Session 2

TRANSLATION TOOLS: TO USE OR NOT TO USE?
Chair: Colin Brace

Introduction

With a tip of the hat to the Bard, this session will tackle that fundamental question: Translation tools: To use or not to use? Human language being the infinitely extendable wonder that it is and translation technology an intrinsically imperfect technology, the wise multilingual documentation manager will take great pains to study the appropriateness of applying the available technology to the given translation task at hand. Just how do you determine whether your texts are machine-translation friendly? How much effort will be required to render them so? How to you measure gains in productivity? These and other burning issues will be tackled in this session, first in a presentation by the representative of a translation service supplier which has developed its own MT system, followed by a presentation by a language technology consultant, then in a roundtable discussion with other members of this workshop with experience in -- or questions about -- deploying translation technology in production environments.

Colin Brace

Colin Brace is a writer and consultant specializing in language technology. Since 1991, he has published LANGUAGE INDUSTRY MONITOR, a bimonthly newsletter covering developments in the linguistic engineering world. His writing also appears regularly in other linguistics- and computer-oriented publications. Mr Brace has given presentations at a variety of conferences and participated in several EU-funded projects.

Colin Brace
LANGUAGE INDUSTRY MONITOR
Eerst Helmersstraat 183
NL-1054 DT Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 20 6850462
Fax: +31 20 6854300
Email: cbrace@lim.nl