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Press Release

CREATIVE COMMONS NOW IN TAIWAN

The nonprofit introduces its innovative copyright licensing system in Taiwan

San Francisco, CA and Taipei, Taiwan – Sep. 11, 2004 – Creative Commons, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a body of artistic and educational materials free to share and build upon, introduced its free legal tools in Taiwan. The Creative Commons licenses, already in widespread use in a number of nations, help authors and artists share their work online, on certain terms. Building on the “all rights reserved” of traditional copyright, Creative Commons licenses create a voluntary system of “some rights reserved” creativity.

The Institute of Information Science, Academia Sinica, of Taiwan, adapted the licenses to Taiwanese law. Creative Commons permanent staff, based in San Francisco and Berlin, coordinated the project.

“The availability of Taiwanese Creative Commons licenses is very exciting for us,” said Glenn Otis Brown, Executive Director of Creative Commons. “We are deeply thankful to the Taiwan team for their hard work, and to our growing international network of volunteers for making Creative Commons much more than we ever dreamed.”

Lawrence Lessig, chairman of Creative Commons and professor at Stanford University Law School, visited Taipei last week for the Fourth Asia Open Source Software Symposium.

Taiwan is the second Asian jurisdiction to adapt and adopt the Creative Commons licenses system. Brazil, Germany, Finland, Japan, and the Netherlands began offering Creative Commons licenses earlier this year, and just this week, Austria joined the fold during the Ars Electronica festival in Linz.

Internationalizing the Creative Commons project is one of the main priorities for the San Francisco-based organization this year.

“We look forward to being able to add more countries to the list this fall,” said Christiane Asschenfeldt, the iCommons Coordinator, based in Berlin. “Thanks are due to the friends of Creative Commons around the world.”

About Creative Commons



<http://creativecommons.org>

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A nonprofit corporation founded in 2001, Creative Commons promotes the creative re-use of intellectual and artistic works—whether owned or in the public domain—by empowering authors and audiences. It is sustained by the generous support of the Center for the Public Domain, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Omidyar Network Fund, and the Hewlett Foundation.

For general information, visit <<http://creativecommons.org>>.

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Press Kit

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