

of themselves. Their effort, like Knuth's, is one of people that learn from others rather than invent without regard to prior work. It's a fine piece of work and I hope they can find the time to share the nitty-gritty of the experience with TUG members.

I suggest that all TUG members can learn from this experience. How? Have the issue critiqued by several professional designers, typographers, compositors. Publish their critiques. That modality appears to be the predominant one for training people in the graphic arts. Work is not considered right or wrong, or a consensus sought; it is the exposure to critical review that develops the worker.

I hope that there will be other guest editors. I once suggested to Pierre MacKay that there be a competition among T_EX users where a work would be judged by professionals. My objective—provide input to users that would improve their visual literacy of typographic material. I cannot think of a better alternative to that than guest editors and subsequent critique by professionals.

Editor's note: Professional criticism has always been welcome, as have well-thought-out comments and suggestions for improvement in the appearance and utility of TUGboat. There have been presentations at several TUG meetings dealing with design issues, and there is a session scheduled for the Tufts meeting on the creation and implementation of the format used for TUGboat 7, No. 1. If any readers know any designers, typographers or compositors who might be interested in critiquing T_EX documents for publication in TUGboat, please forward their names and other relevant information to the Editor.

Software

VAX Language Sensitive Editor Templates and Guide for Use with L^AT_EX

Kathy Hornbach
Lear Siegler/Instrument Division

A *Quick Reference Guide* and VAX/VMS Language Sensitive Editor (LSE_{EDIT}) templates have been made available for distribution by TUG. The package includes both the printed Guide and the software, which consists of an LSE_{EDIT} language definition for L^AT_EX and several new styles, described below. [The software will be provided on magnetic media; for details, see the current TUG publications list.]

Using LSE_{EDIT} and the L^AT_EX language definition, a user, regardless of his/her level of experience, can quickly and easily learn to format complex documents using L^AT_EX. Use of LSE_{EDIT} reduces the amount of typing necessary by automatically supplying the user with a set of templates that define the basic structure of a given L^AT_EX style. These templates can be selected and filled in or deleted as appropriate. The novice user will use the templates extensively, while the more experienced user will use the templates as an aid in remembering infrequently used commands or formats.

The default L^AT_EX styles supported by the LSE_{EDIT} language definition are: article, report, letter and slides (SLi_TE_X). Also included are three new styles for L^AT_EX: memo, MIL-STD-490 documents, and book form documents. These new styles are supported by the LSE_{EDIT} language definition.

VAX/VMS format HELP library entries are included for most of the features in version 2.09 of L^AT_EX and SLi_TE_X.

Use of this package requires that LSE_{EDIT} be installed.