



Translation for eComStation

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Who we are

- Jan van der Heide, active IBM employee
- Jacques van Leeuwen, retired from IBM-NL (Dutch NLSC)
 - NLSC - National Language Support Center (the IBM-NL translation centers)
- Both founders of the 'Dutch eComStation Test- and Translation Group'
- Various people for proof reading



Why translating Software

- Without NLS versions of a product, NO ACCEPTANCE of the product by non native English speaking users (e.g. Frenchman)
- Country Requirements (safety!!)



IBM Software Development Labs

- English main internal language
- Texts written by writers and editors NOT by the product developers
- Responsibility e.g.
 - CUA (Common User Access)
 - CONSISTENCY (overall)



Requirements English Source

- Terminology (used terms)
- Translatability (separate text)
- Translation Planning (when, time needed)
- Communication & Changes
- Enabling & Implementation
- Translation Tools
- File Management
- Education & Testing



Contacts Labs and NLSCs

- Move translators as soon as possible to the Labs (months)
- Goal
 - Terminology Data Base
 - Translating at the Labs (does it fit?)
 - Non English is 5 to 30% larger
 - Product knowhow
 - After translation: Lab tests (implementation)



EComStation 1.2 experience

- Installer could not be build by the translators
- eWPS, good to translate and to build:
BUT where do we find the connections
between
the .dlg, .rc and .html files with e.g. dialogs
and Help
 - eWPS.hlp is a disaster
- AE/Newview easy to build



Requirements by the translators

- How is the text organized (.dlg, .rc, .html, .msg files, etc.)
 - Language dependent .dll and directory structure
- What is the connection between texts
 - source files and visible elements in the product
- How to build the product?
 - Tools needed
 - Instructions needed (MAUL as example)



Requirements for translated text

- Consistency
 - terminology list
(within one product group always the same term)
 - Look at: netage.nl/translate (guest/read only)
- Right translation
 - does it say what you think it says
- Localization
 - Is it the real native language
(do you say/write it this way?)



Translator needs from Developers

- Self building and testing of the NLS product
- How do we communicate
- How do we handle changes/new releases
- Standardization is a 'must'



Statement

- We believe in eCS-OS/2
- But translated applications are necessary (a must)
- We will go on with translating
- Translating is FUN

