

# The Xitron Luxel F6000 Plugin

This plugin is designed to drive the Fuji Luxel F6000 film recorder with a Global Graphics (formerly Harlequin) ScriptWorks RIP via a standard differential 'wide' SCSI interface.

It is significantly different from the Sumo and F5600 devices in several respects:

- It requires a version 5.0 or later Xitron Navigator RIP
- The RIP requires Windows 2000 or later
- A Server version of Windows is NOT required
- Installation and configuration is greatly simplified.
- The DOS Console has been replaced with the Xitron Remote Status Monitor
- It requires a password which can only be supplied by a Xitron dealer.
- The password entry system is different.
- The media database is created in the plugin.

**You will need Administrator privileges in Windows to install this software.**

The recorder must be connected to your PC and fully online before you switch your PC on. If it is not online, Windows will not be able to detect it, and it will remain unavailable until the next time your PC is switched on. Do not connect or disconnect SCSI cables while any of the equipment is switched on. Doing so may permanently damage the SCSI interface.

## Configuring the SCSI host adapter

The host adapter can only be configured through a program in its BIOS ROM. This can only be accessed while your PC is starting up. The recorder does not need to be attached and online at this stage, but it is useful to be able to check that the correct SCSI ID is being used and configured.

During the startup phase, the screen will normally display a message telling you to press a particular combination of keys if you wish to configure the adapter. Typically, this is one of Ctl+A Ctl+S Ctl+C or similar, and you have only a few seconds to respond. Sometimes, the message may not appear, because the BIOS has been configured not to show it. In such a case, you can try the above key combinations immediately after the memory test has completed.

Once you have activated the configuration program, the procedure varies, but you need to make the following settings for the channel ID which the recorder is using (normally #0), and for the adapter's 'host' ID, which is usually #7, and occasionally #15. *You will need to know the host adapter's ID to configure the plugin.*

Initiate synchronous I/O transfers	Yes
Maximum transfer rate	40 Mb/Second *
Enable disconnect	Yes
Initiate wide transfers	Yes
Send start command	No
Multiple LUNs	No
Include in BIOS scan	Yes
SCAM support	Off
Parity checking	Enabled
Removeable media	With media installed
Read/Write timeout	Maximum permitted value
Termination	Automatic or On

- *The 40 Mb/second option may not appear until you enable wide transfers*

When the adapter is configured correctly, your recorder should be listed during startup, along with any drives attached to the same controller,

eg: ID 0 Luxel F6000

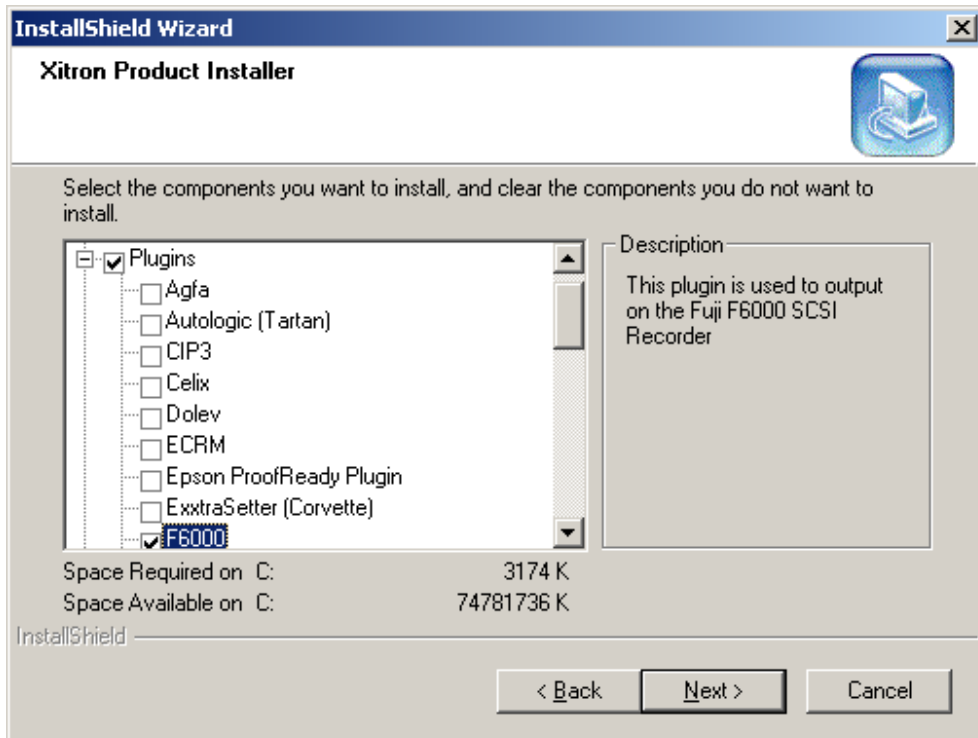
**If it does not appear, this should be investigated before you attempt to install or use the plugin.**

If all is well, Windows will report that it has Found New Hardware, follow the outline procedure in your Navigator 6.0 PC Installation Guide to direct Windows to the F6000.inf file located in the /inf folder of your Navigator CD-ROM

*For more information about your adapter's BIOS settings, please consult the manufacturer's documentation, or check their website.*

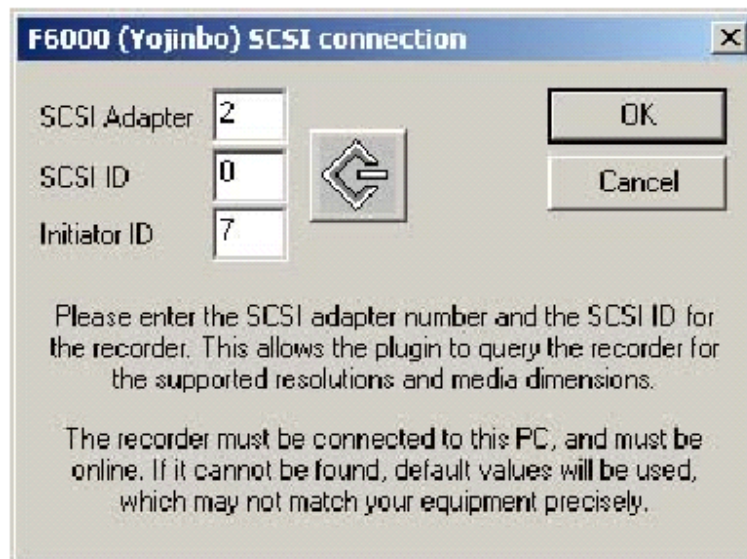
## Installing the RIP and Plugin

Install the RIP and F6000 plugin according to the enclosed Navigator PC Installation Guide, make sure you select the F6000 plugin from the Component Installer screen.



## Configuring the Plugin—Initial Setup

When you start the RIP for the first time the following dialog will appear:



*This information is important. If it is not correct, the plugin will not be able to communicate with your recorder.*

If your PC has support for IDE drives, The SCSI adapter will usually be #2  
If you have only an on-board SCSI controller, it will normally be #0

The recorder's SCSI ID will normally be #0 It is configured by software on the F6000

The Initiator ID is the SCSI ID of the host adapter in your PC. This will normally be #7  
or #15. It is set in the adapter's BIOS.

This plugin uses Xitron Remote Status Monitoring (RSM). The plugin broadcasts messages and icons sent to the RIP Monitor Window across a LAN, allowing progress and errors to be viewed on one or more networked PCs as well as the one on which the RIP is running. RSM is started automatically by the plugin, check this application for any messages from the plugin.

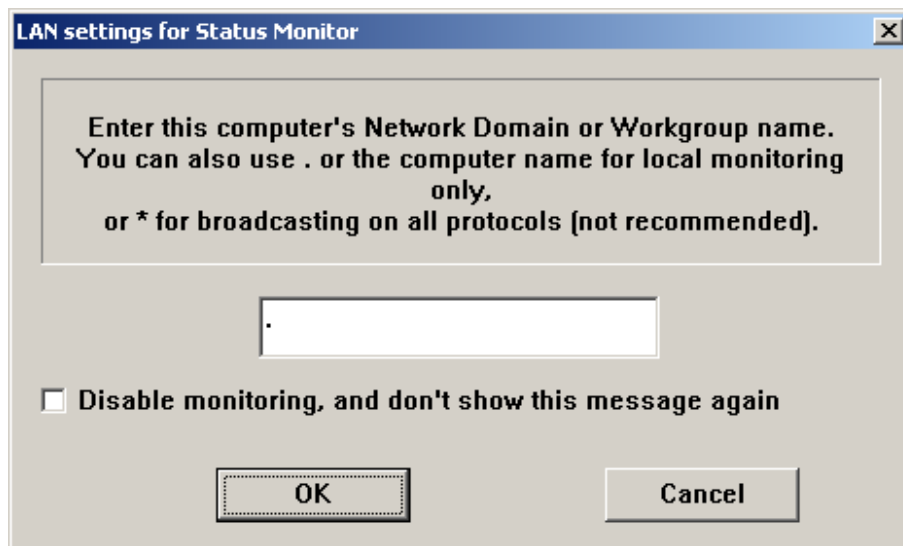
The RSM will normally configure itself for the PC on which it is running. If it fails, or if you want to run it on other PCs on the Local Area Network, you should open the Network dialog under the Setup menu, and type in the name of the PC on which the RIP is running.

The Device Name editbox should be left empty.

The Remote Status Monitor is documented separately. The documentation can be found under the Start menu.

If no messages appear in the RSM, you may also need to set the network Domain or Workgroup name in the plugin. This is done from the F6000 menu in the RIP. (If you cannot locate this menu, please see the following step, Configuring the RIP – Initial Setup.

When you select Change the Domain or Workgroup, a dialog will allow you correct the default setting, and attempt to reconnect.



*The current Domain or Workgroup name can usually be found by going to Start / Settings / Control Panel / System and clicking the Network Identification tab.*

Alternatively set “.” (period) to have the plugin only send it’s messages to the local machine to reduce network traffic.

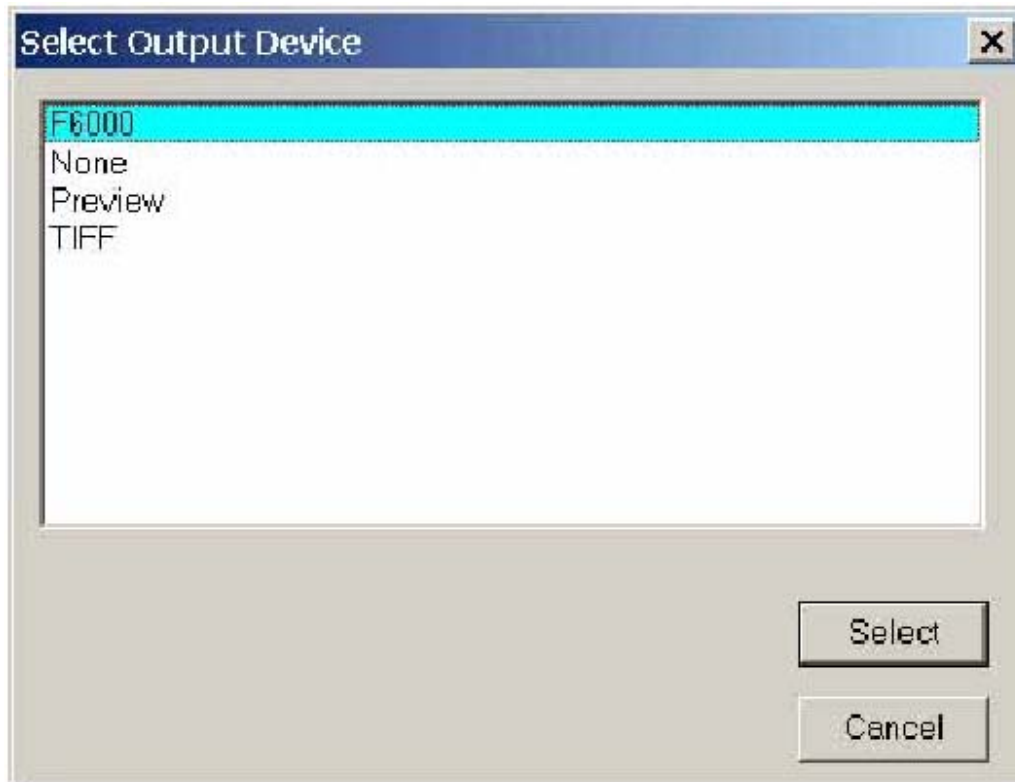
## Configuring the RIP - Initial Setup

The plugin makes some functions available through a menu on the RIP’s menu bar. To access them, you must change the default device. You can do this at any time:



*If you have installed and configured other devices, such as a color proofer, the menu item in this position may be different. Preview is the default device for a newly installed RIP. The procedure is the same, whichever device’s menu is current..*

The Select Output Device dialog appears. This lists all of the plugins which are correctly installed on your RIP:



The menu is now replaced by one which contains options for the F6000 plugin.



Selecting Debug level 1 will cause extra messages to be sent to the Remote Status Monitor. These may be helpful when diagnosing problems, but you should normally select Set debug reporting

OFF.

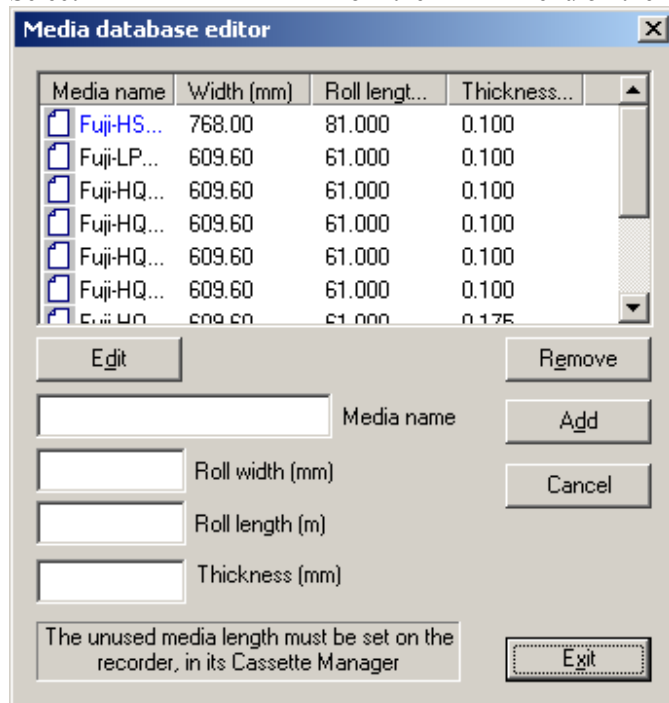
Before you can use the plugin, you must set up a media database, because the F6000 requires that this is maintained by the RIP.

## Editing the Media Database

You must set up a media database before the plugin can be used.

The plugin will download this cassette information to the recorder

Select Edit media database from the F6000 menu on the RIP Monitor Window.



To add your media information to the database, type its details into the edit boxes, and click on the Add button.

If you make a mistake, or refill a cassette, you can modify any existing entry by highlighting it and clicking on the Edit button. Its details are then copied into the edit boxes for you to update.

You can also delete an entry by highlighting it and clicking the Remove button.

Note that some buttons may be disabled at certain times, to reduce the chances of making mistakes.

Clicking the Cancel button when you are editing an existing entry simply discards any changes you have made to that entry, and clears the edit boxes.

Clicking the Cancel button at any other time will discard **all** of your changes, and exit the dialog. To save your changes, you must click the Exit button.

- No checks are made on the information you enter
- Up to 100 entries may be made.
- At least one media type must be set in the database

Once an entry has been made in the database and saved, it can be selected into any of the 7 cassettes listed on the F6000 recorder. Please refer to the recorder manual for details.

You will also need to create a corresponding set of cassette entries in the RIP

## Creating Cassettes in the RIP

The RIP's Cassette Manager is opened from the Output menu. For full details, please consult your RIP manual.

A cassette database also resides on the recorder, but this obtains its information from the media database which is maintained by the plugin, so the name and number of the cassette are relatively unimportant. The 'Media Type' in the cassette used by the RIP is passed to the recorder with the job, and the recorder will select the cassette from its own database, using the media name to decide which one is needed.

Naturally, it will be less confusing if the media in your cassettes agrees with the entries in both the RIP and recorder's cassette lists. If you correctly set the remaining lengths, both the RIP and recorder should accurately report the amounts used and remaining. The RIP's media database manager needs to be updated whenever you load a fresh roll of film.

## Configuring the device

When you click the Configure device button in the Page Setup dialog, you will be able to select the plugin layout method to be used, and enable the punch, if required.

Generally, the first job RIP'ed at a new installation should be an exposure sweep, for which the All pages equal layout style is useful to save media.

The SCSI adapter number and recorder's SCSI ID are shown for convenience.

Windows dictates that the physical settings can only be changed with a full system reboot, and the SCSI connection dialog will automatically appear if the recorder is not found at the previous address.

The Punch checkbox is enabled if your recorder reports that it is fitted with one.

Punching is performed at the leading edge of the media on the F6000.

The Maximum jobs on recorder value allows you to make the plugin pause if it gets too far ahead of the recorder. Jobs will then be RIP'ed at full speed, and downloads will continue as the queue empties. The recorder allows a maximum of 31 jobs to be queued on its disk. When the limit is reached, the RIP will continuously retry, showing the 'queue full' icon.

The Number of beams value should normally be set to 0 (automatic) for this recorder. Using any other value may cause jobs to be rejected.

The Persistent image checkbox causes the job to be stored on the recorder, instead of being output. This facility should generally only be used for creating test pages. See section 5.2 of your F6000 recorder manual for details.

The Expose margins checkbox only applies to jobs with the Negative checkbox set in the page setup, and is only enabled in cases where it is relevant and supported. See the descriptions of the various layout methods for more details.

The Debug report level should normally be set to 0 (off).

Using a value of 1 causes an increased amount of information to be sent to the Remote Status Monitor, **slowing the RIP and plugin's throughput rates**. These messages are not sent to the RIP Monitor window, as that can only display a small amount of information from the plugin. Status icons are always displayed, regardless of the debug report level.

In the event of problems, you may be asked to supply this debug information, by copying it from the RSM, and pasting it into an error report.

***Only change the debug level if instructed to do so by a Xitron Support Technician.***

## Creating a Page Setup : Layout Styles

The plugin's configuration options include various 'layout' styles which take advantage of the recorder's ability to place images anywhere on the drum. These are:

- None, use RIP settings
- Position manually
- All pages equal
- Economy, fill drum

None, use RIP settings and Position manually both position a single image on the drum, and eject a suitable length of media after each exposure.

All pages equal and Economy, fill drum are used to automatically position 1 or more images on each cut sheet to save media.

## Layout - Position Manually :

This is the simplest method. Each image is located on an individual sheet of media at the 2 co-ordinates you enter in the Slow and Fast direction offsets. The bitmap which is shown in the Configure Device dialog illustrates this:

Using image offsets of 0.0 x 0.0 would place the image in the bottom corner of the media, as shown below.

Note that you will have to allow for the setter's media positioning (skew) error, typically +/- 4mm at each edge in the slow direction.

The media will be cut at:

- 381mm or
- exactly the image width (SD), or
- The minimum eject value

whichever is the largest value. Using too short a length can cause the media to jam at the entrance to the processor.



*The RIP's margin settings are completely ignored in this mode.*

## Layout - None, use RIP settings :

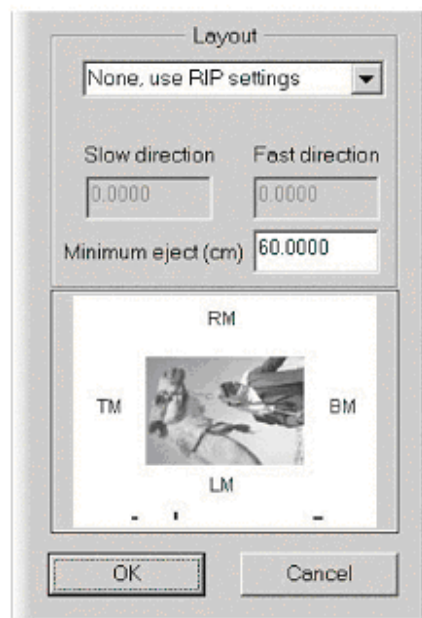
This method places single images on individual sheets of media, using the settings made in the RIP's Page Layout dialog, which in turn depends upon the information in the RIP's Cassette Manager.

The Media Width value in the cassette determines the Media Width value in the Page Layout dialog when the cassette is selected in the Page Setup dialog.

*Note that if you edit the cassette from the Page Setup dialog, the changes will not appear in the Page Layout dialog until after you have saved the Page Setup.*

The diagram shows how the margins are applied to the page, and the page's orientation on the drum. Setting the Centre page on media width checkbox automatically sets the Top and Bottom margins, based on the Page size setting.

The bitmap shown in the Configure device dialog also shows how the margin settings relate to the ejected media. In this layout mode, the Expose margins checkbox is enabled, and if the Negative checkbox was set in the Page Setup dialog, the bitmap will indicate this. *Use of the punch is optional, it is shown only to indicate the orientation of the media.*

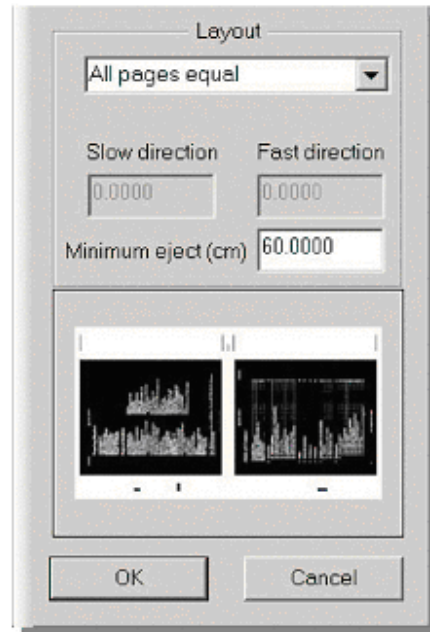


## Layout Styles - All Pages Equal

This method is of limited use. It places multiple images across the width of a sheet of media, using the media's width value derived from the cassette selected in the page setup, and the height of the first page. The plugin calculates how many pages of that size can fit across the media's width, and divides the remaining space equally between them.

Only one row of images is exposed, and the media is ejected if any page is longer than the first. If your page sizes are likely to vary, see the Economy, fill drum mode.

*The RIP's margin settings are completely ignored, and the Expose margins checkbox is disabled in this mode.*

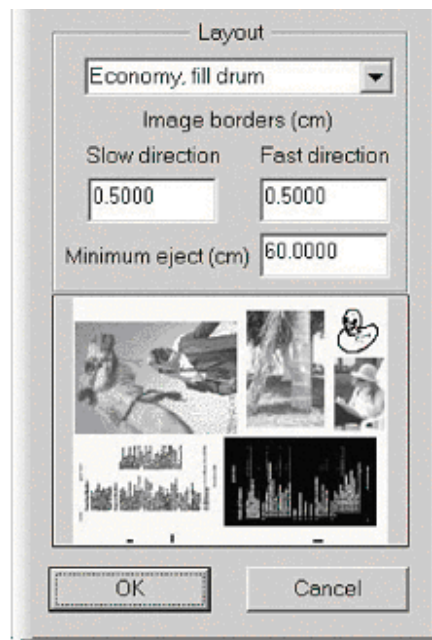


## Layout Styles - Economy, fill drum

This method places multiple images on a single sheet of media, using the media's width value derived from the cassette selected in the page setup, and the maximum length permitted by the device.

The plugin places images as near to the bottom left of the sheet as possible, allowing for the image borders specified in the layout dialog. The border values may be set to 0.0 and are applied equally to both edges: The 'slow' direction is the 'width' of the image, top—to bottom of the ejected media.

If the Expose margins checkbox is set, the image borders will also be exposed when the page setup is configured for negative working.



Images can be mixed positive and negative working, and can have differing Image borders settings.

# The Xitron Remote Status Monitor

This is a socket-based application, which allows you to monitor the messages generated by either a single specific plugin, or by all RSM-enabled plugins running on that RIP. It replaces the DOS console used by some FFEI plugins, and is started automatically by the plugin when the RIP loads it, so that problems during startup can be reported.

Text messages and status icon IDs are 'broadcast' on the local network by the plugin. The F6000 plugin produces many messages which cannot be reliably printed to the RIP monitor window, for instance progress and status reports from the recorder which may be received by the plugin after it completes a job and is no longer the RIP's active output device.

The use of a simple one-way socket-based broadcast system also allows multiple users to monitor one or more RIPs running anywhere on their local network. Computers not in the same domain as the RIP cannot receive the messages. To allow multiple stations to monitor F6000 message the Plugin broadcast workgroup or domain must be set in the RIP not the "." Option which only transmits messages to the local machine.

Because the messages are 'broadcast', the plugin does not perform any 'packet verification' or resends, which would impact on its performance. The messages are simply sent and forgotten. If a copy of the RSM program is running on the network (including on the PC hosting the RIP), it will receive and display all such messages, provided that its host PC is not too busy with other tasks. If it fails to receive a message, for instance because of intensive disk activity, it cannot request that the message be resent. However, because the messages do not have to be processed by the RIP, the plugin can continue to forward status reports even when they are not in use by the RIP.

Each plugin has a short (up to 8 characters) RSM identification name, which is sent along with the message's timestamp, in every message. This allows the RSM receiving program to filter the messages, and only list those from a single plugin. RSM-enabled plugins 'announce' themselves when the RIP starts up, e.g:

Opened RSM broadcast on DOMAIN\_NAME:RIPSERVER as F6K

DOMAIN\_NAME is the domain or workgroup to which the PC belongs.  
RIPSERVER is the network 'name' of the PC  
F6K is the RSM name of the Luxel F6000 plugin, which has just loaded.

The messages can only be received by other PCs in the same domain or workgroup.

Current versions of the RSM application can only monitor messages from one PC, and its name must be entered in the **Setup / Network** (Ctl+N) dialog box. The domain name is only needed by the plugin. You can elect to monitor all RSM-enabled plugins which are loaded by any RIP on that PC by leaving the **Device name** edit box empty (this is recommended). If you enter the

'RSM name' of a plugin, only that device will be monitored.

The RSM application cannot verify the computer or device names because it has no communication channel back to the plugins, so if you enter an invalid name, no messages will ever appear in the listbox.

In normal use, messages are appended to the end of the list, and the list is automatically scrolled to bring them into view. To view earlier items, you can un-check **Enable auto scrolling** (Ctl+S) in the Setup menu. Selecting the menu command again re-enables automatic scrolling.

If you want to search for a particular job or message, you can type its name into the edit box next to the **Find** button, and then click that button. You may also need to turn off the Auto-scrolling. Choosing **Edit / Find next** (Ctl+x) will search for the next line containing your text. The search is not case-sensitive.

The application automatically limits the number of messages, discarding the first 500 lines whenever the limit of 1000 lines is reached. You can clear the list at any time with the **Edit / Clear the list** (Ctl+E) menu command. Or copy it to the clipboard for pasting into a document or email with The **Edit / Copy to clipboard** (Ctl+C) menu command.