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HANDS-ON TRANSLATION AUTOMATION WORKSHOP

MONTRÉAL, OCTOBER 16, 2006, HOTEL OMNI MONT ROYAL

(AT LOCALIZATION WORLD CONFERENCE)

HANDS-ON TRANSLATION AUTOMATION

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"FORTY STEPS" TRANSLATION PROCESS

This TAUS workshop will take a holistic view at company's translation processes. Following the so-called "forty steps analysis" every switch will be evaluated and weighted with the question: *can this be automated?* Translation technologies will be considered against the background of the day-to-day complex translation processes and customer requirements.
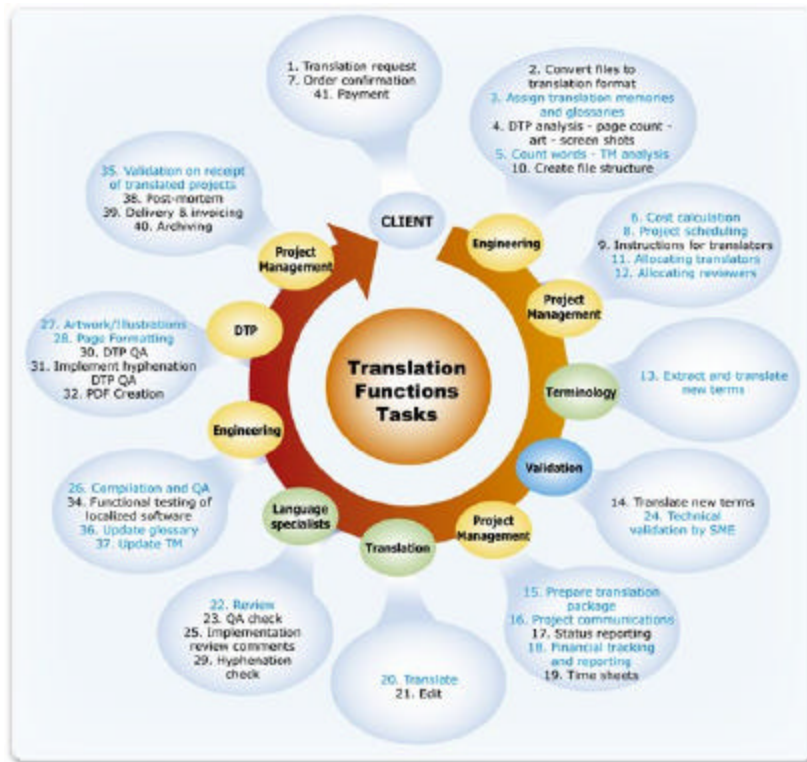
MACHINE TRANSLATION TESTS

Participants in this TAUS workshop are requested to submit two pages of English text (in Word or RTF format). These texts will be machine-translated into the French language by a rule-based engine and by a statistical engine. The two versions of the machine-translated texts will be analyzed and evaluated in a break-out session in this workshop with the help of an objective quality evaluation methodology. Through this hands-on experience participants will learn how the two different approaches to MT perform on their own text material and they will learn about quality evaluation methodologies.

Participants in this TAUS workshop will take away new insights and knowledge covering the following areas:

- User cases from TAUS members in machine translation and globalization management.

- Status of machine translation performance and differences in statistical and rule based systems.

- Customization and training of both rule-based and statistical MT systems.

- Quality evaluation methodologies.

- Translation process analysis and benchmarking: the forty steps methodology.

- Deployment models of machine translation.

- Translation technology integration in workflow systems.

AGENDA: 9.00 – 17.00

Following is the agenda for this TAUS Workshop. The meeting starts at 9.00 and ends at 16.45.

1) INTRODUCTIONS (9.00 – 9.20). One minute introduction by each participant covering:
   - Company, department, place in organization.
   - Current level of translation automation
   - Plans and ideas for translation automation
   - Objectives for the meeting

2) OVERVIEW OF TRANSLATION AUTOMATION (9.20 – 10.00). Translation technology and the evolution of the industry, User cases from TAUS members, Technology roadmaps, Best practices, The right mindset. An introduction by Jaap van der Meer.

3) DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO MACHINE TRANSLATION (10.00 – 10.30). Overview of machine translation systems in a historical perspective and present use. By Heidi Depraetere.

 Coffee Break – 10.30 – 10.45

4) RESULTS FROM THE MACHINE TRANSLATION TESTS WITH RULE-BASED MACHINE TRANSLATION AND STATISTICAL MACHINE TRANSLATION (10.45 – 11.15). Explaining MT errors with a declaration of the differences in the statistical and rule-based engines. Introduction by Marie-Laure Poëte.

5) EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (11.15 – 11.45). Introduction of the evaluation methodology, based on an industry-standard quality metrics. By Marie-Laure Poëte.

6) BREAK-OUT SESSIONS. (11.45 – 12.30) In small groups the MT results will be compared and evaluated with the use of the quality evaluation methodology.

Lunch - 12.30 – 13.30

7) REPORT BACK FROM THE BREAK-OUT. (13.30 – 14.00) Each group will report back the scores from the quality evaluation exercise. Results will be compared and discussed.

8) DEPLOYMENT MODELS OF MACHINE TRANSLATION (14.00 – 14.15). Overview of dissemination (publishing) and assimilation (information retrieval) deployment models with examples of user cases. Jaap van der Meer.

9) FORTY STEPS TRANSLATION PROCESS ANALYSIS MODEL (14:15 – 14.45). Introduction of this methodology to analyze and benchmark translation processes. Comparison of levels of control and efficiency. Heidi Depraetere.

10) WORKFLOW IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS (14:45 – 15:00). Overview of the activities and templates involved with the preparations and the actual implementation of translation workflow systems. Heidi Depraetere.

11) BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: FIVE MOST CRITICAL BARRIERS FOR FULL TRANSLATION AUTOMATION (15.00 – 15.30). In small groups the participants will discuss the five most critical barriers for the implementation of a maximum translation automation architectures (including end-to-end translation workflow and machine translation).

Coffee break - 15.30 – 16.00)

12) REPORT BACK FROM THE BREAK-OUT. (16.00 – 16.30) Each group will report back the scores from the quality evaluation exercise. Results will be compared and discussed

13) STRATEGIES TO TAKE AWAY. (16.30 – 16.45) How market forces and new technologies will change the translation industry. By Jaap van der Meer.

14) CLOSURE (16.45 – 17.00) Evaluations and next steps.

ABOUT TAUS

TAUS is an initiative of Localization World, Ltd. The organization is directed by Jaap van der Meer. The portal is hosted by Multilingual Computing Inc.

The Advisory Board of TAUS consists of the following members:

- Aiman Copty, Oracle Corporation
- Fred Hollowood, Symantec
- Jessica Roland, EMC
- Arnaud Daix, Hewlett-Packard ACG

Founding members of TAUS are: acrolinx, AuthorIT, Autodesk, Avaya, CCID Transtech, Cisco, CLS Communications, Cross Language, Delta International, DocZone, EMC Software Group, European Patent Office, Eurotexte, FileNET, GambroBCT, Google, GrafiData, Hewlett-Packard ACG, Idiom, IMF, Intel, iSP, Language Weaver, LinguaNET, Lionbridge, Logrus International, Lucent, Maquet Critical Care, Meaningful Machines, McAfee, McDonald's Corporation, Merrill Brink, Molina Healthcare, Multicorpora, Oracle, Philips, PTC, SDL, Siebel Systems, Siemens, Spacelabs Medical, Sun Microsystems, SWIFT, Symantec, TOIN, Transco, UGS, VistaTec, WH&P, Yamagata Europe, Zacco.