

Launch of Corel CATALYST 2.5 - an integrated localisation environment

The Corel Corporation, which develops and markets productivity applications, graphics and Internet software, has announced the release of the new HELP version of Corel CATALYST. The product is a revolutionary new tool designed to streamline the localisation process and facilitate simultaneous shipment of localised products.

Corel CATALYST was developed by Corel to provide a solution to problems and bottlenecks caused by a fragmented localisation process. The tool provides a single, interactive environment that allows translators, engineers, and project managers to manage and track multi-facet localisation projects.

The product is thought to be the first commercially available localisation tool to be developed in Ireland, and illustrates how the localisation industry is putting down roots and investing in the Irish economy generally. The Irish localisation industry now has a turnover exceeding five billion US dollars, employs over 5,000 people, and makes Ireland the second largest exporter of software worldwide. In fact one estimate is that 40% of all packaged software and 60% of all business applications sold in Europe are produced in Ireland.

Enda McDonnell, the CATALYST Project Manager, explained that she had been proud to be part of the team that had created an interactive localisation environment as powerful, as easy to use and as versatile as Corel CATALYST 2.5 is. "Using feedback from version 2.0, in conjunction with examinations of our own localisation processes we have completed a product that removes even more of the labour involved in localisation tasks. The development team has worked very hard to add a robust, paragraph-based, protected editing environment for Help files. This includes leverage capabilities for .HPJ, .CNT and .RTF files. We also packaged an extremely customisable text parser, command line processing and the ability to multi-select objects among the many new features", said Enda McDonnell.

Some of the new features of version 2.5, enhancements of 2.0, include .RTF, .HPJ, .CNT protected editing, leverage and validation, inserting a .HPJ will chain insert all the .CNTs and .RTFs and graphic files, a fully customisable text parser/editor, a new .DET file that allows easy insertion/extraction of locks and memos, the ability to attach two glossary files plus live auto updated glossary as you translate, and command line processing.

Corel CATALYST also comes with editors for all the standard resource types and allows the creation of customised editors for non-standard resource types.

In addition, the tool can display file components with the following attributes: Priority, Locked, Translated, For Review, Signed Off, and Memo. The Priority attribute can be used to flag dialogues for immediate translation and sign-off so that they can be captured for documentation. The Memo attribute shows that a resource has a memo attached, which can contain specific instructions from engineers, PMs etc.

Incorporated in 1985, Corel Corporation is recognised internationally as an award-winning developer and marketer of productivity applications, graphics and Internet software. Corel's product line includes CorelDRAW™, Corel® WordPerfect® Suite, Corel® Office Professional, Corel® WebMaster Suite and CorelCAD™. The company markets its products in over 17 languages through a network of more than 160 distributors in 70 countries worldwide.

Tara O'Leary, Corel CATALYST relationship manager at Corel's offices in Dublin, explained to *Language Today* how the tool had revolutionised their internal processes. "Corel has accrued many benefits from Corel CATALYST. Before the introduction of the product into our localisation process we were forced to deal with a large number of files, a complex software build process, and slow update cycles. This translated into shorter sales cycles for localised products, loss of revenue and deals, due to the time delay between the release of the English and localised products. It took 168 man days to update our flagship product from Revision A to Revision B, but with Corel CATALYST it took three man days.

"Since the introduction of the product into our process we have been able to improve our localisation model. Corel DRAW 8 German released 16 days after the English version and five other languages release 40 days after the English version. We saved \$100,000 per language in the process.

"We have seen a gain in terms of revenue through releasing higher quality products faster to international markets. We have also raised our profile as a company which is willing to invest time and money in software"

In addition to its internal use Corel's new product version has been endorsed by major localisation companies, such as Lionbridge Technologies, whose Stephan Holmes says "We have been very impressed with the capabilities of Catalyst and plan to fully integrate it in our overall localisation process", and Sykes Enterprises, whose Patrick Fay comments "Catalyst is the tool most ideally suited to our processes to come along in quite a while. We expect to use it heavily". ■