



D7.4: First report on user group

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CASMACAT
Cognitive Analysis and Statistical Methods
for Advanced Computer Aided Translation

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The partners in CASMACAT are:

University of Edinburgh (UEDIN)
Copenhagen Business School (CBS)
Universitat Politècnica de València (UPVLC)
Celer Soluciones (CS)

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Copies of reports and other material can also be accessed via the project's homepage:
<http://www.casmacat.eu/>

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Executive Summary

The work plan of the CASMACAT project calls in its Task 7.2 (1 PM) for:

Engage early adopters drawn from language service providers and freelance translators. Distribute pre-release versions of the workbench to gather feedback.

With the release of a beta version of the CASMACAT workbench in month 18 (Milestone 5), we contacted researchers that have expressed interest in computer aided translation, which helped us to fix problems with the installation and improvements of the installation instructions. Subsequently, after promoting the workbench at the Machine Translation Summit and the Machine Translation Marathon, we formally formed a user group.

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1 Initial Contact with Early Adopters

After the field trial, we assembled the various components of the CASMACAT workbench and refined them into a state where they can be shared as open source software. The installation of the workbench was documented on the project web site.

<http://www.casmacat.eu/index.php?n=Workbench.Workbench>

We also promoted the CASMACAT workbench at the Machine Translation Summit 2013 (Nice, France) and the Machine Translation Marathon 2013 (Prague, Czech Republic), in form of one publication each, a booth that was open throughout the Machine Translation Summit, and a demo at the Machine Translation Marathon.

- Vicent Alabau, Ragnar Bonk, Christian Buck, Michael Carl, Francisco Casacuberta, Mercedes Garcia-Martinez, Philipp Koehn, Luis Leiva, Bartolome Mesa-Lao, Herve Saint-Amand, Chara Tsoukala, German Sanchis, Daniel Ortiz and Jesus Gonzalez: "Advanced Computer Aided Translation with a Web-Based Workbench", The 2nd Workshop on Post-Editing Technologies and Practice.
- Vicent Alabau, Ragnar Bonk, Christian Buck, Michael Carl, Francisco Casacuberta, Mercedes Garcia-Martinez, Jesus Gonzalez, Philipp Koehn, Luis Leiva, Bartolome Mesa-Lao, Daniel Ortiz, Herve Saint-Amand, German Sanchis, Chara Tsoukala: "CASMACAT: An Open Source Workbench for Advanced Computer Aided Translation", The Prague Bulletin of Mathematical Linguistics, Number 100, October 2013, pages 101-112.

We directly contacted five interested researchers to help them install the workbench on their machines. This involved email exchanges to answer installation questions and receiving feedback that allowed us to improve the code and the installation instructions.

2 Formation of User Group

We formally invited a wider circle of researchers and company representatives to join our user group.

We contacted representatives in writing as follows:

Dear X,

as you know, the CASMACAT project has released a beta version of its workbench for translators this summer, and we would now like to gather some feedback from outside users.

Hence, we would like to ask you, if you would like to join our user group. We offer our help with either installing the workbench on your machines, or setting up a demo site, over the next months.

Joining the user group does not oblige you to anything, it is just a way for us to create a forum for early adopters. A simple response to this email is sufficient.

Installation instructions for the workbench are here:
<http://www.casmacat.eu/index.php?n=Workbench.Installation>

Two recent papers describe its main functionality.
<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/pbml/100/art-alabau-et-al.pdf>
<http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/pkoehn/publications/casmacat-mt-summit13.pdf>

Regards, Philipp Koehn, University of Edinburgh Michael Carl, Copenhagen
Business School Francisco Casacuberta, Polytecnic University of Valencia
Eva Marcos, Celer Solutions CASMACAT Project

Of the invited representatives, the five joined the user group.

3 Current Members of the User Group

- Autodesk, represented by Mirko Plitt
- Charles University, represented by Ondrej Bojar
- GXP Language Services, represented by Siegfried Armbruster
- European Parliament, represented by Pedro Garcia-Dieguez
- Federal University of Minas Gerais, represented by Fabio Alves
- Pactera Technology Spain, represented by Ana Guerberof
- Pangeanic, represented by Manuel Herranz
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, represented by Anna Aguilar-Amat
- Univesität Mainz, represented by Čulo, Oliver

4 Plans for Year 3

We plan to help members of the user group to set up the CASMACAT workbench and gather experience with it. Ideally, some of the users will run formal user studies and produce user activity data that can be shared with the project and the research community. At a minimum, these trials will produce user feedback and data points about the productivity impact and acceptance for the various types of assistance.

We tentatively plan a meeting with members of the user group in around month 30.