At the TAUS user conference, Portland, Oct. 2013

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a non-profit organization addressing language
challenges through collaboration

WHAT IS LINPORT?

- An **acronym** for **L**anguage **I**nteroperability **Port**folio (i.e. not tied to any one tool or vendor)

- An emerging **standard** to help you get the kind of translation you want, starting with authoring, using structured specifications

- A combination of two types of **containers:**
  - A **portfolio** is for an entire n-lingual project
  - A **package** is for one bilingual task within a project, such as "translate with XLIFF:doc"
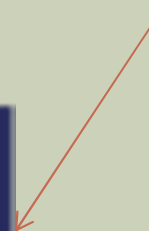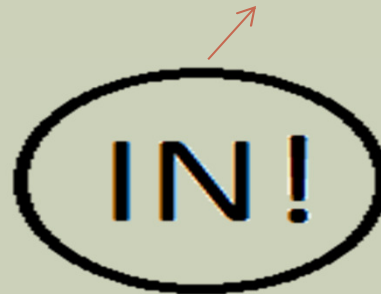
PORTFOLIOS AND PACKAGES

portfolio

packages
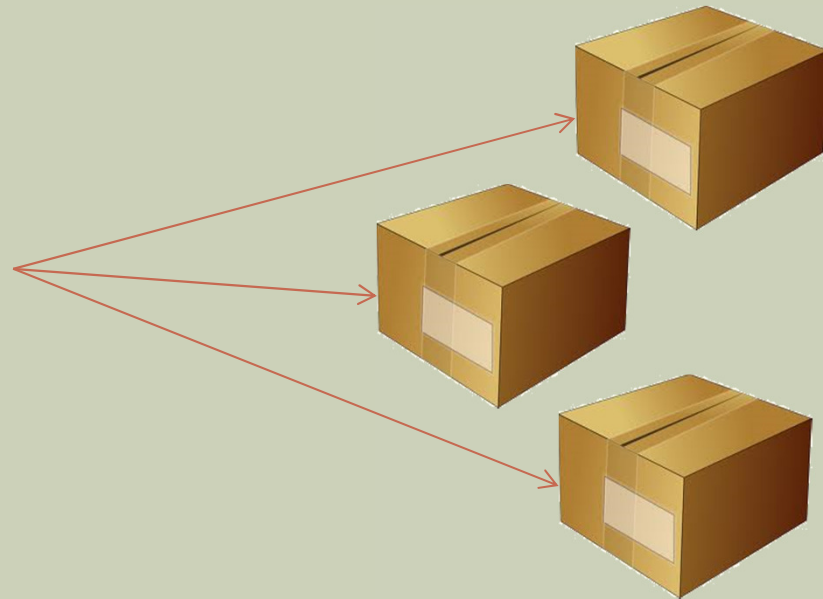
LINPORT: AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME...

WHAT'S IN A LINPORT CONTAINER?

- **Initially**
  - Source content
- **As early as possible**
  - Structured Translation Specifications
  - Resources listed in specs (including translation memories and termbases)
- **Eventually**
  - Translated/localized content

THREE CATEGORIES OF TRANSLATION SPECIFICATIONS

- **Product oriented**
  - Linguistic requirements for the target content (purpose, audience, style guide, etc.)

- **Process oriented**
  - Tasks to perform (initial translation, revision, review, proofreading, etc.)

- **Project oriented**
  - Environment (e.g. which TM, termbase, etc.)
  - Relationships (e.g. due date & price)

MORE ABOUT STRUCTURED TRANSLATION SPECIFICATIONS

- Based on translation parameters
  - Found in ISO/TS 111669
  - Available at www.ttt.org/specs
  - Will be in new version of ASTM F2575
- Key to efficiency (they help everyone stay on the same page)

LINPORT TRANSLATION SPECIFICATIONS AND TAUS CONFERENCE THEME

- Q: Is translation a utility?
- A: Only when source content is linked to
  - Explicit Structured Translation Specifications
  - or Implicit translation specifications, e.g. in an established buyer-seller relationship
- ! Without specifications, asking for a translation is like asking for... a liquid
  - drinking water, fuel oil, irrigation water?

LINPORT AND TAUS DQF

- Validity and reliability (from the world of assessment) are basics
- A translation quality evaluation method is:
  - **Valid** if it measures what you want to measure (must match specifications)
  - and **Reliable** if the results of evaluation are consistent across evaluators (method and results go in portfolio)

LINPORT NEWS

- Medtronic just went into production:
  - an in-house translation editor
  - linked to a commercial tool (XTM)
  - via Linport packages (TIPPs)
- Linport submitted comments during TAUS Translation API consultation
  - API support for Linport specs & containers
  - API should be tighter for interoperability

MORE NEWS: TBX IN LINPORT

New, smaller member of the TBX (TermBase eXchange) family will have five properties:

1. Use case: get terminology to translators
2. Analogous to two-dimensional table
3. Only required field: term (others optional)
4. In **package**: UTX-compatible bilingual terminology
5. Open source converters to be available:
   - UTX (in Linport package) →new TBX
   - new TBX → **multilingual TBX (in Linport portfolio)**

INVITATION TO INFLUENCE LINPORT AND OTHER TRANSLATION STANDARDS

- Join the Linport community (www.linport.org) info@linport.org   (1st heard of Linport today?)
- Join the TBX community (ask me or Hanne)
- Join ASTM International (e.g. F2575 [TQA])
  - Invitation from chair of ASTM language standards TC, William Rivers, to TAUS
  - www.astm.org TC F43 (language)
- Alan Melby <akmtrg@byu.edu>