Checklist for Machine Translation (MT)

For us to better understand your needs regarding the use of machine translation, we kindly ask you to provide a few details. Please tick the appropriate boxes or fill in the corresponding text fields.

Many thanks in advance for your interest and cooperation!

1. CONTENT

What content do you want to translate with machine translation (MT)?

☐ Technical texts

☐ Marketing texts

☐ Software texts

☐ Internal information

☐ Other (please specify): .....

2. QUALITY OF YOUR SOURCE DOCUMENTS

How do you rate the quality of your source language documentation?

It contains occasional errors in the source text. ☐ YES / ☐ NO

It contains occasional inconsistencies in hyphenation, capitalisation of terms, punctuation and abbreviations. ☐ YES / ☐ NO

It contains long and convoluted sentences. ☐ YES / ☐ NO

It contains many abbreviations. ☐ YES / ☐ NO

Do you already use a well-managed terminology database? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

3. FILE FORMATS

In which file formats are the documents to be translated available?

☐ MS Office

☐ Layout formats (InDesign, FrameMaker, Adobe Illustrator, etc.)

☐ Technical formats (Visio, JSON, etc.)

☐ HTML, XML, etc.

☐ Other (please specify): .....

4. OBJECTIVE & TARGET GROUPS

What do you primarily want to achieve with MT?

☐ Provide content for information purposes quickly and conveniently

☐ Reduce translation costs

☐ Shorten production times

Who reads your texts?

☐ Internal use, errors/ambiguities are not critical

☐ End customers, overall quality must be at a high level

5. LANGUAGE COMBINATIONS

How many language combinations would you like to use machine translation for?

……

Which specific language combinations would you like to use machine translation for?

……

Which source language are the majority of your source documents available in?

……

6. TRANSLATION VOLUME

Please estimate the annual translation volume (number of words)

……

*Please estimate the proportion of new content to be translated (number of words) **

……

Is reference material available for MT engine training?

……

*Please note: If you are already generating substantial savings by using TMs and are planning to use MT for similar documents in the future, the savings from MT might turn out to be rather small.

7. DATA SECURITY & LIABILITY

Are there any data protection or compliance risks related to your documents? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

Do your documents contain confidential information? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

Where should the MT engines used for your documents be located?

☐ In Germany | ☐ On your own server | ☐ On a STAR server | ☐ Not sure

Do your documents contain references to life-threatening safety risks? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

8. INTEGRATION OF MT INTO THE TRANSLATION PROCESS

Do you want to use MT for a one-off project only? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

Do you want to integrate it into a CAT tool (e.g. Transit NXT)? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

Would you like to combine post-editing ** and MT? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

** Optimisation of the MT output performed by a professional translator according to the pre-defined quality level (light PE/full PE)

9. CHOOSING AN MT ENGINE

Have you already decided on an MT engine? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

If YES:

I would like to use a GENERIC engine:

☐ DeepL | ☐ Google Translate | ☐ Microsoft Translator | ☐ ModernMT

I would like to use a CUSTOMISABLE engine:

☐ KantanMT | ☐ SYSTRAN | ☐ STAR MT

☐ Other (please specify): .....

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us by phone or email. We look forward to hearing from you!

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