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***ArsT<sub>E</sub>Xnica***  
**Contents of issue 1**  
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Editor's note: *ArsT<sub>E</sub>Xnica* is the journal of G<sub>J</sub>T<sub>R</sub>, the Italian T<sub>E</sub>X user group. The journal's web site is <http://www.guit.sssup.it/arstexnica>.

MASSIMILIANO DOMINICI, Editoriale [From the editor]; p. 3

Brief exposition of the journal's purposes with an overview of the issue's contents.

GIANLUCA PIGNALBERI, Intervista a Donald Knuth [Interview with Donald Knuth]; pp. 5–7

The Italian translation of the interview with Donald Ervin Knuth, which first appeared in *Free Software Magazine* no. 7, and was republished in *TUGboat* volume 26, number 6.

[Translation by the author]

CLAUDIO BECCARI, I registri *token*: questi sconosciuti [The *token* registers: these mysteries]; pp. 8–13

In this tutorial I show how to use some of T<sub>E</sub>X's primitive commands and objects, not directly accessible from L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, to define useful macros to be used with (pdf)L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. These are *tokens* and *token* registers, that are seldom, not to say never, treated in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X manuals.

[Translation by G. Pignalberi]

ENRICO GREGORIO, Ridefinire i comandi primitivi T<sub>E</sub>X e applicazioni a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X [Redefining T<sub>E</sub>X's primitive commands and applications in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X]; pp. 14–19

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's typesetting is based on several primitive commands directly implemented inside the T<sub>E</sub>X program. It is possible, if you know what you are doing, to *redefine* such commands. I will discuss some examples of this kind, which will give ideas for other command redefinitions.

[Translation by the author]

MASSIMO CASCHILI, Semplici figure con l'ambiente `picture` [Simple figures using the `picture` environment]; pp. 20–28

A short guide on how to use `picture`, the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X standard environment for creating simple but effective figures.

[Translation by G. Pignalberi]

GUSTAVO CEVOLANI, Norme tipografiche per l'italiano in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X [The typographic rules of the Italian language, as applied to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X]; pp. 29–42

This article briefly describes the Italian language's main typesetting rules, to be followed when typesetting general purpose articles, theses and

books. For each rule discussed, it shows how to apply the rule in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. Perhaps the article could be useful to users of other typesetting programs also.

[Translation by G. Pignalberi]