Announcements

Volunteers needed for \LaTeX2rtf coordination and development

Wilfried Hennings

In our daily tasks, we have to handle \LaTeX\-documents as well as, e.g., MS Word or WordPerfect documents—like it or not, it’s a fact. And there is a permanent need to convert between \LaTeX\ and one of the PC wordprocessors.

There are already some converters available (see my FAQ list at \texttt{http://www.kfa-juelich.de/isr/1/texconv.html}), however none of them satisfies all needs. One of these converters is \LaTeX2rtf.

Ralf Schlatterbeck, the author of \LaTeX2rtf, cannot maintain it any longer, because he is now working somewhere else. I cannot either, because I am not familiar with C and have not enough time to make myself acquainted with it and work on programming. Really, that’s not my job; I am just a Word and \LaTeX\ user who desperately needs good converters, so I am collecting information about them which one day resulted in the FAQ list mentioned above.

Some weeks ago, Georg Lehner mailed me some enhancements he added, and now we are in touch with Ralf for joining Ralf’s latest enhancements and Georg’s, to get a new development version. But also Georg can not do everything alone, so we are searching for volunteers to join us for programming and testing.

Following a posting of this request in \texttt{comp.text.tex} and \texttt{de.comp.text.tex}, I have already received some responses, so at the moment there is already some development work going on.

Georg is willing to coordinate the work for some time, but it seems that in the long run we will need another volunteer willing to coordinate further developments. This does not mean she/he has to do all the programming her/himself, but collecting, selecting, coordinating and encouraging developments done by other people.

Maybe by the time this article is published we will have already found a coordinator, but in case we have not, anyone willing to do that please mail me at: \texttt{<W.Hennings@fz-juelich.de>}. Of course people with brillant ideas and the capability and time to implement them are always welcome.

Still on the to-do-list:

\begin{itemize}
  \item support \LaTeX2ε (the current version is based on \LaTeX\ 2.09)
\end{itemize}

Waiting for volunteers...

\begin{itemize}
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\end{itemize}