




Technology in Translator Training and Tools for Translators

Mt Summit XII, Ottawa, Canada, 2009
Pierrette Bouillon, Marianne Starlander
@unige.ch




**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**
ÉCOLE DE TRADUCTION
ET D'INTERPRÉTATION

Mt Summit XII / August 2009




Overview

- Long history of teaching MT
- Why teaching MT and CL
- 4-steps approach
- Results
- Conclusion



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**
ÉCOLE DE TRADUCTION
ET D'INTERPRÉTATION

Mt Summit XII / August 2009



MT at the ETI

- Class taught in Translator's curriculum since end 90's
- Increase in number of students attending
- Hands-on approach

Mt Summit XII / August 2009



Aims

- Give basics on MT techniques
- Show how a controlled language improves MT
- Experiment with post-edition
- Compare 2 commercial systems

Mt Summit XII / August 2009



4-steps methods (1)

1. Control a technical aeronautics text following the *Simplified English* rules.
2. Automatically translate the controlled and the uncontrolled versions of the text with a commercial MT tool.

Mt Summit XII / August 2009



4-steps methods (3)

3. Specialize the dictionaries in order to obtain a translation in conformity with the *Français rationalisé* rules.
4. Evaluate the results. They count the number of post-editions necessary to reach a perfect translation from the uncontrolled version compared to the controlled version with two different MT systems.

Mt Summit XII / August 2009



Results : examples

	Groupe	System 1	System 2
Stud 1	Post-editings	29	11
Stud 1	Entries	48	25
Stud 2	Post-editings	17	30
Stud 2	Entries	41	16

Mt Summit XII / August 2009

Results : summary

- Same system “wins” although
 - Different approach
 - Different scale adopted
- Comment: long learning of CL rules applications
- MT: Students positively “surprised”

Mt Summit XII / August 2009

Conclusion

- Successful in making students realize the impact of pre-edition (CL) in technical domain
- First experience of MT post-editing -> raised interesting discussion on how far to go
- Different results according to confidence with the MT system used



References (1)

- <http://moodle.unige.ch/course/view.php?id=77>
– Access key: LC09
- Holmback, Heather, Shubert, Serena and Spyridakis, Jan, Issues in Conducting Empirical Evaluations of Controlled Language, *Proceedings of the First International Workshop on Controlled Language Applications*, Claw 96, Leuven, 1996.

References (2)

- De preux, Nathalie, Does Using Controlled Language Improve Machine Translation Results?, in *Proceedings of teh 27th Aslib Conference on Translating and the Computer*, Londres, 2005.
- Torrejon, Enrique and Rico, Celia, Controlled Translation: A News Teaching Scenario Tailor-made for the Translation Industry, *Sixth EAMT Workshop "Teaching machine translation"*, November 14-15, 2002, UMIST, Manchester, England; pp.107-116.