Interoperability Now! — A pragmatic Approach to Interoperability in Language Technology

Sven C. Andrä
Founder and CEO of ONTRAM Inc./Andrä AG

Based on a Collaboration Effort with Kilgray, Welocalize, Medtronic and Bioloom

W3C Multilingual Web workshop in Pisa
Interoperability Now! — A pragmatic Approach to Interoperability in Language Technology

agile

Translation

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W3C Multilingual Web workshop in Pisa
Translation (Technology) Industry: Niche, non-technical, experience driven
Standards

complexity • trust in standards • lack of reference implementation • outpaced by technology • lack of exchange of tool providers • missing involvement of buyers
### XLIFF Generators

This table shows the support for various XLIFF elements by different tools. The elements are listed in the first column, and the tools are listed in the first row.

**XLIFF Element** | GlobalSight | Heartsome Translation Suite | SDL/Idiom WorldServer | MemoQ 4.2 | Okapi Text Extraction | QT | Trados Studio 2009 | Sun Open Language Tools Editor | Swordfish XLIFF Editor | XTM | ONTRAM | GlobalLink | MultiTrans
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
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**Total Supported**

| GlobalSight | Heartsome Translation Suite | SDL/Idiom WorldServer | MemoQ 4.2 | Okapi Text Extraction | QT | Trados Studio 2009 | Sun Open Language Tools Editor | Swordfish XLIFF Editor | XTM | ONTRAM | GlobalLink | MultiTrans |
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20 | 11 | 10 | 19 | 35 | 11

Source: Micah Bly, Medtronic
Interoperability

Lossless exchange of data between technologies from different vendors; ability of these technologies to work together in a mixed environment.

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Innovation and Fair Competition!
Standards?
Mindset!
Values!
The **Interoperability Manifesto**

Changing our World by agreeing to a common set of aims and values.
Interoperability Now! - The Practical Part
An **agile** approach to interchange specifications
Pushing standards over the edge but in a documented and open way and in the sense of the standard.
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Feedback to standards
3 main modules

- Content
  - modified XLIFF

- Package
  - no standard

- Transportation
  - standards

Manifesto
Basic Approach

Disclosure of concepts
Basic Approach

Reference implementations
Basic Approach

Early real life usage
Basic Approach

Test scenarios to verify compliance
agile vs. standard ?
Problems of this approach
Benefits of this approach
Thanks a lot for your Time and Feedback

Questions? sca@ontram.com