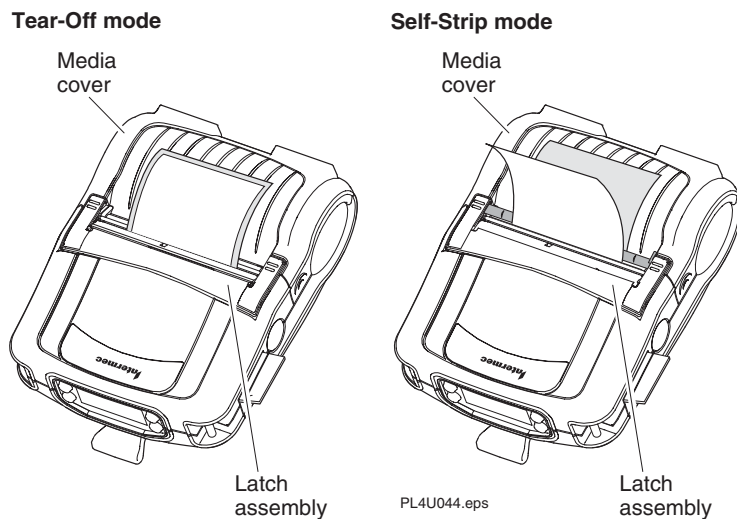


Self-Strip mode



PL4U045.eps

- 7** Rotate the latch assembly until it locks in place.
- 8** Turn on the printer or press the Feed button if the printer is already on. The printer advances the media.



The printer advances the media to the next label, if printing labels. If you are printing on continuous media, the printer will advance a short strip of media and will then be ready for printing.

Verifying the Printer Is Working

Before you connect the printer to your computer or portable data terminal, make sure that the printer is in proper working order. You can do this by printing a configuration label using the next procedure. If you cannot get this label to print, see the *EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide*.

To print a configuration label

- 1 Turn the printer off. Load the media compartment with continuous media (media with no black marks or gaps). The printer shipped with a sample roll of continuous media.
- 2 Press and hold the Feed button.
- 3 Press and release the Power button and keep the Feed button pressed. When printing starts, release the Feed button.

The printer prints a line of interlocking “x” characters to make sure all elements of the printhead are working, prints out the version of software loaded in the printer, and then prints two reports.

The first report indicates model, firmware version, serial number, baud rate, and other printer information. The second report prints out a print quality test and then more detailed information on the printer’s configuration and parameter settings. If no second report appears, there is no application loaded. The following illustrations are examples of the first report followed by the second report.

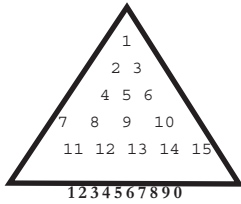
XX

Intermec PL4 v79.40 12/23/02
CHK: FFFF
HTSE7940 /18
Testing Memory...
Memory tested and OK
Baud Rate: 19200 BPS
In-activity Timeout: 120 Secs
Low battery Shut-down: 170

End of report.

Printhead test

Example of the first report of the configuration label



Intermec PL4 V79/00 08/24/01

Serial Number:



xxQF00-10-0042

Name: xxQF00-10-0042

Unit serial number

Program:

Firmware:HTQ47940 /18

Chksum:F18A

Software:HTK44L

Chksum:5C8F

Ver:L4.R79.40.U176.B19.T19.A00

Application number

Cable Communications:

19200 BPS, N,8,1

Handshake:hardware

DSR: 1

Bridge mode: off

Wireless Communications:

Report appears only on units with wireless options installed. Units with no wireless options will print an empty line and resume the report.

Example of the beginning of the second report

PCMCIA/CF Adapter 1.0
Build Date: Jan 15 2003
Build Time: 12:09:01

Card Detected.

Spectrum24 802.11b
MAC Address: 00:a0:f8:a3:50:99
Operating Mode: infrastructure
Preamble Length: long
Power Save: best
Encryption: 128-bit
Authentication: open system
Kerberos: off
Stored ESSID: TJX_2100
Associated ESSID: TJX_2100

} 802.11b settings

Example of 802.11b with Compact Flash radio part of the second report

Wireless Communications:
Bluetooth:
.version 1.2.0
.date 08/01/02
.baud 9600
.device printer
.mode slave
.local_name ?
.authentication off
.discoverable on
.encryption off
.address 00:80:37:17:1E:B0
Debug Mode: Disabled

Bluetooth software version

Bluetooth settings

Example of the Bluetooth part of the second report

```

Peripherals:
MCR 2.00
LCD: Installed
Expansion module: 0x1D
802.11/b PCMCIA 5V
Other : 0F
Power Management:
In-activity Timeout:120 Secs
Low-battery Timeout:60 Secs
Remote(DTR) pwr-off:Enabled
Voltage :6.98(179)
Low-bat warning :6.86(176)
Low-bat Shut-down:6.55(168)
Memory(0):
Flash :2097151 Bytes
RAM :2097151 Bytes
Label:
width :800 dots, 100 mm
Height:15095 dots, 1886 mm
Sensors: (Adj)
Pres [DAC:143,Thr:120,Cur: 13]
Label Present
Media [ 8 (384 dots)]
Gap [DAC: 0,Thr: 30,Cur: 6]
Bar [DAC: 0,Thr: 70,Cur: 11]
Temperature :165
Voltage :6.94(178)
Resident Fonts:
Font Sizes Chars
_0_ _0-6_ _20-FF_
1 0 20-80
2 0-1 20-59
4 0-7 20-FF
5 0-3 20-FF
6 0 20-44
7 0-1 20-FF
File Directory:
File Size
DIAGS .BAT 1427
INDEX .WML 4723
1226000 Bytes Free
Command Language:
CCL Key '!' [21]
End of report.

```

Flash memory size

Maximum label size

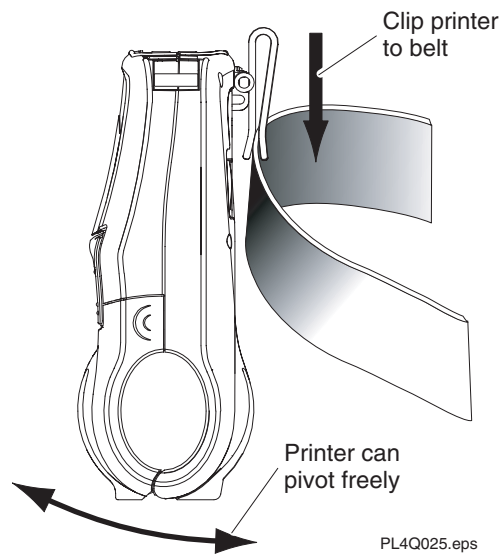
Files loaded in printer memory
(includes pre-scaled or
scalable fonts)

Amount of memory available

Example of the end of the second report

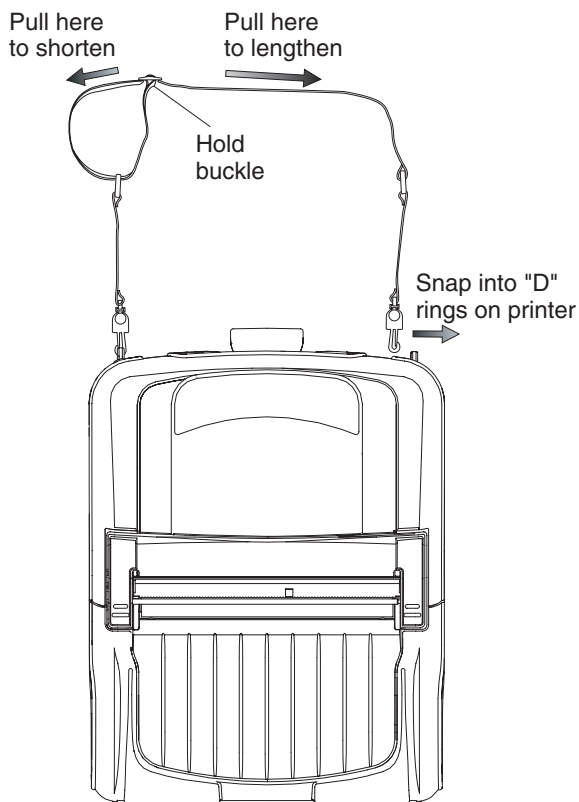
Using the Belt Clip

The PL4 is equipped with a belt clip. To use the belt clip, hook the clip over your belt and ensure that the clip is securely attached to the belt. The belt clip pivots to allow you to move freely while wearing the printer.



Using the Adjustable Shoulder Strap

The PL4 comes with a shoulder strap (P/N BT11132-1) for your convenience. To use the shoulder strap, snap each end of the shoulder strap into the shoulder strap rings on the top of the printer. Slide the buckle away from or toward the printer until you achieve the desired length.



PL4Q027.eps

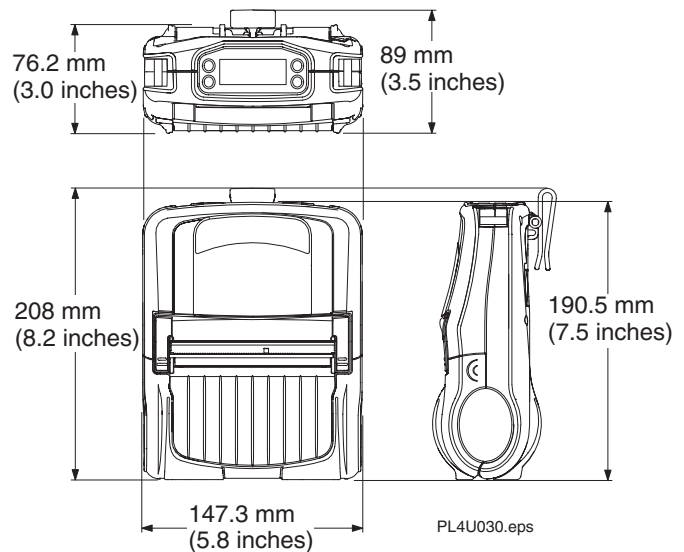
What To Do Next

Now that you have loaded the media and verified that the printer works, you can

- establish communications with a PC or terminal.
- configure the printer to communicate with your network.
- install Intermec PLUS so you can design labels or configure your printer.
- write applications for the printer.

For help doing these tasks, see the *EasyCoder PL4 Printer User's Guide* and the *PL-Series Programmer's Reference Manual*. The guide and the manual are available in PDF format on the CD that came with your printer and at www.intermec.com, or you can order printed copies from your Intermec sales representative.

Specifications



Specifications (continued)

Weight with battery, excluding media & wireless options	2.0 lbs. (.9 kg.)
Temperature	
Operating	-15°C to 50°C (5°F to 122°F)
Storage	-25°C to 50°C (-13°F to 122°F)
Relative humidity	
Operation	10% to 80% (non-condensing) 10% to 40% for Bluetooth printer
Storage	10% to 90% (non-condensing)
Electrical	Battery: 7.2V (nominal) Lithium-Ion



Technologies Corporation

6001 36th Avenue West

Everett, WA 98203

U.S.A.

www.intermec.com

© 2003 Intermec Technologies Corp.

All Rights Reserved

EasyCoder PL4 Printer Quick Start Guide



073209-001