

A Message from Donald Knuth

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Congratulations and Happy Silver Anniversary to TEX, exclamation point! I wish you and all TUGgies the best at this celebration, colon: For 25 years, hundreds of people have contributed their time and talents generously to the cause of improving the quality of countless publications; I'm enormously grateful to all of you for making TEX possible.

From my own standpoint I take particular pleasure in seeing the widespread use of T_EX and METAFONT in almost every part of the world, and in seeing so many beautiful books that probably would never have been written without such a system. [Including 22 books of my own, and counting ~ \dots]

I'm especially happy that T_EX has played a role in the creation of the Internet and of Literate Programming.

This year I've released T_EX version 3.141592 and METAFONT version 2.71828. But the systems have converged to such an extent that you needn't bother to upgrade until you get your next computer. None of your old files have become obsolete, nor will they in the future.

My only regret is that I never taught T_EX how to hyphenate the word "ukulele". In spite of this defect, I'm sure you'll have a jubilant jubilee, after which I urge you to caps-and-small-caps go forth, and create thousands more slanted masterpieces of the publishing art exclamation point exclamation point!!

I'm convinced that hundreds of wonderful books have by now been written that never would have been written without TEX.

