**Automating font production processes**

*Dr. Jürgen Willrodt & Frank E. Blokland*

The very versatile and easy to edit *Ikarus* based file structure of *dtl* FontMaster, in which the glyph descriptions are cleverly kept separated from metrics and naming info, is tailored for sophisticated organizing and batching font production processes. Reproducibility and stability are keywords. The following subjects (amongst others) will be explained:
- Glyph databases: organizing, building, merging, enhancing
- Glyph mapping: managing Character Layout files
- Name tables: editing *ufm* and *otf* Layout features files
- Metrics: metrics and kern pairs editing/generation
- OpenType Layout features: editing features files and automating the features generation
- Font generation: batching (with command files)

**Automating type design processes**

*Frank E. Blokland*

Not only font production processes can be automated; to a certain extend also the type design process can be done by software itself. An introduction on the (possible) automation of type design processes and the presentation of the first version of the *dtl* LetterModeller application. This presentation is partly based on the PhD research on *Harmonic systems in the Latin script* that the speaker is currently doing at Leiden University.

**Editing OpenType fonts: *ot Master***

*Dr. Jürgen Willrodt*

*ot Master* is a powerful new generation tool for the direct extensive editing of OpenType *cff* and *ttf* fonts, which is available for *Mac OS X* and *Windows*. The many functions include the adding and editing of glyphs, the revision of (name) tables, consistency checking and the handling of OpenType Layout features. The following subjects (amongst others) will be explained in detail:
- Name tables: checking and modifying
- Line spacing: checking and modifying
- Glyphs: editing and adding
- OpenType Layout features: importing a features file
- Arabic fonts: creating Arabic fonts including mark positioning

**Lunch**
14.00 hrs  **Re-inventing font technology**  
*Peter Rosenfeld*

Much of the actual font technology finds its origin in the *Ikarus* system, invented by Dr. Peter Karow in the early 1970’s and developed till this day by *urw++* under supervision of Dr. Jürgen Willrodt. A historical overview and explanation of more than thirty years of Spitzentechnologie by *urw++’s* managing director, who was directly engaged in the *Ikarus* development over the past thirty-plus years.

15.00 hrs  **Crossing borders: The best of different worlds**  
*Frank E. Blokland*

– Running *fm* under Mac os x /11 and Linux in a Wine bottle.
– Integrating *fm* in workflows based on other font tools.
TypeTech attendees who use third party software are invited for a direct comparison of the functionality of their font production tools with *fm’s* and to discuss (the necessity of) possible workflow integrations (or even migration).

16.00 hrs  • Break

16.20 hrs  **Reception: to celebrate a long lasting co-operation**

The Dutch Type Library and *urw* are working together for 17½ years in the field of font (tools) production now and we would like to celebrate this long lasting co-operation and friendship – together with all ATypI TypeTech Forum attendees – with some good food and drinks.
Also a preview of the booklet *Comprehensive Notes on the Design of Cyrillic Letters* by the Finnish type designer Hanna Hakala and typeset in the preliminary version of *dtl Valiance* will be presented here.

17.20 hrs  • End of *fm* Track

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*Peter Rosenfeld* started, after finishing his business studies in 1980, his first position in the font production department at Dr. Hell in Kiel. It was there where he first got in touch with digital type. Peter joined *urw* in Hamburg in 1982 and a little later he became the manager of the *urw* font studio. He worked very closely for and with Dr. Peter Karow, the visioneer and pioneer of the type industry. Roughly ten years after joining *urw*, Peter became Managing Director of *urw++* and the company has established itself in the graphic design industry by continually developing and marketing innovative font and software products.

*Hanna Hakala* is a type and graphic designer from Helsinki, Finland. She has studied graphic design at University of Art and Design Helsinki and type design at the Type and Media masters program at the Royal Academy of Arts in The Hague. She has a background in developmental genetics (MA) and she has worked in Minneapolis and Helsinki as a research scientist. She has been involved with the design of several visual identities, magazines and books. She is particularly interested in information design, multilingual projects and the design of Latin-Cyrillic typefaces.