



We are distributing various types of information through the Internet. Shown here are just some examples. Please feel free to access them and send us your opinions.

www.nhk.or.jp/strl



Excellent Performance of "Translation Example Browser" At NHK World Radio Japan

Ryochi WADA, Senior Producer, News & Program Production Center
International Planning & Broadcasting Department



NHK World Radio Japan provides news in 20 languages for its regional service, as well as Japanese and English news for its general service. The regional service provides news nearly 40 times a day. The introduction of the Translation Example Browser in 17 languages is changing its news translation work. Here I will review these changes by using the case of Chinese news translation.

<Translation time reduction> In the Chinese language, texts are written in Chinese characters, even foreign personal or geographic names. For example Bush is written as "布什" and Iraq as "伊拉克". This fact has necessitated finding the appropriate Chinese characters every time a name appears in the news, i.e., by looking it up in a biographical or geographical dictionary. By reducing the time it takes to confirm the presence of any previously translated names, the Translation Example Browser has made the work of translations more efficient.

<User-friendliness for word unification> New words and phrases are always appearing in news programs, such as Aegis ship "宙斯盾艦" or

digital terrestrial broadcasting "地面数字电视广播". The capability of the system to retrieve words and phrases that have not been frequently used makes term unification easy. Term unification is indispensable in news translation.

<Increasing the quality of a translation> Translating a news script such as a stock market report often requires expertise in a specialized field. Referring to prior translated manuscripts on a subject not only prevents translation errors, but also helps new translators to produce high-quality translations.

Presently, more than 240 translators are involved in broadcasting in foreign languages for the regional service. The recent adoption of the Translation Example Browser system has necessitated manuscript format standardization and translation procedure adjustments. With the advances seen in news text service provided over the Internet, however, people in the field express high expectations for the system as a powerful support for their translation work.



Translation Example Browser



Spring 2004 no. 18

NHK Science & Technical Research Laboratories Bulletin



© NHK Science & Technical Research Laboratories

Address: 1-10-11, Kinuta,
Setagaya-ku, Tokyo,
157-8510, Japan

Phone: +81(0)3-5494-1125
Fax: +81(0)3-5494-3125

<http://www.nhk.or.jp/strl/>

Editors

Sei MIYAKE, publisher,
Director-General
Naoki KAWAI, editor-in-chief
Eisuke NAKASU, editor
Mahito FUJII, editor
Masakazu IWAKI, editor
Kyoko KIMURA, editor
Hiroyuki KOYAMA, editor

Layout & Design :
Yohko OHTA, Masami OHNISHI,
DTP : Media-jin, Inc.

From the Editors

We are preparing over 40 exhibits for our 2004 Open House, which will be held at the end of May. A demonstration video will be played on our ultrahigh-definition wide-screen system with 4000 scanning lines. This system is sure to get a reaction from viewers; we think it might make the open house a memorable experience.

In the 1960's, our senior colleagues exhibited high-definition images even though there were no displays for HDTV. They made a 50 cm×100 cm (675×135 pixels) screen, which combined three 25-inch-wide CRT's, and used it in their investigations on the next generation's high-definition TV.

Our new ultrahigh-definition wide-screen system with 4000-scanning-lines has to use two huge LCD projectors, each with 2000-scanning-lines. We are looking forward to enjoying the incredible images this system can display, and we won't have to wait for 40 years to see them.

