Efficient Use of Translation Memory Systems

KERN AG guarantees an optimized translation process through the use of highly developed translation memory systems and online portal solutions linked to translation memories, all while ensuring increased stylistic and terminological consistency and improved quality assurance.
What is a translation memory?

A translation memory system is a program that saves source text segments and their corresponding translations by KERN specialist translators in pairs and allows the reuse of these translated text segments for repeated text passages. The translation of the text and saving of the source and target text segments in a translation memory form the basis for the translation of a similar text in future.

A translation memory thus resembles a linguistic suggestion system and forms a kind of memory extension. It is not to be confused with machine translation, where a translation is automatically generated by a computer program, although it is also possible to link a machine translation system to a portal solution for managing your translation project. This allows faster availability of multilingual information.

Particularly promising is the use of translation memories in the translation of texts with a high update frequency, with reoccurring sentences or similarities with other texts. The main prerequisite for an effective translation memory is regular maintenance and carrying out necessary changes in content.

Examples of suitable translation projects:

- Technical handbooks and product catalogues
- Operation instructions
- Websites, software and help files
- Documentation on different product varieties produced by a manufacturer or on similar products produced by different manufacturers
- Documents created in controlled language

In order to use a translation memory system, it is essential that the text that is to be translated is available in a machine-readable format and can be opened by the editor that is to be used. The team from KERN then checks whether processing your texts with a translation memory system is advisable and prepares the documents for the appropriate processing.

The KERN team can also carry out an retrospective analysis of available translations which were not translated with the help of a TMS via an alignment. The goal here is also to build a translation memory database for future translation projects and obtain the highest level of consistency possible regarding future translations.

Consistent company terminology

The consistency of translations and terminology in term databases are additionally complemented by the construction of an internal company terminology list. Terminology management at KERN cover the compilation, standardization and maintenance of termbases and the realization of a simple and fast search tool and access to the termbase.

Advantages

- Uniform company language
- Securing of a company’s expertise
- Better quality – simplified approval
- Increase in translation speed
- Centralization of translation management through online portal solutions
- Process reliability through an efficient workflow
- Control of in-country reviews
- Direct access to the terminology database