Hyphenation Exception Log

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This is the periodic update of the list of words that \TeX{} fails to hyphenate properly. The full list last appeared in \textit{TUGboat} 16:1, starting on page 12, with updates in \textit{TUGboat} 22:1/2, pp. 31–32; 23:3/4, pp. 247–248; 26:1, pp. 5–6; and 29:2, p. 239.

In the list below, the first column gives results from \TeX{}'s \showhyphens{}; entries in the second column are suitable for inclusion in a \hyphenation{} list.

In most instances, inflected forms are not shown for nouns and verbs; note that all forms must be specified in a \hyphenation{} list if they occur in your document. The full list of exceptions, as a TEX-readable file, appears at http://mirror.ctan.org/info/digests/tugboat/ushyphex.tex. (It's created by Werner Lemberg's scripts, available in the subdirectory hyphenex.)

Like the full list, this update is in two parts: English words, and names and non-English words (including transliterations from Cyrillic and other non-Latin scripts) that occur in English texts.

Thanks to all who have submitted entries to the list. Here is a short reminder of the relevant idiosyncrasies of \TeX{}'s hyphenation. Hyphens will not be inserted before the number of letters specified by \lefthyphenmin, nor after the number of letters specified by \righthyphenmin. For U.S. English, \lefthyphenmin=2 and \righthyphenmin=3; thus no word shorter than five letters will be hyphenated. (For the details, see The TeXbook, page 454.) This particular rule is violated in some of the words listed; however, if a word is hyphenated correctly by \TeX{} except for “missing” hyphens at the beginning or end, it has not been included here.

Some other permissible hyphens have been omitted for reasons of style or clarity. While this is at least partly a matter of personal taste, an author should think of the reader when deciding whether or not to permit just one more break-point in some obscure or confusing word. There really are times when a bit of rewriting is preferable.

Names and non-English words used in English text

\begin{itemize}
  \item Dorch-ester
  \item Hoek-wa-ter
  \item Im-ageMag-ick
  \item JavaScript
  \item Minkowski
  \item Pythago-ras
  \item Pythagorean
  \item Schweid-nitz
  \item Shored-itch
  \item Tolch-ester
  \item Vidi-assov
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
  \item Dorch-es-ter
  \item Hoek-water
  \item Image-Magick
  \item Java-Script
  \item Min-kow-ski
  \item Py-thag-o-ras
  \item Py-thag-o-re-an
  \item Schweid-nitz
  \item Shore-ditch
  \item Tol-ch-es-ter
  \item Vid-ias-sov
\end{itemize}