DTL [FontMaster] Track

10.00 hrs

Producing large and complex OpenType fonts

Dr. Jürgen Willrodt (URW++)

The production of large and complex glyph sets and subsequently fonts, like for instance for CJK typefaces, asks for very specialised tools. URW++'s Ikarus v4 is such a tool and its powerful capabilities will be demonstrated. Also URW++'s new OT table editor will be presented.

11.00 hrs

The OpenType layout features file: Structure and editing

Christopher Slye (Adobe Systems Incorporated)

An in depth presentation on the structure and the editing of the OpenType layout features file.

11.45 hrs

• Break

12.00 hrs

MS VOLT: Generation and enhancement of OT layout features

Sergey Malkin (Microsoft)

A detailed explanation of the functionality of Microsoft VOLT and how this program can be professionally used to accomplish OpenType layout features.

13.00 hrs

DTL FontMaster 2.5 & further developments

Frank E. Blokland (Dutch Type Library)

A presentation of the new version of DTL FontMaster and an overview of planned future developments.

13.30 hrs

• Lunch

14.30 hrs

The automatic production of OT layout features in FM: How it works

Dr. Jürgen Willrodt (URW++)

With DTL FontMaster the generation of the GPOS and GSUB features can be automated. Basically the system, which makes use of the Adobe OT SDK code, was developed for the Latin script in the first place, but it can for instance also be adapted for Arabic. Dr. Juergen Willrodt, architect and programmer of the OpenType layout features automation, presents a close look at the structure, advantages and possibilities of this system. Amongst other things, the interaction between the OT features file and the character layout file (.cha) will be explained in detail.

Dr. Jürgen Willrodt was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1950. He studied Physics and Mathematics and got a Ph.D. in theoretical particle physics in 1976, after which he did several years research in that field.

Willrodt joined URW in 1983 as a software developer. His first major font development project was the porting of IKARUS from DEC to SUN UNIX. He has been the main developer of the IKARUS font production system since 1985, developing interpolation, autotracing and hinting algorithms as well as special algorithms for Kanji separation.

Since 1995 Willrodt has been managing director at URW++ and responsible for font production and font tools development (IKARUS and DTL FontMaster).

Christopher Slye is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area in the USA. After studying Art History at the University of California at Santa Cruz, he was inspired by the first designs from the Adobe Originals program in the late 1980s. He studied type design and type history while continuing to work as a graphic designer, eventually producing the text family Elmhurst for The Font Bureau and consulting for type-related companies such as Monotype and MvB Design.

Slye joined the typographic staff at Adobe in 1997, where he has helped to expand the design and functionality of Adobe Originals typefaces, including Myriad and Tekton.

Today, he continues to assist with design and production of Adobe's growing library of typefaces in OpenType format.

Originally from Saint-Petersburg, Russia, *Sergey Malkin* joined Microsoft in 1999. He is a senior software design engineer working on OpenType font support in Microsoft products including Uniscribe, Avalon and Office.

Malkin is also responsible for the development of Microsoft font production tools, such as Microsoft Visual OpenType Layout Tool (VOLT). One of his recent projects was the development of the new math layout engine for Microsoft Office and the math font specification.

15.15 hrs   [Workshop]
Digitizing techniques:
The revival of manual digitizing

Frank E. Blokland (Dutch Type Library)

Manual digitzing via a Wacom tablet with lens cursor is now supported by the Windows version of DTL IkarusMaster.
In an era of blunt type tweaking nothing stands in the way of a revival of true craftmanship anymore. Autotracing and manual digitizing will be compared.

16.00 hrs   •Break

16.15 hrs   [Workshop]
Editing features files and character layout files

Dr. Jürgen Willrodt (URW++)

The working and editing of the OT layout features file and the character layout file (.cha) in practice.

16.45 hrs   [Workshop]
Workflow organizing / automating production

Frank E. Blokland (Dutch Type Library)

Although relatively small with roughly 500 fonts, the DTL type library is ever growing. The support of other scripts and the development of OpenType fonts besides the older font formats ask for a controlable workflow. At DTL this is built around FM.

17.15 hrs   •End of FM Track

Delegates to main conference assemble for keynote and reception.

Frank E. Blokland was born in Leiden, the Netherlands, in 1959 and studied Graphic and Typographic design at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague from 1978 until 1982.

In 1990 Frank E. Blokland founded the Dutch Type Library, the first and nowadays largest producer and publisher of digital type-faces in the Netherlands. Since the start of the company he has been responsible for the development and production of all DTL type-faces.

At the end of the 1990s Blokland initiated and supervised the development of DTL FontMaster, a set of utilities for professional font production jointly developed by DTL and URW++.

Since 1987 Blokland lectures in writing, let-ter drawing and type design/font production to first- and post-graduate courses at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague. Since 1995 he is a lecturer at the Plantin Society in Antwerp.

FontMaster™
Utilities