
T_EX Live 5 and the T_EX Catalogue

The *TUGboat* Team

With this issue is included the fifth edition of the T_EX Live CD-ROM, a collection of T_EX software and macros that has proved itself invaluable to T_EX users around the globe.

First of all, these people deserve the credit and our sincere thanks for all their contributions of hard work and time and tools:

- Sebastian Rahtz: the leader of the project, without whom T_EX would not be Live, at least not in this form!
- Fabrice Popineau: extensive work on the Windows setup, far beyond the call of duty, and evolving the TPM catalogue format.
- Kaja Christiansen: re-compiling all the sources of various Unix platforms, and providing feedback.
- Staszek Wawrykiewicz: great checking feedback, and co-ordination of the Polish contributions.
- The German T_EX Users (DANTE e.V.): providing a machine on which the master of the CD-ROM is developed and maintained.
- The Perforce company: providing a free copy of their excellent change management system, which has been used to manage the CD-ROM contents.
- Petr Olšák and Jananka Chlebíková: work on the Czech/Slovak material and documentation.
- All the other people who took the trouble to inform us of problems, checked versions of the CD, and (especially) updated their software to include licensing information.

Thanks to all!

The contents of the CD overlap a substantial subset of the contents of CTAN (the Comprehensive T_EX Archive Network, for anyone who is yet not aware of its existence). A strong effort has been made to include the latest version of any CTAN item that was not obsolete and was (at the time of compilation) free of restrictions on use or distribution.

Some items that appeared on earlier editions of the CD are not present on this one. This is mainly because of restrictions on those items (e.g., restrictions against redistribution without express permission, or a requirement for permission or license for non-personal use). Sentiment was strong that this edition should have “no strings attached”, that the sponsoring User Groups should be able to sell copies if they wished to non-members or that anyone obtaining a copy should be able to use or share anything on the CD without having to check on licensing

requirements. License terms for items on the CD are mainly of the following form:

- public domain or unrestricted
- the L^AT_EX Project Public License (LPPL); see CTAN: `/tex-archive/macros/latex/base/lppl.txt`.
- the GNU Public License (GPL); see <http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/gpl.html>.

Information about these and other licensing terms that apply to items on CTAN can be found (at CTAN) in `/tex-archive/help/Catalogue/licenses.html`.

Graham Williams, with the help of those submitting material to CTAN, maintains a Catalogue of these contents, including (among other things) pointers to the location of items on T_EX Live. For this reason, we are including a slightly abridged listing of Graham’s Catalogue here to use as an index to the CD. Items removed from the list are on neither the CD nor on CTAN. The Catalogue list was current as of the date the cd was compiled. The Catalogue is maintained as a collection of XML files, and the easiest way to find out whether a package is to use the CTAN search facility, at <http://www.ctan.org/search/>.

If you find any errors or omissions in the Catalogue listing on the following pages, use the CTAN search first to verify that the information wasn’t corrupted in translation. If you find an error in the on-line Catalogue, please inform Graham at Graham.Williams@cmis.csiro.au. In particular, the author name is missing from many entries, and licensing information is not complete. Quite a few useful packages are not yet indexed, and package descriptions often do not list important items within the package, so an inquiry to the on-line Catalogue will not get a useful reply. Users of CTAN, and, in particular, authors of packages are urged to help make this resource complete and accurate.

An adjunct to the CD is “The Treasure Chest”, a column that appears in “regular” issues of *TUGboat* (i.e., not in proceedings issues, and it’s absent from the present issue as well). In this column are listed additions to CTAN since the last instalment, as well as (in some issues) a survey of a particular topic. This makes it possible to keep abreast of what is new or updated since the latest edition of T_EX Live, so that you can update your collection as needed.

We hope you find this year’s T_EX Live edition as useful as the earlier ones.

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