A brief report on the first g\textsubscript{IT} meeting

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The first public meeting of g\textsubscript{IT} (Gruppo Utilizzatori Italiani di \TeX, \url{http://www.guit.sssup.it}) was held on 9th October 2004 in Pisa, Italy, at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies.

We started our work in 2000 with just a small website built around a web forum, strongly emphasizing the idea of virtual community. The simple idea of gathering people in Italy interested in \LaTeX and its future is something that some years ago could have not been imagined, because of the absence of a gathering place in the \TeX Italian world.

From our point of view the meeting was a great success. We needed some months to organize everything, but it was a great satisfaction for us to have about 50 people attend the conference.

After the talks were introduced, Klaus Hoeppner from DANTE e.V. spoke about upcoming \TeX events worldwide, followed by talks about the status of \LaTeX in Italian universities, and common mistakes in \LaTeX syntax and font installation. It was then time for a nice coffee break (appreciated indeed by people attending there) followed by a talk about page layout and another about the generation of \textsc{Stata} (statistics software) tables to be embedded in a \LaTeX document.

The afternoon session started with a lecture about critical editions in \LaTeX, followed by multilingual bibliographies and XML (many thanks to our other foreign guest, Jean-Michel Huflien), graphics and diagrams with \texttt{XY-pic}, \texttt{tex4ht} and a short discussion about the future goals of the Italian TUG, mainly focused on the shifting from our present virtual community to a real community.

The g\textsubscript{IT} meeting was conceived to involve more people from Italy in the staff and organization affairs, and to have more members to reach further effectiveness in our activities. As we achieved this goal, the next g\textsubscript{IT} meeting will be focused on boosting \LaTeX knowledge across Italy and developing stronger ties with other \TeX user groups. For these and many other reasons we would be very glad of your presence! It will be held in October 2005 in Pisa. More information is available on the web, at \url{http://www.guit.sssup.it/guitmeeting/2005/}.

Last but not least, we are extremely grateful for the valuable DANTE e.V. support, and look forward to having more foreign guests next time.

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TUG 2005
International Typesetting Conference  
Announcement and Call for Participation

TUG 2005 will be held in Wuhan, China from August 23–25, 2005. CTUG (Chinese \TeX User Group) has committed to undertake the conference affairs.

Wuhan is close to the birthplace of Taoism and the Three Gorges Reservoir. China is also the birthplace of typography in ancient times, and is simply a very interesting place to go.

For more information, see the conference web page at \url{http://tug.org/tug2005}, or email tug2005@tug.org.

Conference program

The keynote speaker will be Wai Wong, from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, on “Typesetting Chinese: A personal perspective”.

Other speakers include Nelson Beebe, Jin-Hwan Cho, Hong Feng, Eitan Gurari, Hans Hagen, Yannis Haralambous, Jonathan Kew, Ross Moore, Karel Piška, Chris Rowley, Karel Skoupý, Philip Taylor, and Suki Venkat. A complete list of presentations and tutorials are available on the conference web site.

Conference registration

The conference fees and deadlines for members of any \TeX user group (in US dollars):  
Normal registration  July 1, 2005  $220  
Late registration  August 1, 2005  $380

In all cases, non-user group members add $20.

Hope to see you there!