T_{EX} Live 2022 news

Karl Berry

 T_{EX} Live 2022 was released online on April 3, 2020. The T_{FX} Collection DVD is in process.

As new versions of packages are uploaded to CTAN, they are imported into TL, and available over the Internet via the tlmgr program. See the TL web site and documentation for more.

The major update in 2022 is HiTEX, the new TEX engine by Martin Ruckert. It generates its own HINT output format, intended for use on mobile devices. Martin has written a manual and several articles about the project; see ctan.org/pkg/hitex for links.

As always, in this year's release there are also pervasive updates to hundreds of packages and programs. For a list of major changes, please see tug. org/texlive/bugs.html. For this note, I wanted to summarize some of the known problems in current TL; the same web page has more details.

Windows binaries in TL'22 are still 32-bit. We expect to switch to 64-bit binaries for Windows in 2023, and we cannot provide both simultaneously—so be forewarned.

LuaTEX, unlike all other engines, does not look in a given -output-directory for input files. We expect this to be fixed for next year.

Some Lua-related formats are unsharable. The LuaIATEX, ConTEXt, and OpTEX .fmt files cannot be shared across different architectures (32-bit/64-bit and/or BigEndian/LittleEndian). This is not new this year, but was only discovered and reported relatively recently. No decision has been made about changing this for LuaIATEX; ConTEXt and OpTEX are not expected to ever change this, by decision of their authors.

On macOS Monterey 12 (the latest release at this writing), install-tl comes up as a black window, due to Apple's intentional breakage of the wish program (Tcl/Tk). The solution, other than installing a working Tcl/Tk, is to run install-tl -gui text, which is now (post-release) the default.

On Windows, install-tl may output the cryptic message fail bad gmtime (repeatedly). It's annoying but harmless; just ignore it. A fix is in the works.

 Karl Berry karl (at) freefriends dot org https://tug.org/texlive