The HITEC class

Eli Billauer
The Company, Ltd

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1 The general idea

This short paper is mainly a demonstration page to show what the papers written with this class will look like.

The document class is a hack on the well-known `article` class, where pieces of TEX code has been stolen from a couple of other classes.

This class completes, in my opinion, the set of tools needed to use LATEX in a hi-tec environment, where Microsoft rules too often. I'm delighted by the fact that Xemacs and LATEX run in a win32 environment, and that proper pdf's can be produced using utilities such as `pdflatex` or `dvipdfm`. These allow me to get a Linux-feeling even when running Windows. Even better: I can write technical documents the way I like, and produce pdf's that noone will complain about.

But I discovered that there was no way to escape the academic look of the well-known `article` document class. There are many other classes around, yes, but almost all of them smell quite the same. Academy is not a four-letter word, but when a paper is submitted to your boss, he better not get the wrong impression before even reading it.

So, in order to solve *my* problem of giving my documents a nice outfit, I started the adventure of modifying `article`. While doing that, I understood why noone else has yet published such a class...

2 hitec vs. article

Papers that were compiled neatly as `article` are expected to give a fairly nice result right away after changing to HITEC . The only exception is that HITEC doesn't work with two-column documents. Such documents' compilation will be aborted with an error message.

Aside from that, the HITEC class behaves a bit differently regarding document information:

- The `\author` command *can not* be repeated to present more than one author. This wasn't an attempt to reflect the loneliness of hi-tec workers, as opposed to the academic world, where they always work in pairs. The reason is technical: The author's name appears on all pages (hi-tec, right?) and there's no place for a list of people. In the case of multiple authors (did you waste time working together?) write them all in a single line. Remember that omitting an author can be a very painful mistake, and this will happen with no warning when switching to HiTEC .
- The `\company` command allows you not only to tell who you are, but also who you're working for.
- The `\confidential` command has been added, to allow companies to mark their papers as confidential.

3 Just a small tip

If a pdf is your final target, going `\usepackage{hyperref}` in the beginning of your document is very recommended. The `hyperref` package will not only create web-like links where there are references to equations or sections, but it also creates the well-known bookmark list.

4 Summary

The HiTEC class was designed to allow LaTeX to produce papers that suite the hi-tec world, in functionality and appearance. Together with other free software, a Windows-running PC can become a comfortable platform for creating impressive pdf documents using well-tested tools.