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**Press Release**

## **Barriers to Sharing Lowered by Creative Commons Licenses in Thailand**

**April 2, 2009 – Bangkok, Thailand and Berlin, Germany**

*Creative Commons Thailand has adapted the Creative Commons licenses to Thai law. The localized licenses, launching April 2, enable Thai creators to easily share creative works by lowering legal barriers and prohibitive transaction costs.*

The Thai team, led by Mr. Phichai Phuechmongkol of Dharmniti Law Office (DLO), conducted the porting and public discussion of the Thai licenses with local and international legal experts. These efforts draw upon partners working pro-bono on the project from DLO, Change Fusion Institute, Thammasat University, and Prince of Songkla University, with generous support from the Thai Health Promotion Foundation's ICT Plan for Online Health and Partner Support.

The localized licenses, the fifty-first completed worldwide, are the result of close collaboration with Creative Commons International, the coordinator of Creative Commons' global projects.

In a statement on the launch's importance, CC Thailand explains, "Adoption of the six core Thai licenses will lead to a cordial climate for sharing knowledge and creative works. This climate is especially desirable in a developing nation such as Thailand, whose citizens are dedicated to a culturally sustainable society that is also open to integration and cooperation. The Creative Commons licenses will help Thai society achieve these goals by enabling practical and reasonable copyright protection, while facilitating the sharing, distribution, use, and adaption of creative works both existing and newly-created."

The launch will be held at the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre on April 2 from 1:00-4:00pm. It will feature a seminar on *Free Culture and Open Models of Digital Distribution* and a CC showcase. Project Leads Phichai Phuechmongkol and Sunit Shrestha will conduct opening remarks, followed by speeches from key supporters: Wanchat Padungrat (Pantip.com), Supap Rimthepathip (Creative New Media Network), and award-winning author Prabda Yoon.

CC Thailand also announces its outreach campaign. "This launch does not mark the end of our efforts. Rather, it is the beginning of an ambitious campaign to promote the licenses for Thai creators. Our network will reach out to diverse content providers and present them with the concept of free and open culture. We hope to eventually persuade them to revisit their licensing policies and consider more flexible, reasonable solutions like Creative Commons."



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### About Dharmniti Law Office

Founded in 1947 by Pradit Premyothin and with the guidance of Buth Khandhawit in 1978, the Dharmniti Law Office Co., Ltd. (DLO) has become one of the most well-respected law offices in Thailand, providing quality legal services for both local and international clients. DLO offers a full range of legal services with a staff of over 100 persons including over 50 talented lawyers.

For more information about Dharmniti Law Office, visit <http://www.thailandlawoffice.com/> (English) & <http://www.dlo.co.th/> (Thai).

### About Creative Commons

Creative Commons is a not-for-profit organization, founded in 2001, that promotes the creative re-use of intellectual and artistic works, whether owned or in the public domain. Through its free copyright licenses, Creative Commons offers authors, artists, scientists, and educators the choice of a flexible range of protections and freedoms that build upon the “all rights reserved” concept of traditional copyright to enable a voluntary “some rights reserved” approach. Creative Commons was built with and is sustained by the generous support of organizations including the Center for the Public Domain, Omidyar Network, The Rockefeller Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, as well as members of the public.

For more information about Creative Commons, visit <http://creativecommons.org>.

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