A comparative User Evaluation of Terminology Management Tools for Interpreters

Hernani Costa, Gloria Corpas Pastor and Isabel Durán Muñoz
hercos, gcorpas, iduran@uma.es
LEXYTRAD, University of Malaga
Malaga, Spain

**Introduction**

- Unlike the myriad of computer-assisted tools for translation, there is still a limited range of technology tools for interpreters [1].
- Interpreters face different settings and specialised domains in their interpretation services [2, 3] where computer-assisted tools could be useful.
- Interpreters need to perform extensive searches for specialised knowledge and terminology before an interpretation.
- Fortunately, there are several Terminology Management Tools (TMTs) capable of assisting interpreters before and during an interpretation service.
- Nevertheless, these tools provide different features and consequently different degrees of usefulness.

**Interpreters’ Needs**

- Interpreters’ needs are different to those of translators and terminologists [2, 3].
- They are looking for tools capable of:
  - exchanging terminological information;
  - storing concise information;
  - consulting it in the quickest and easiest way;
  - offering an intuitive navigational interface;
  - updating terminology during the interpretation service;
  - giving the necessary freedom to define the basic structure;
  - filtering data.

**Comparative Analysis**

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<td>Helps to memorise</td>
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**Conclusions**

- Professional interpreters need specific terminology tools (different from those for translators), mainly due to their response time requirements.
- Although most of the analysed TMTs could be considered to be very complete, it appears that none of them fulfils all interpreters’ needs.
- In particular, there is a pressing need to design TMTs tailored to assist interpreters not only in the preparation stage, but also before their interpreting service and during it.

**References**


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