TAUS Translation Services API

A TAUS Industry-Shared Service

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From Think Tank to Industry-Shared Services

Think Tank (since 2005)

o Reports, Best Practices

o Research, Directories

o Events, User Forums

o Workshops

Pushing the industry agenda and sharing knowledge

Industry-Shared Services

1. Promoting MT (since 2006)

2. Sharing Translation Data (since 2008)

3. **Interoperability Watchdog (since 2011)**

4. Dynamic Quality Framework (since 2011)

Reducing costs and driving innovation and efficiency for members

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Interoperability themes at TAUS Events in 2011

- **Executive Forum, Barcelona, June**
  - Sixty decision makers from major buy and supply –side stakeholders

  Conclusions
  - Many pragmatic solutions already implemented in the market. Little business case to revisit legacy
  - XLIFF important. Specification process needs to be faster to stay relevant
  - Need 'Program Management Office' to look linkages and consult widely with market to prioritize. Rapidly emergent issues requiring attention

- **TAUS Response**
  - July - XLIFF survey in coordination with TC (434 responses)
  - August – Buyer consultation
  - XLIFF Symposium – propose core/modules, suggest prioritization, offer to check variances

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Interoperability themes at TAUS Events in 2011

User Conference, Santa Clara, Oct

- Hundred decision makers from major buy and supply–side stakeholders
- Open space debate

Conclusions

- **Need for common APIs**
- Registry of implementations
- Client side pressure

More info

- Barcelona Summary - http://tinyurl.com/d938xlf
- XLIFF Symposium Presentation – http://tinyurl.com/6yhroqa
- Santa Clara Videos – http://tinyurl.com/9h3j9hr
- Full TAUS Interoperability Timeline –http://tinyurl.com/dy4ta66

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Why a TAUS Translation Services API

Now

Lengthy definition processes and **complex** standards, with little compliance checking resulting in **low adoption rates**.

New

Rapid definition, add **complexity step by step** based on **process**, **user/usage** and **best practices**.
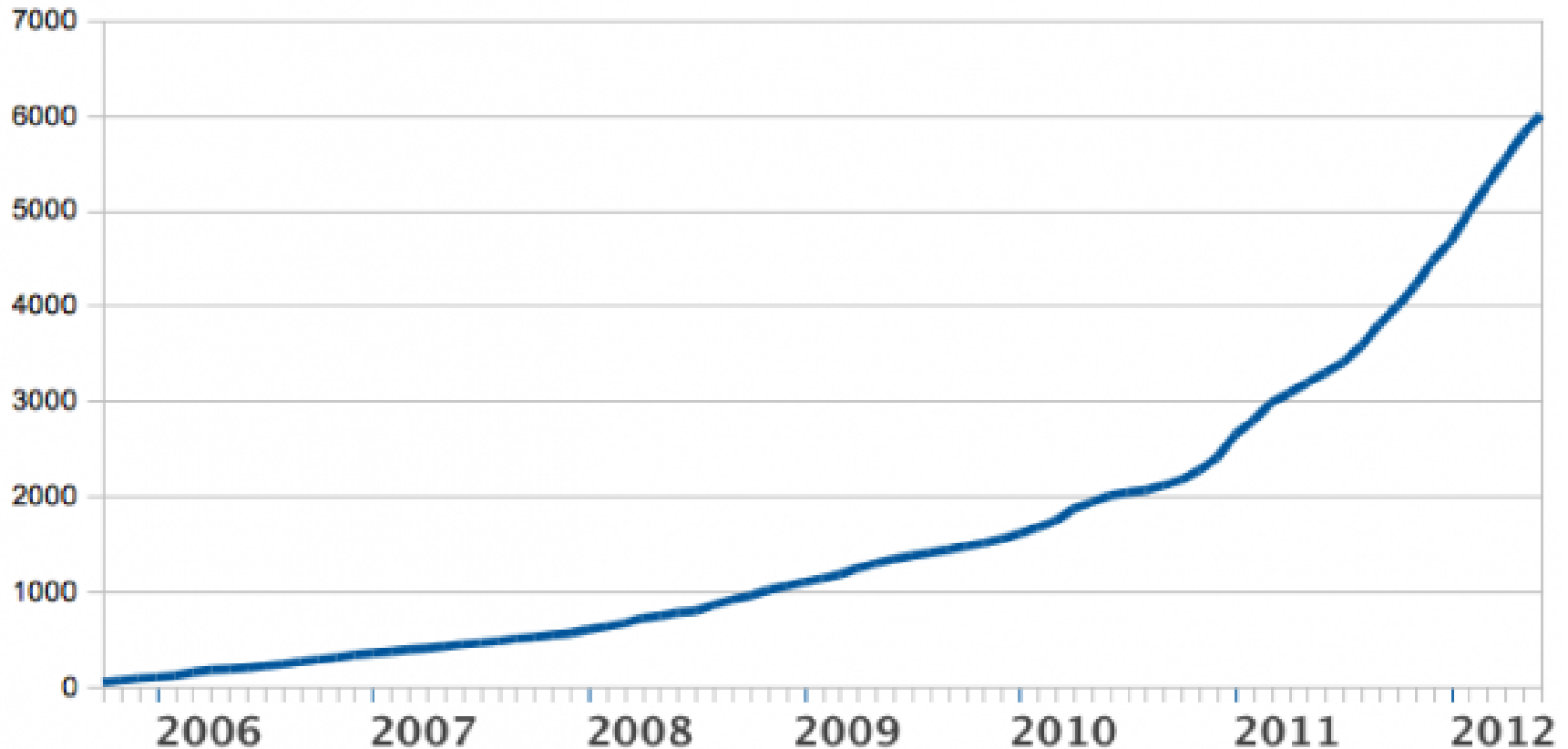
Goals/Benefits

- ✓ Ensure most common use scenarios are covered quickly
- ✓ Make it easy to adopt and check compliance
- ✓ Share best practices quickly and gather feedback widely
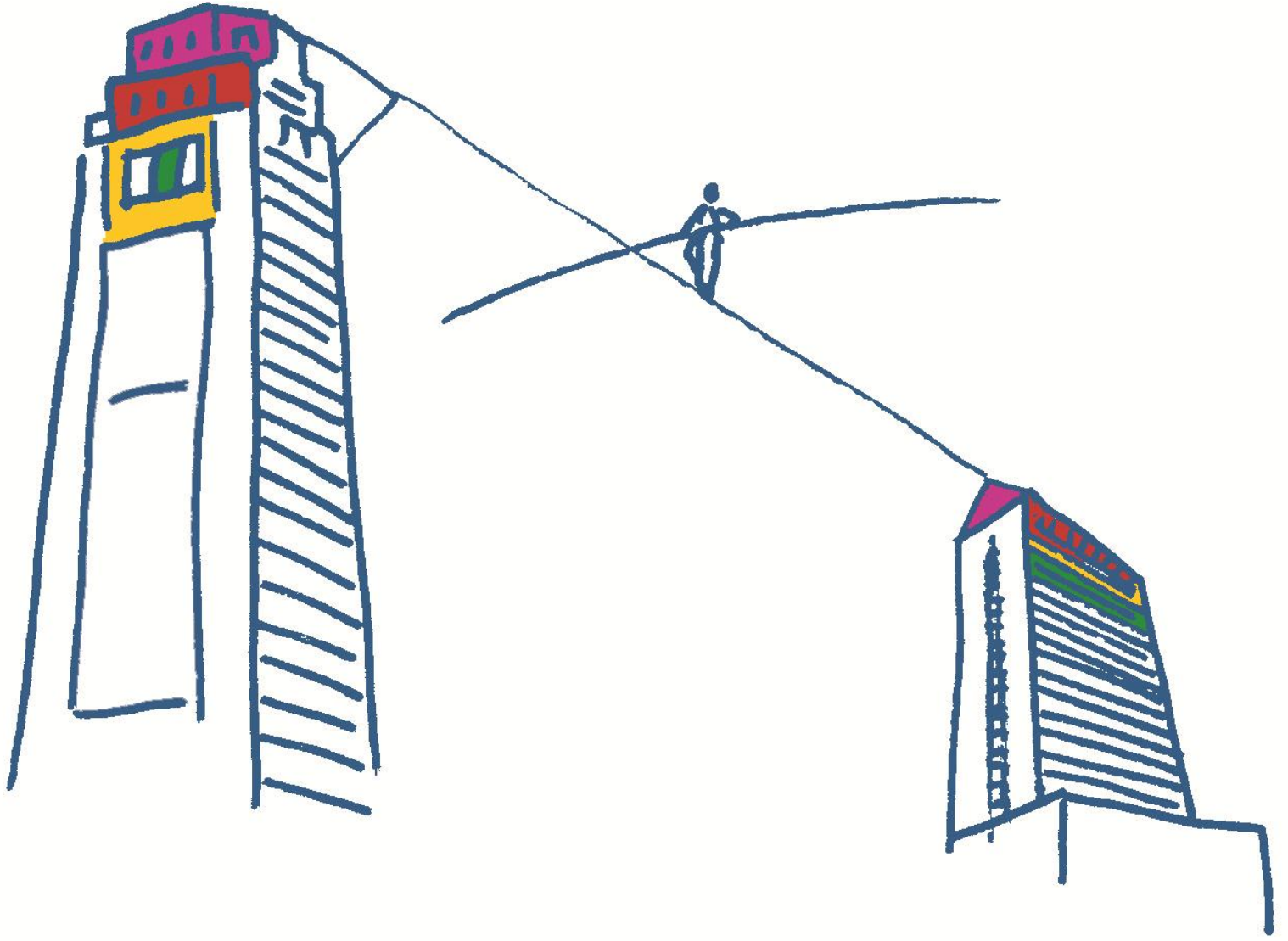- ✓ Tackle interoperability issues as they emerge

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Massive growth in business use of APIs

API Growth 2005 – 2012

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Relationship to other approaches

- Linport / Interoperabilty Now - TIPP
  - Defines a container for localization related workflow
  - No specs how the related services are implemented
- ITS 2.0
  - Related to HTML / XML; provides metadata for the benefit of localization, language technologies, and internationalization
  - ITS marks up documents, but does not provide provide service specifications
- XLIFF
  - XML based Document representation format
  - TAUS API: Xliff usage for providing translatable text (?)
    - Problem of size, …

- TAUS API in contrast
  - Provides service specification
  - Easy to implement
  - Not a document exchange specification
  - No requirements on document format to be translated
  - Currently only plain text is target, but more complex translation objects can be handled too through its JSON based exchange mechanism

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A Common Translation Services API

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Enabling better translation

An Interoperability Watchdog Report

A Common Translation Services API
September 2012

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Goals

▸ … API … for software developers who have little or no knowledge about translation services, …

▸ So what do software developers need most?

  ▸ A simple way to request and get translations from a service in the "cloud", in effect a command that means "translate this text into French, call me back at www.foo.com/submit when you're done. thanks."

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Best Practices

▸ Usage of Web Services

  ▸ Simple URLS

▸ JSON as exchange format

  ▸ Accepted standard

  ▸ Cross (programming) language neutral

▸ Standard Return Codes

  ▸ HTTP Codes

▸ TRANSLATION/GET Request

  ▸ Ask for a translation

▸ TRANSLATION/SUBMIT Request

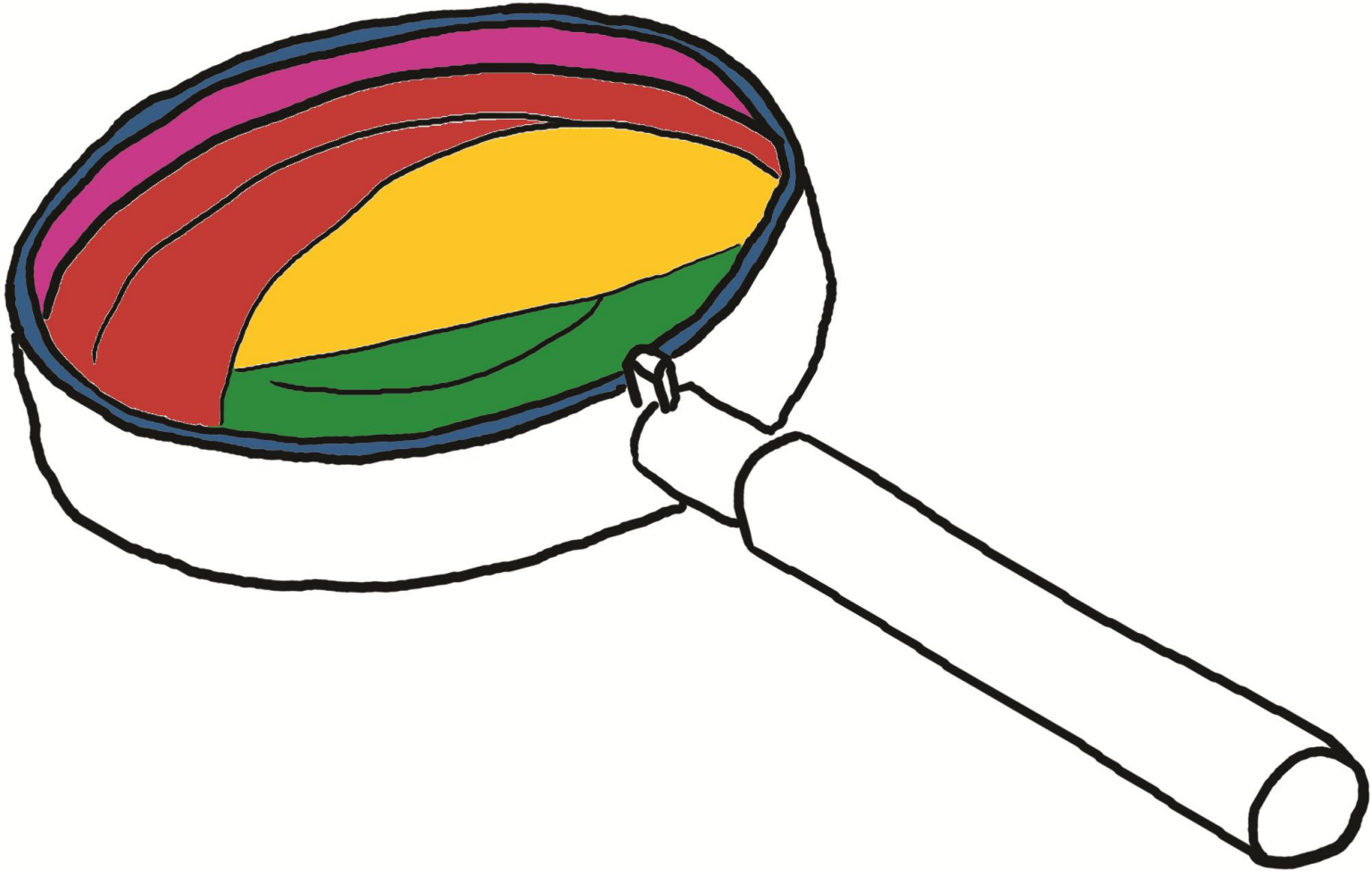 ▸ Provide a translation

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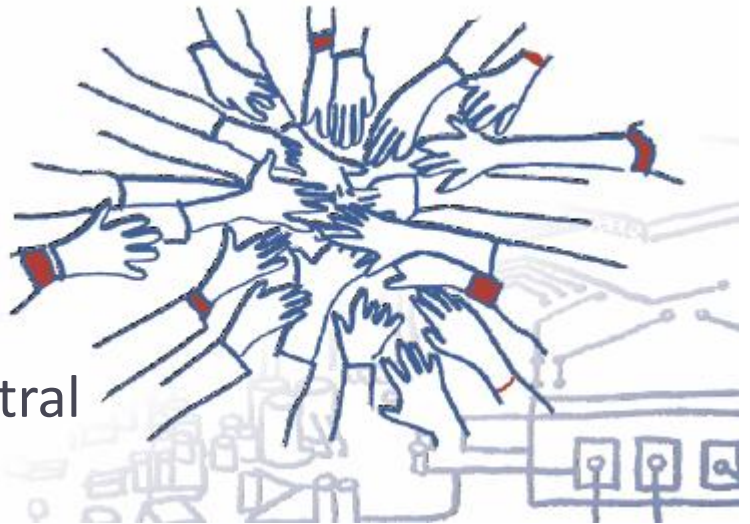
Best Practices

Typical Translation Tasks

✓ Request a translation for a text

✓ Submit a translation to the user, or to a cloud translation memory

✓ Request review or score for a translation

✓ Check the status of a request

✓ Cancel a request

✓ Accept or reject a completed translation/task

✓ Request a list of pending requests/tasks

API Domain	Service	Typical Use Cases	Required
/translation/*	Get and submit translations	Almost all systems will implement this API	Yes
/im/*	Real-time message translation	IM, SMS and chat translation services.	No
/comment/*	View and submit comments about translations	Crowd translation services, professional translation services that allow user feedback, comments or discussion.	No
/score/*	View and submit score for translations	Crowd and professional translation services that allow user feedback and/or professional translator QA services, as well as moderated crowd translation systems.	No
/request/*	View and manage task queue on the translation server	This is used to expose the request queue to client applications, for example a web app that enables translators to see pending requests, or enables a client application to monitor task progress.	No

Table 5: Requests and their meaning

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Example request

Input		Return	
sl	source language code		
tl	target language code		
st	source text		
tt	translated text		
json	The JSON string if the parameters are sent as an JSON string		
guid	unique request identifier; must be generated and filled by each request		
session	session ID if session authentication is being used	**result**	ok for success; failure for any kind of error occured
language	language code (if omitted, returns all languages assumed)	**guid**	unique request identifier
content-type	content-type, if other than text/plain or text/html	*refid*	this attribute holds the guid of a previous request if the request refers to a previous request (answer).
group-name	a general name which may be used to identify a group of requests	*language*	language code (if omitted, returns all languages assumed)
owner	the name of the owner of the request, this may differ from the user name, e.g. a company name	*comment*	comment text
		message	message text
collection	optional name or identifier if the translation request is part of a batch	*error*	error object describing failure reasons
url	optional source url, if the translation is associated with a web page	**datetime**	date/time of translation
		postedit	y|n (y if changes were made to a proposed translation)
mt	request machine translation (y|n, if omitted, service provider decides whether to use mt)	*lsp*	translation company name or URL
		translator	translator name or ID
crowd	request crowd translation (y|n, if omitted, service provider decides whether to use crowd translation)	*url*	optional source url translation is associated withtranslator name or ID
professional	request professional translation (y|n, if omitted service provider decides whether to request professional translation)	*ip*	IP address of translator or submitter
		collection	optional collection name or ID if it is part of a batch
callback-url	optional callback URL to submit the completed translation or post edit to (the callback handler should implement the /translation/submit API)		
edit-url	optional URL to direct the translator to, for example if the TRANSLATION COMPANY has implemented an in situ editing tool, or has an external translation management system in place		
sla	service level agreement code (e.g. 24hours)		
key	optional client assigned security key		

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The calls

/comment/get	get comments about a translation
/comment/submit	submit comment about a translation
/im/start	start a real-time translation session, reserve translators
/im/translate	translate a short message in real-time
/im/stop	end a real-time translation session, release translators
/score/get	request score for a translation
/score/submit	submit a score for a translation
/request/status	check the status of a request, or of all pending requests
/request/cancel	cancel a task(s)
/request/view	view a list of pending requests
/request/reject	reject a task(s)
/request/accept	accept a task(s)
/request/confirm	legally confirm a task(s) to be done by party ("official order")
/translation/get	request a translation
/translation/submit	submit a translation

Where to get the API specification

▸ API definition is coded in an xml document

  ▸ Simple Extendibility

▸ Get it from - **http://tinyurl.com/9btqw3n**

Validation Service

TAUS API VALIDATION SERVICE VERSION 0.1

This service allows validation the TAUS API requests (as defined in the TAUS API Specifications). You can submit an request to the TAUS API Validation server. The current implementation basically returns the parameters supplied to the service together with a description if the params are correct or not, if the values are correct or if any parameters are missing. A detailed description of the parameters can be found in the TAUS API Specifications description.

REQUEST RECEIVED

www.tauslabs.com/translation/get?session=123456&content-type=text&group-name=test&st=Ein Text zum ‹bersetzen&tt=A text to translate&language=All&sl=German (Standard) (de)&tl=English (en)&mt=y&crowd=y&professional=r We thank Welocalize for sponsoring the development of the TAUS Translation API Validation Service. About Interoperability TAUS Translation API API Specifications API Validation Service Interoperability Timeline Resources

REQUEST ANALYSIS

Request / Method	Value	Validity Check Result	
Request Type	translation	correct	
Request Method	get	correct	
Parameter			Optional
session	123456	correct	true
content-type	text	correct	true
group-name	test	correct	true
st	Ein Text zum ‹bersetzen	correct	false
tt	A text to translate	correct	false
language	All	correct	true
sl	German (Standard) (de)	correct	false
tl	English (en)	correct	false
mt	y	correct	true
crowd	y	correct	true
professional	r We thank Welocalize for sponsoring the development of the TAUS Translation API Validation Service. About Interoperability TAUS Translation API API Specifications API Validation Service Interoperability Timeline Resources	Value not supported Allowed: y;n	true
Missing Parameters			
guid		Allowed values: Any string	false

- Test API implementations at **http://www.tauslabs.com/interoperability**

- Dev. sponsored by

welocalize

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Example Workflow implemented by Trusted Translations

Trusted Translations, Inc – TAUS API Implementation: Translation + Revision Workflow
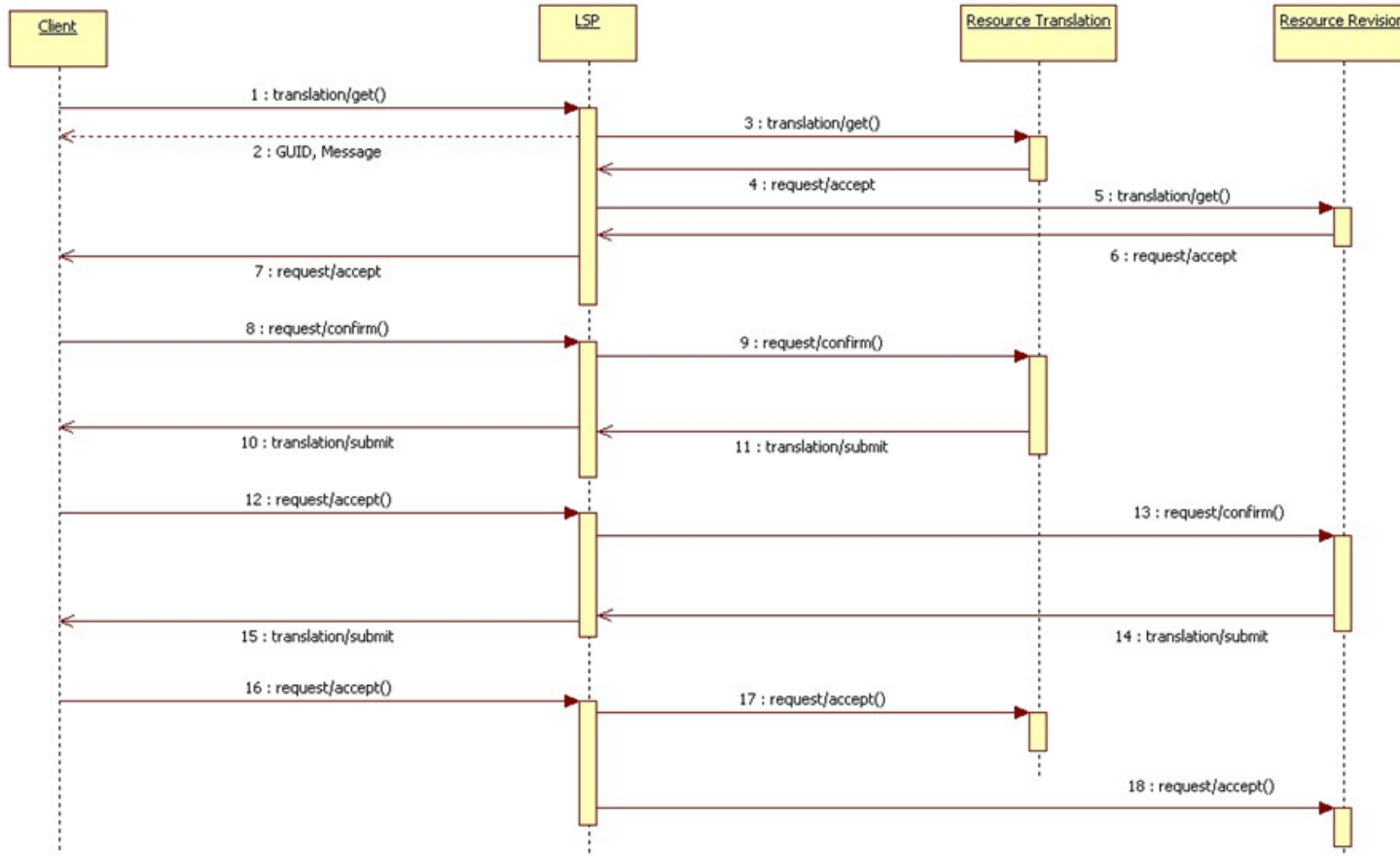
Demonstrating the API with lingo24 ♡ love your language

www. lingo24.com

http://taus.test.lingo24.com/v1.1

lingo24 ♡

TAUS translation API sample client

Source language (sl): de-DE
Target language (tl): en-US
Source text (st):

Ich bin in Seattle

Target text (tt):

I am in Seattle.

Request identifier (guid): mytestid
API key (session):
Comment:

Rich media files
1. [ ] Durchsuchen_
2. [ ] Durchsuchen_
3. [ ] Durchsuchen_
4. [ ] Durchsuchen_
5. [ ] Durchsuchen_

[Daten absenden]

List all incoming requests
Results: Viewing items 1-20 of 32.

Edit	ID ▾	Request Date	Request Uri	Session	Sl	Tl	Files	Guid	Re
Edit	33	2012-10-15 18:30:28	translation/get		de-DE	en-US		mytestid	
Edit	32	2012-10-15 18:27:42	translation/get		fr-FR	en-US			
Edit	31	2012-10-15 17:33:49	translation/get		fr-FR	en-US			
Edit	30	2012-10-15 17:18:50	score/submit	9a4209a4d0b14ec01c716102b86d0907				guid_507c457a23d132.71410342	gu
Edit	29	2012-10-15 17:18:50	translation/get	9a4209a4d0b14ec01c716102b86d0907	en-US	fr-FR	1. cd_catalog.xml 2. books.xml	guid_507c4578d83c90.01832762	
Edit	28	2012-10-15 17:18:48	score/get	9a4209a4d0b14ec01c716102b86d0907				guid_507c4578d42521.54017809	gu

Video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_h3ZEVIyuU

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Companies supporting the API

▸ We thank the following companies for supporting, implementing and testing our API:

Thanks for your API support!

Plans for rollout – next steps

- Gather feedback from early adopters

- Integration into (open source) CMS

- Expand to cover common MT API requirements

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For more information, please contact:
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