

CREATIVE COMMONS COPYRIGHT TOOLS NOW AVAILABLE IN SOUTH KOREA

The Silicon Valley nonprofit releases South Korean versions of its innovative copyright licenses at the High Court in Seoul

San Francisco, USA and Seoul, SOUTH KOREA, March 31, 2005 — Creative Commons, a nonprofit organization that offers flexible copyright tools to the general public, has unveiled a localized version of its innovative licensing system in South Korea. The Creative Commons licenses, available free of charge from the group's website <<http://www.creativecommons.org>>, afford authors and publishers an intermediate degree of protection over their photos, music, text, films, and educational materials under a "some rights reserved" copyright — in contrast to the traditional "all rights reserved."

South Korea is the latest country to join Creative Commons' international effort. The organization already provides copyright licenses specific to Australian, Austrian, Brazilian, Belgian, Croatian, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, U.S., Taiwanese, Canadian, and Spanish law, thanks to a global network of artists, lawyers, and technologists.

Staff at Creative Commons' offices in San Francisco and Berlin worked with Professor Suk-Ho Bang of Hongik University, Seoul; project lead Professor Dae-Hee Lee of the Inha Law School; and the Korea Association for Info-Media Law (KAFIL) to adapt the standardized licenses for use under Korean law.

"We are very happy to make Creative Commons a reality for artists, lawyers, and Internet users here in South Korea," said Professor Suk-Ho Bang. "Thanks to a joint effort with Judge Jongsoo Yoon, who was responsible for all technical issues, it was possible to release the Creative Commons licenses in South Korea."

The Creative Commons South Korean licenses were launched at a ceremony at the South Korean High Court, Seoul. The event included a public address by Creative Commons chairman Lawrence Lessig and a discussion of Creative Commons with judges from the South Korean High Court.

About KAFIL

KAFIL, or the Korea Association for Info-Media Law, was founded in 1996 by distinguished leadership of Judge Chan-Hyun Hwang. KAFIL is unique in its member composition: The majority of regular member is judges and public prosecutors, and KAFIL has situated itself as the leading law association in Korea bridging academics and legal professionals. KAFIL holds an annual

symposium in June, plus three other academic seminars annually (e.g., "Discovering E-commons for Digital Information: Contradiction or Confusion?" in 2003). On a bimonthly basis, KAFIL hosts case-study workshops that have become a hot forum for debate among Korean legal professionals. KAFIL also publishes its own law journal on a biannual basis.

For general information, visit <http://www.kafil.or.kr/>

For information about iCommons Korea, visit: www.creativecommons.or.kr

About Creative Commons

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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