

Time zone database axed by astrology

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The venerable time zone database, tz, which powers the majority of Unix-derived software across the globe, has been shut down following a civil suit filed by astrology software makers Astrolabe.

In a post to the tz mailing list, founding contributor Arthur David Olsen said that a civil suit was filed in the US Federal court in Boston on 30 September and that the authoritative FTP server hosted by the US National Institute of Health and the mailing list itself would be shut down.

Astrolabe claims in the filing that the tz database, and specifically Olsen and tz editor Paul Eggert, have infringed upon copyright found in the ACS Atlas in relation to historical time-zone data.

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Links:

[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/103>

[2] <http://www.zdnet.com.au/time-zone-database-axed-by-astrology-339323888.htm>