

How to link productivity and quality

John Moran

Why measure translation speed?

Most LSP's and translation buyers do not

They believe word price and quality suffice

Until recent years almost impossible in offline / desktop-based CAT tools

Why measure translation speed?

- Full-sentence machine translation, not so much for Polish though
- Interactive machine translation / typing assistance, try Lilt.com
- Speech recognition technology (the underrecognised killer app for some translators)
 (for Polish using Google speech recognition try www.matecat.com, look under Editor settings)

Web-based versus desktop-based CAT tools

- No agreement from translator required to measure speed via server logs, e.g. MateCAT
- Desktop-based, options for most common tools but require translator agreement, e.g.
 MemoQ speed report or Qualitivity report must be sent manually.
- "Always on" versus "sometimes on". Who decides?

The agency perspective?

- Recognising easier content (and moving towards predictive models)
- Recognising problems (slow servers, effects of poor segmentation, excessive terminology research)
- Predicting quality issues (rushed work)
- Pricing and evaluation for customised MT

The translator perspective?

 Visualistion of the impact of speech recognition over weeks or months (you own and colleagues)

 Highlighting problems (slow servers, effects of poor segmentation, excessive terminology research)

Measuring earnings more accurately

Open questions

- Privacy
- The move to the cloud??
- Legalities (e.g. in large corporations or government organisations with Works Councils)
- CAT tool agnostic approach?
- Race to the bottom on prices or respect translator's hourly earnings?