



Installation Guide

MA2 Setup Edition

MIMAKI ENGINEERING CO., LTD.

<https://mimaki.com/>

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About This Guide

This manual explains the settings for installing RasterLink8 and making it ready for use.

Notation Used in This Guide

- The buttons and items displayed in screens are enclosed in square brackets [], such as [Finish] or [Full Color].
- Replace a printer name with the name of the product you are using.
- A PC in which RasterLink8 is installed is referred to as "RasterLinkPC".

Symbols used in this guide

Details		
	Important	The "Important" symbol represents information which you must know before using RasterLink8.
	Tip	The "Tip" pictogram indicates useful information.
	Reference information	Indicates reference pages with related information. Click on the text to display the corresponding page.

How to obtain this guide and related documents

The latest versions of this guide and related documents are available at the following location:

- Mimaki official website (<https://mimaki.com/download/software.html>)

Chapter 1 About RasterLink8



This chapter
This section provides an overview of RasterLink8.

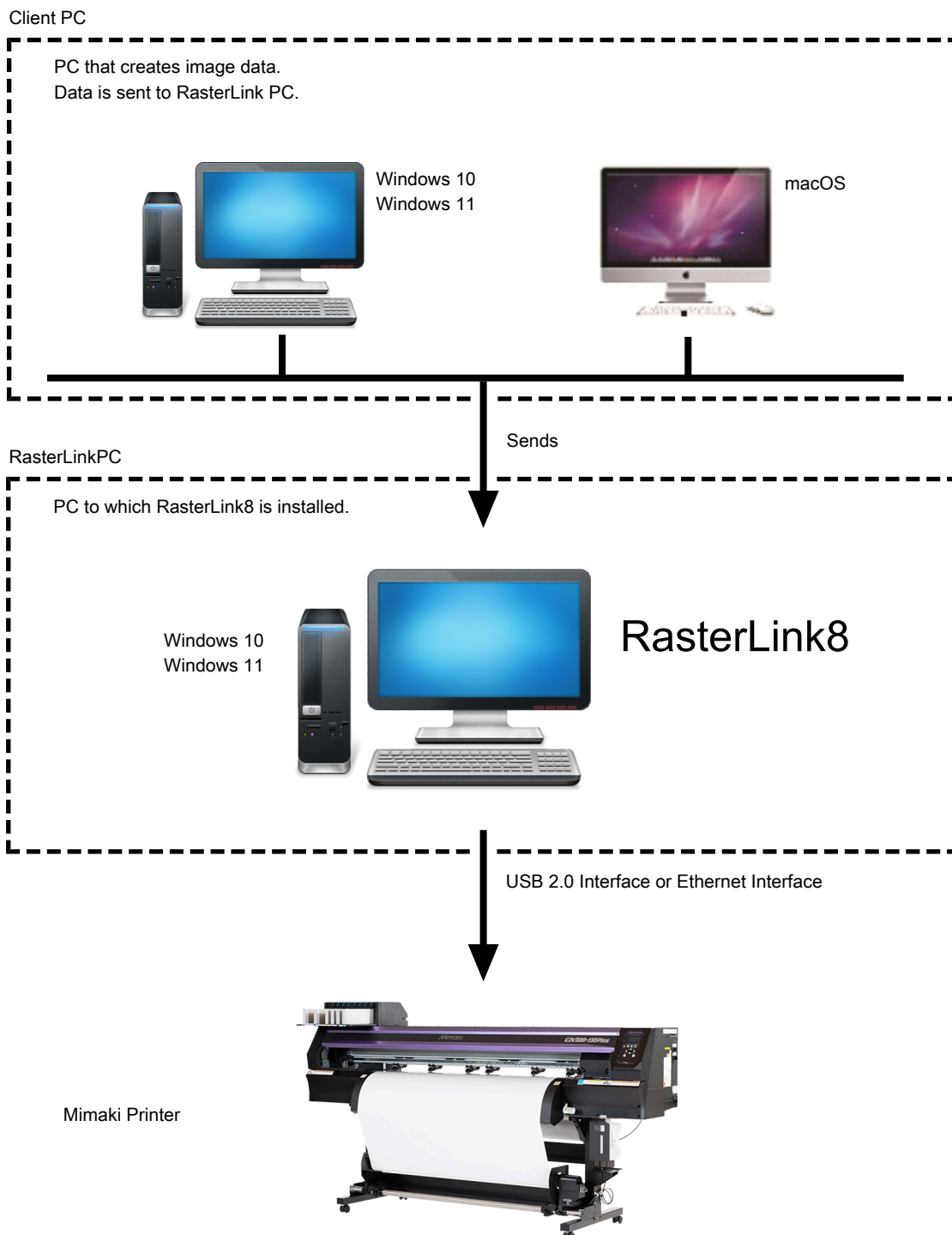
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1.1 Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Mimaki product.

RasterLink8 is application software used for reading various types of image data and sending it as print data to an inkjet printer manufactured by Mimaki Engineering.

System Configuration



1.2 Product Specifications and System Requirements

Product Specifications

Supported Printers

RasterLink8 supports MIMAKI ENGINEERING ink-jet printers.
You can connect to up to 4 printers at the same time.

Input/Output Print Data

Input data format	PostScript (PS file), EPS, TIFF, JPEG, PNG, BMP, PDF ^{*1} - AI is not supported. - The alpha channel is not available in TIFF data.
Design application	Adobe Illustrator CC or later Adobe Photoshop CC or later
PostScript font	Standard 35 European fonts A font cannot be added.
Spoolable image size	- Width direction: 5 mm to 10,871 mm - Feed direction: 5 mm to 10,871 mm
Maximum spoolable file size	2 GB
Maximum RIP-processible image size ^{*2}	- Width direction: 60 m - Feed direction: 100 m

*1. - The following PDF functions are not supported:

PDF1.5 or later: Layer, embedded movies, embedded Flash movies, password locking
PDF1.6 or later: 3D, JDF

*2. Depending on how you create print data, the software may fail to produce a raster image even in the image size listed above. If this happens, create the data differently or use application software to print divided data. If you use special color ink (such as white ink), the maximum size in the width direction may be limited depending on the resolution. Refer to the "maximum drawing range" that is described in the instruction manual of your printer.

System Requirements

RasterLink8 installation PC

● Operating System



- If our company's software does not operate correctly in the operating environment listed, it may be due to the version of OS/browser, etc.
If you are using an older version of OS/browser, etc., we recommend updating your environment to the latest version to use.

OS ^{*1}	Microsoft® Windows 10® Home (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 10® Pro (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 10® Enterprise (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 11® Home Microsoft® Windows 11® Pro
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*1. Windows 10: Version 2004 or later

● Recommended System

OS	Windows® 11 Pro 64bit
CPU	Intel® Core™ i5 -10500 (3.0 GHz) or higher ^{*1}
Memory	8GB or more ^{*2}
Hard disk drive	Free space of 1 TB or more (NTFS format)
Interface	Ethernet port ^{*3} , USB2.0 ^{*4}

*1. Use genuine Intel CPU and chipset. Otherwise, an error may occur during printing, causing the printer to stop printing.

*2. At least 16GB of RAM is recommended for parallel RIP.

*3. It is required for license activation. (It is still required even if the system has no Internet access or a PPP-connected network device is used.)
(For Ethernet-connection-enabled printers only) An Ethernet port is required to connect the printer. Use a PC that supports 1000BASE-T (Gigabit). For details, refer to the Important section below.

*4. A USB2.0 port is required to connect to a printer. Do not use a USB hub and an extension cable when connecting to the printer. An error may occur during printing, causing the printer to stop printing.



To print over the network, you need to have the environment below. Stable communication may not be possible if the specifications are lower than the following:

- PC: The LAN port supports the 1000BASE-T (gigabit) mode.
- Cable: CAT6 or CAT6A LAN cable.
- Hub (if used): It supports the 1000BASE-T (gigabit) connection.



- For the latest information, visit our official website (<https://mimaki.com/>).

● Limitations on Printing via Network

- The system is not available over a wireless LAN or on a PLC.
- The system is not available on a VPN.
- When used with a wireless LAN, the system may not be able to connect to a printer. In this case, disable the wireless LAN.
- The RasterLinkPC is available only when it is on the same segment as the printer.
- If the network experiences high load during data transfer to the printer (for example, downloading a video at the same time), the sufficient transfer rate may not be achieved.

Supported Colorimeters

The colorimeters that can be used with RasterLink8 are listed in the table below. However, the colorimeters that can be used differ depending on the function.

Display name on RasterLink8	Supported colorimeter	Manufacturer	Function		
			Color replacement of [Color Replacement] Settings Screen	Calibration Tool	Emulation Tool
i1Pro	i1Pro/i1Pro 2	X-Rite	OK	OK	OK
i1iO	i1iO 2	X-Rite	N/A	OK	OK
i1Pro3	i1Pro 3	X-Rite	OK	OK	OK
i1Pro3 PLUS	i1Pro 3 PLUS	X-Rite	OK	OK	OK
i1iO3 with i1Pro3	i1iO 3 (with i1Pro 3 connected)	X-Rite	N/A	OK	OK
i1iO3 with i1Pro3 PLUS	i1iO 3 (with i1Pro 3 PLUS connected)	X-Rite	N/A	OK	OK
SpectroLFP	Spectro LFP	Barbieri	OK	OK	OK

N/A: Not available



- When installing RasterLink8, driver of colorimeter is not installed. Install the driver for the colorimeter to be used separately.

Client PC

The client PC can use one of the OSs listed in the table below.

Depending on the OS of the RasterLinkPC, however, some client PCs cannot be connected or can be connected but their functionality is limited.

For details about the connection with the client PC, refer to the "Network Connection Guide" at our official website.

● OS for Windows Client PCs

OS	Microsoft® Windows 10® Home (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 10® Pro (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 10® Enterprise (64-bit version) Microsoft® Windows 11® Home Microsoft® Windows 11® Pro
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● OS for Macintosh Client PCs

OS	macOS 10.12 to 10.15, macOS 11 to 12
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Chapter 2 RasterLink8 Setup



This chapter

This chapter describes how to set up RasterLink8 using MA2 (Mimaki Application Assistant). For more information on the MA2 functions and operations, refer to the "MA2 User Guide". Setting up using MA2, enables RasterLink8, MimakiDriver, and the profiles required for the printer being used to be downloaded and installed automatically. The on-screen instructions also enable license activation and printer registration to be performed automatically, reducing the time taken for setup.

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2.1 Pre-installation Setup

Before installing RasterLink8, do the following:

1 If you are using Windows 11, please turn off the "Smart App Control" security feature.

- If the security feature in Windows 11 (Smart App Control) is enabled, you may be unable to install software, or the software may not function properly.
Go to [Settings] - [Privacy & security] - [Windows Security] - [App & browser control] - [Smart App Control settings] in the Windows Start menu and turn it off.

2 Check the Automatic update settings of Windows Update.

- If the PC is restarted while RasterLink8 is running, launching RasterLink8 may not be possible. To avoid this, please configure the following settings:
- **In Windows 10**
 - (1) Configure Windows Update to pause updates, so that the PC is not restarted automatically.
You can change the setting by selecting:
[Settings] - [Update and Security] - [Windows Update] - [Advanced Options] - [Pause Updates]
 - (2) Specify the active hours, so that the PC is not restarted during the active hours.
You can change the setting by selecting:
[Settings] - [Update and Security] - [Windows Update] - [Change Active Hours] - [Active Hours]
- **In Windows 11**
 - (1) Configure Windows Update to pause updates, so that the PC is not restarted automatically.
You can change the setting by selecting:
[Settings] - [Windows Update] - [Pause Updates]
 - (2) Specify the active hours, so that the PC is not restarted during the active hours. You can change the setting by selecting:
[Settings] - [Windows Update] - [Advanced Options] - [Active Hours]

3 Turn off the sleep setting.

- If the PC is configured to sleep (hibernate) automatically, it may go to sleep even when RasterLink8 is performing processing. In this case, the processing and printing will stop and the system for RasterLink8 may be corrupted.
You can change the setting by selecting:
[Control Panel] - [System and Security] - [Power Options] - [Change when the computer sleeps] and setting [Put the computer to sleep] to [Never]

Important!

- If the setting to turn off the screen is enabled, clicking the mouse or pressing a key to wake it up may result in unintentional operations being run in RasterLink8.
To wake up the screen, either move the mouse without clicking it, or press the Esc key.

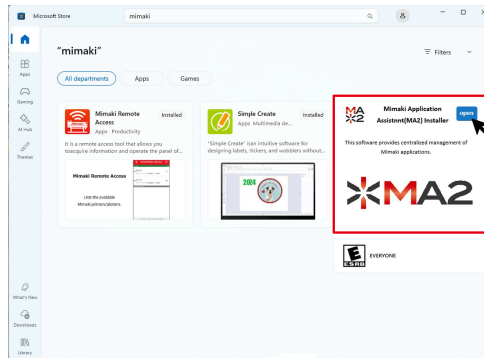
4 Change the Power mode setting to [Best performance].

- The RIP speed may be reduced if the Power mode is set to anything other than [Best performance]. Check the setting as follows:
From the Windows [Start] menu, right-click then select [Power Options] - [Power mode].

2.2 MA2 Installation

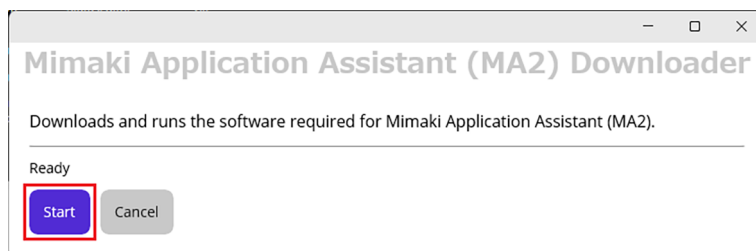
The MA2 installation procedure is as follows:

- 1 Enter "mimaki" in the search box in the Microsoft store.**
 - [Mimaki Application Assistant (MA2) Downloader] (MA2 downloader) is displayed.
- 2 Click [Install].**



- The MA2 installer can also be downloaded from the RasterLink8 utility site.

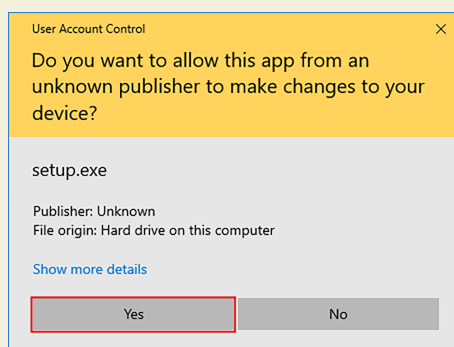
3 Launch the MA2 downloader, then click [Start] to install the necessary software.



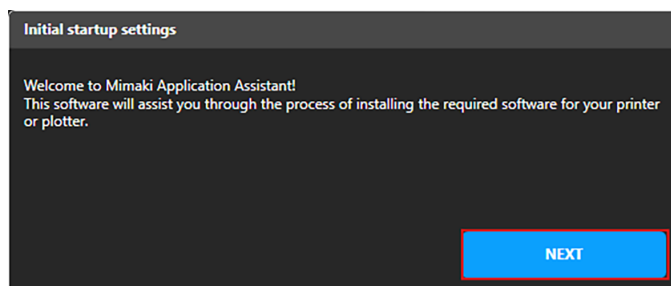
- If a message like that shown below appears during the installation process, click [Install].



- If a message like that shown below appears during the installation process, click [Yes].



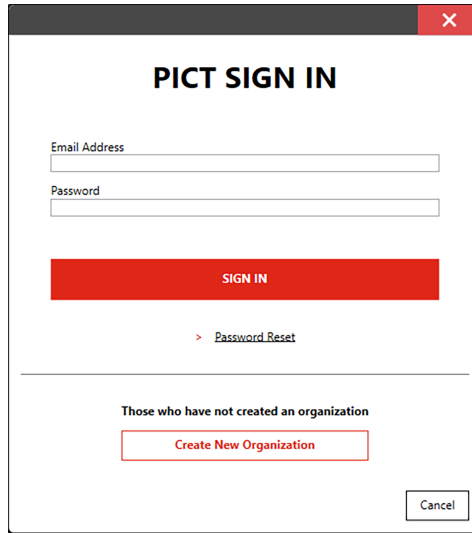
- Once the necessary applications have been installed, a prompt will appear instructing you to restart the PC. Restart the PC.
- MA2 starts up automatically after the PC is restarted. Proceed with the setup procedure in accordance with the instructions on the screen.



2.3 Registering a PICT Account

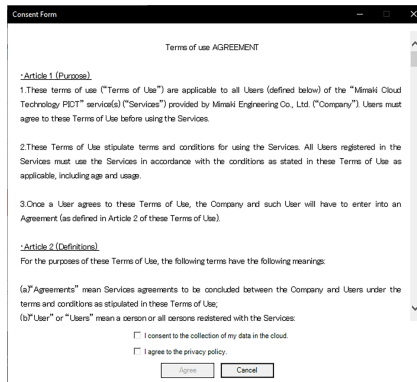
Register a PICT account as follows:

- 1 Sign in to a PICT account as instructed on the MA2 screen.



The image shows a web browser window titled "PICT SIGN IN". It contains two input fields: "Email Address" and "Password". Below these fields is a large red button labeled "SIGN IN". Underneath the button is a link that says "> Password Reset". At the bottom of the window, there is a section titled "Those who have not created an organization" with a button labeled "Create New Organization" and a "Cancel" button in the bottom right corner.

- 2 The terms of use will be displayed when signing in. Check the details and agree to them.



The image shows a "Consent Form" dialog box titled "Terms of Use AGREEMENT". It contains several articles of the terms of use. Article 1 (Purpose) states that the terms apply to all users of the "Mimaki Cloud Technology PICT" service. Article 2 states that users must use the services in accordance with the conditions. Article 3 states that users must enter into an agreement. Article 2 (Definitions) defines "Agreements" and "Users". At the bottom, there are two checkboxes: "I consent to the collection of my data in the cloud." and "I agree to the privacy policy." Below these checkboxes are "Agree" and "Cancel" buttons.



- "Mimaki Cloud Technology PICT" (PICT) is a cloud-based printer status monitoring tool that helps to improve print work efficiency and support operations management by allowing the operating status and results of printers operated to be viewed remotely on a PC or mobile device. As information required for maintenance is also managed in the cloud, you will need to create an account and register it.
- If you have not yet registered a PICT account, click [Create New Organization] to create an account.
- A PICT account can be registered before starting the setup procedure. It is recommended that you register an account beforehand.
- PICT website URL:
<https://mcloudtec.mimaki.com>

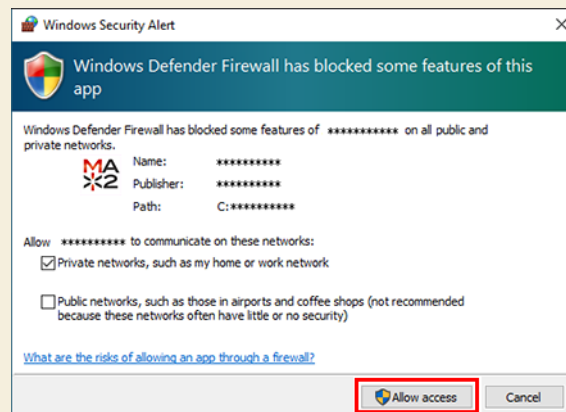


2.4 Printer Registration

Register the printers to be used with MA2 as follows:



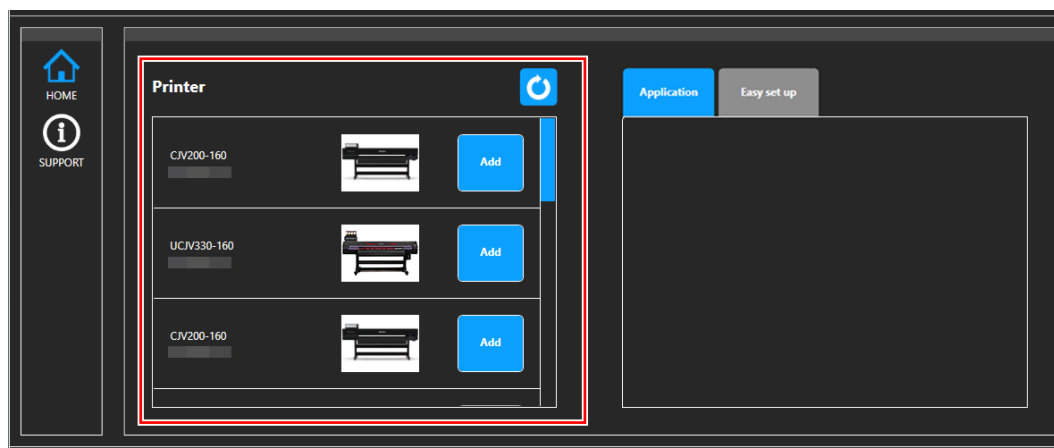
- The following [Windows Security Alert] window may appear when registering a printer for the first time. In this case, click [Allow access].



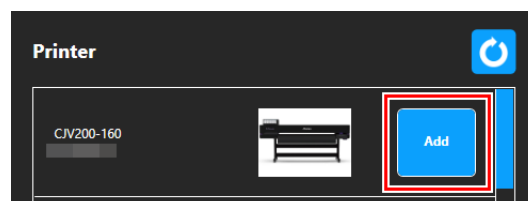
- Up to four printers can be registered.

1 Turn on the printer to be used, then check it is connected to the PC with a LAN cable.

- If the connection is normal, the printer will appear on the MA2 printer list window.

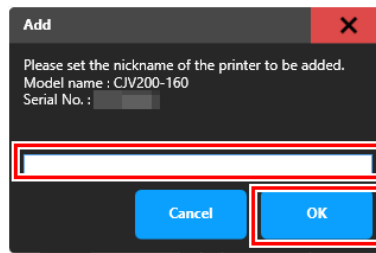


2 Click [Register] next to the printer you wish to add.



- A dialog appears for entering the printer name.

3 Enter a name for the printer, then click [OK].

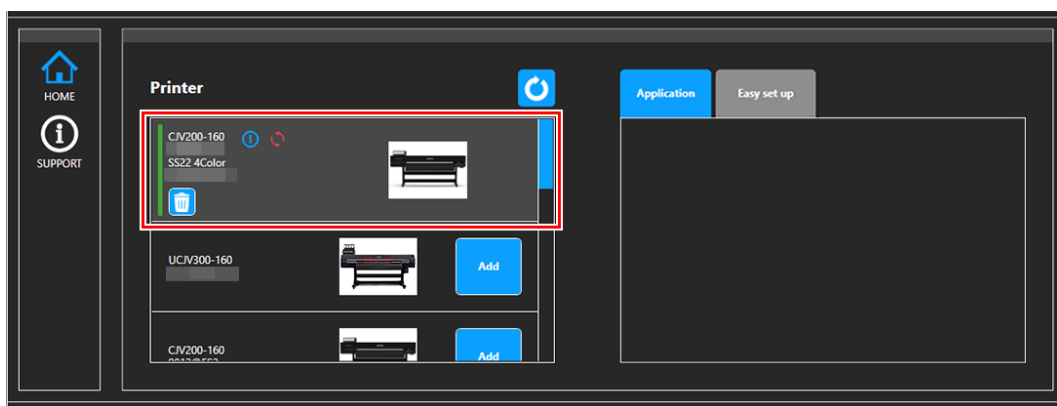


- The printer name cannot be changed once it has been registered.
- The printer name entered in this dialog will be used as the printer name when registering RasterLink8 printers.

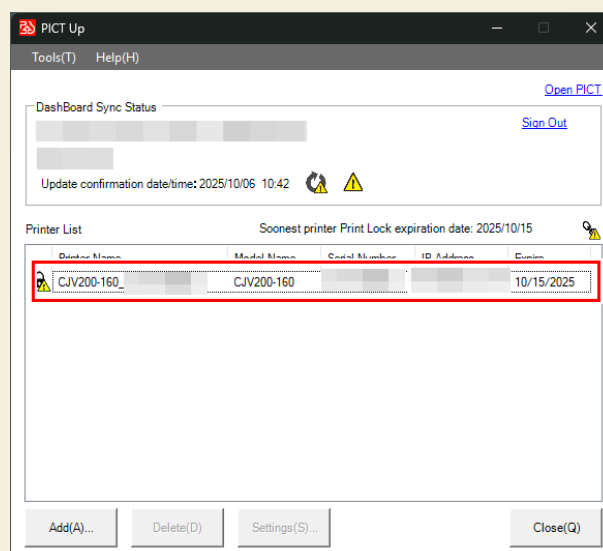


- The printer name can be up to 226 characters long.

- The printer is registered in MA2.



- Once a printer has been registered, it is also registered in PICT Up.
- The names of printers registered in PICT Up are fixed in the format "machine name_serial number".

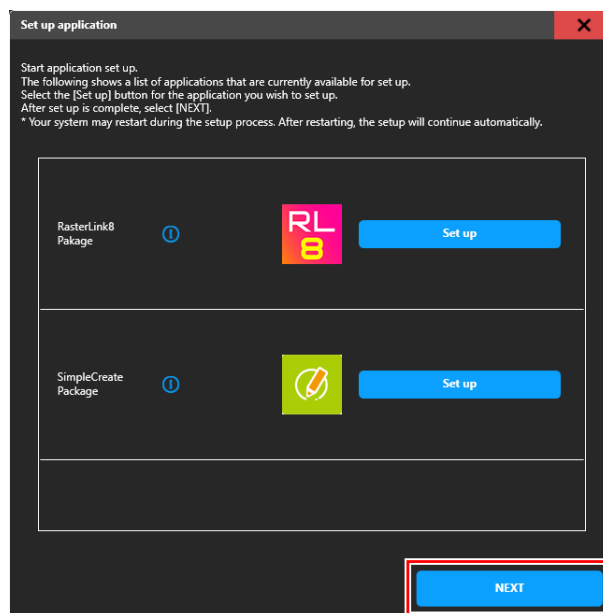


2.5 RasterLink8 Installation

The MA2 screen lists the applications that are currently set up.

Click [Set up] for RasterLink8 to install it.

Once complete, click [Next].



Once RasterLink8 has been installed, MA2 automatically installs the profile, activates the license, and registers the printer(s).

2.6 Issuing a Serial Key



- When RasterLink8 is installed using MA2, a serial key is automatically issued and the license activated, but when installing RasterLink8 on a PC that is not connected to the Internet, the serial key issued by MA2 must be used to perform proxy license activation manually.

The RasterLink8 serial key is issued online using MA2.

- 1 Start MA2.**
- 2 Select the printer to be used.**
- 3 Click [Serial Key Display].**
 - The RasterLink8 serial key is displayed on the screen.



- If the PC on which MA2 is installed is not connected to the Internet, a QR code is displayed on the MA2 screen.
Use a smartphone to scan the QR code and issue a serial key. The serial key is then displayed on the smartphone screen.

RasterLink8 Installation Guide MA2 Setup Edition

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