

XLIFF

An XML standard for localisation

Tony Jewtushenko – Oracle

Peter Reynolds – Bowne Global Solutions



Localisation Focus

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LOCALISATION

XLIFF at 2001 LRC Conference

Oracle - Origins of XLIFF

Alchemy - Localising XLIFF

IBM - XLIFF & Web Services

Novell - Business advantages of XLIFF

Berlitz - XLIFF in action

Agenda

- What is XLIFF, Who is involved and Why
- XLIFF's development since the LRC 2001 conference
- XLIFF - a technical overview
- XLIFF in action
- The future for XLIFF



XLIFF:

- Is an XML Open Standard for the localisation industry
- It exists to make localisation easier, better value, better quality and more widely available
- Stands for – XML Localisation Interchange File Format



Why XLIFF

- **Too many formats, too many processes**
- Tools need to concentrate on being able to deal with many formats rather than improving features
- Lack of support for localisation workflow
- Lack of Interoperability between tools
- Benefit of using XML and Open Standards



Too many formats

Too many process

- Publishers
 - Tied to vendor because they know their format
 - Must develop own tools, use one customised for them or use standard formats
- Localisation Vendors
 - Complexity of many different formats for different customers
 - Training
 - Expertise becomes superficial
- Tool Vendors
 - Where do you start



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Localisation tools

Formats not Features

- Good quality tools are essential for localisation
- Tool vendors like Localisation vendors need to be able to deal with as many formats as possible
- Benefit come from functionality and features and not being able to deal with this wide variety of formats



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Lack of support for localisation workflow

- Localisation workflow is becoming more sophisticated. XLIFF can support this through:
 - Meta data
 - Phase element
- XML can aid workflow
- XLIFF & Web Services

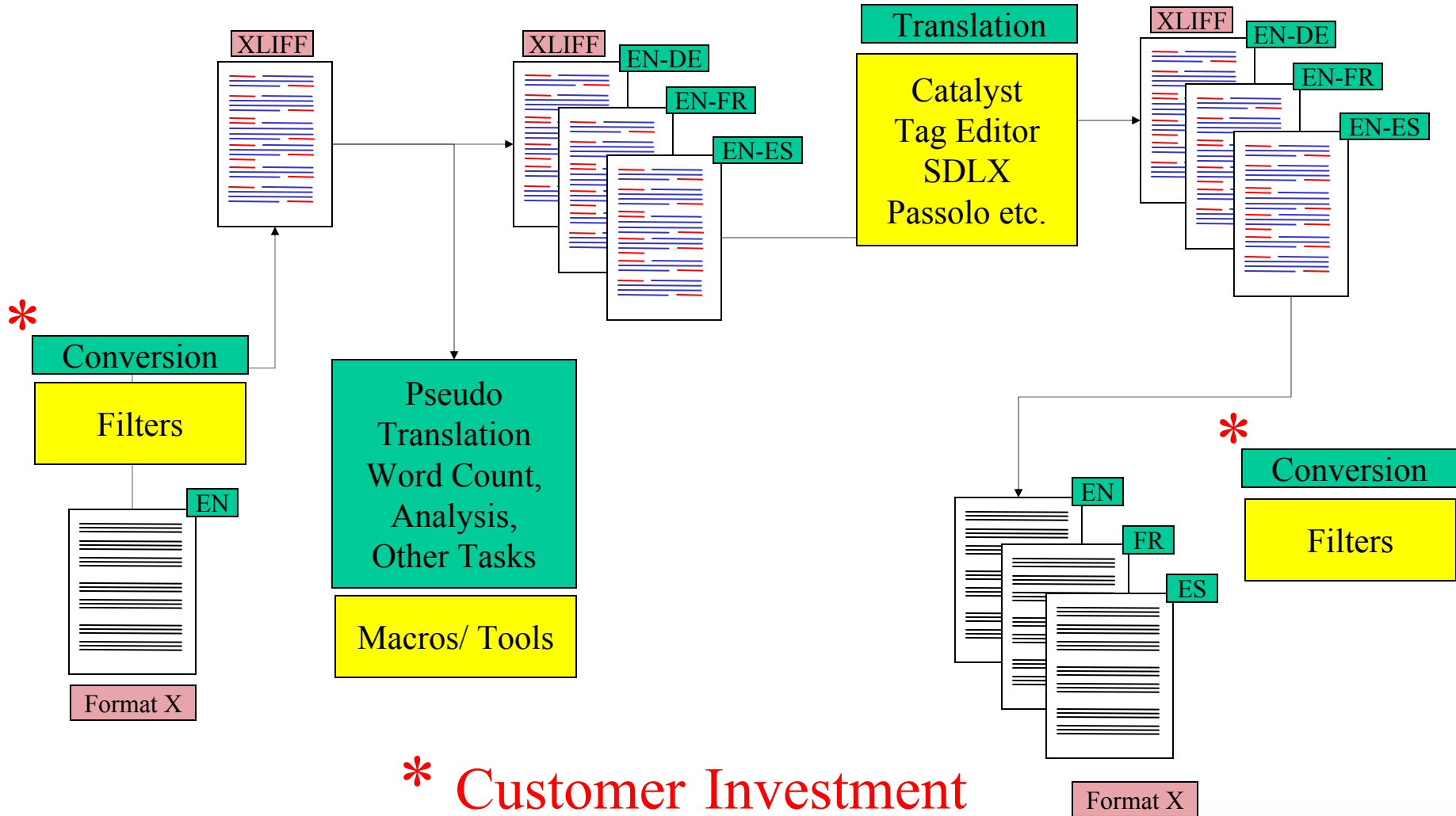


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Interoperability



* Customer Investment



Why XLIFF

- Too many formats, too many processes
- Tools need to concentrate on being able to deal with many formats rather than improving features
- Lack of support for localisation workflow
- Lack of Interoperability between tools
- **Benefit of using XML and Open Standards**



Benefits of XML and Open Standards

- XML is localisation friendly – Jon Bosak addressed the LRC conference in 1998
- Power of XML
 - XSL
 - Schema
- Open Standards can benefit entire industry



Before LRC 2001

- September 2000 group formed to look at the issue of localisation file interchange
- Original group included Oracle, Sun, IBM, Novell, Berlitz GlobalNET. Moravia-IT RWS and Alchemy joined soon after.
- Agreed spec 1.0 but had didn't publish due to IPR issues
- Joined Oasis December 2001



Currently involved in developing XLIFF

- ✓ Alchemy Software
- ✓ Bowne Global Solutions
- ✓ HP
- ✓ Lotus/IBM
- ✓ Lionbridge
- ✓ LRC
- ✓ Moravia IT
- ✓ Novell
- ✓ Oracle
- ✓ Microsoft
- ✓ RWS Group
- ✓ SAP
- ✓ SDL International
- ✓ Sun Microsystems
- ✓ Tektronix
- ✓ GlobalSight



XLIFF and Oasis

- Oasis – deals with XML standards for industry
- Have been a supportive home who have treated localisation seriously
- Deals with IPR issues
- Helps promote XLIFF and localisation within companies, particular the large software publishers.
- XLIFF 1.0 is adopted as an Oasis committee specification



Localisation Process

- **Analyse project**
- **Prepare localisables**
- **Translation**
- **Engineering**
- **Testing**
- **Delivery**

XLIFF can aid project analysis by having the source and target and any translation memories in one file.

Another advantage is that using a standard localisation format allows you to use different analysis tools



Localisation Process

- Analyze project
- **Prepare localisables**
- Translation
- Engineering
- Testing
- Delivery

XLIFF is an interchange format. It provides a mechanism for the preparation of files for localisation.

As it is XML there are many tools that can be used to create XLIFF files.

XML files can also be converted to XLIFF using XSL.



Localisation Process

- Analyze project
- Prepare localisables
- **Translation**
- Engineering
- Testing
- Delivery

From the Translator's point of view XLIFF means they do not have to know every file format.

A number of tools have been written to take advantage of XLIFF and this is continuing to expand.



Localisation Process

- Analyze project
- Prepare localisables
- Translation
- **Engineering**
- Testing
- Delivery

XLIFF is particularly suited to file formats containing resource data such as Windows Resource Script files.

The “skeleton file” can be used with a variety of formats to ensure integrity.



Localisation Process

- **Analyze project**
- **Prepare localisables**
- **Translation**
- **Engineering**
- **Testing**
- **Delivery**

XLIFF provides a number of mechanisms which will aid quality assurance. Translators and testers can view references and context information. The XLIFF file can be validated against a DTD. The skeleton file can provide a representation of the original file.



Localisation Process

- **Analyze project**
- **Prepare localisables**
- **Translation**
- **Engineering**
- **Testing**
- **Delivery**

XLIFF provides a mechanism by which the files can be returned from the localisation vendor and the customer can process them easily.



XLIFF - overview

- Contains the localisable content
- Bi-lingual format
- Meta data
 - Workflow, Management information
- Support material
 - TMs, Alternate translation
 - Glossary reference



XLIFF elements - overview

- `<file>`
 - `<header>`
 - `<phase>`
 - `<body>`
 - `<trans-unit>`
 - `<source>`
 - `<target>`



XLIFF elements - file

- `<file>`
 - `<header>`
 - `<phase>`
 - `<body>`
 - `<trans-unit>`
 - `<source>`
 - `<target>`

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
- <xliff version="1.0">
- <file source-language="en" target-language="fr" datatype="database"
  original="SO 2003 database">
- <header>
- <phase-group>
  <phase phase-name="Post-to-BerlitzIT" process-
    name="translation" Company-name="special-olympics"
    tool="berlitzit" date="2001-10-31" job-id="btz0002" Contact-
    name="peter" contact-email="peter.reynolds@berlitz.ie"
    contact-phone="353-1-2021280" />
  </phase-group>
- <count-group>
  <count count-type="word">6</count>
  </count-group>
</header>
```



XLIFF elements - phase

- `<file>`
 - `<header>`
 - `<phase>`
 - `<body>`
 - `<trans-unit>`
 - `<source>`
 - `<target>`

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
- <xliff version="1.0">
- <file source-language="en" target-language="fr" datatype="database"
  original="SO 2003 database">
- <header>
- <phase-group>
  <phase phase-name="Post-to-BerlitzIT" process-
    name="translation" Company-name="special-olympics"
    tool="berlitzit" date="2001-10-31" job-id="btz0002" Contact-
    name="peter" contact-email="peter.reynolds@berlitz.ie"
    contact-phone="353-1-2021280" />
  </phase-group>
- <count-group>
  <count count-type="word">6</count>
  </count-group>
</header>
```



XLIFF elements – trans-unit

- `<file>`
 - `<header>`
 - `<phase>`
 - `<body>`
 - `<trans-unit>`
 - `<source>`
 - `<target>`

```
<target xml:lang="fr">Teststrugru</target>
- <prop-group>
  <prop prop-type="field-name">title_text</prop>
</prop-group>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit datatype="adLongVarChar">
  <source xml:lang="EN-US">This is a test</source>
  <target xml:lang="fr">Translated text goes here</target>
  - <prop-group>
    <prop prop-type="field-name">body_text</prop>
  </prop-group>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit datatype="adVarChar">
  <source xml:lang="EN-US">BerlitzIT.com</source>
  <target xml:lang="fr">BerlitzIT.com</target>
  - <prop-group>
```



XLIFF elements

Source and Target

- `<file>`
 - `<header>`
 - `<phase>`
 - `<body>`
 - `<trans-unit>`
 - `<source>`
 - `<target>`

```
- <trans-unit datatype="adLongVarChar">  
  <source xml:lang="EN-US">This is a test</source>  
  <target xml:lang="FR-FR">Translated text goes here</target>  
- <prop-group>  
  <prop prop-type="field-name">body_text</prop>  
  </prop-group>  
</trans-unit>
```



XLIFF element – alt-trans

- Translation Memory
- MT
- Alternate translation – French translation available to French Canadian translators
- Used to aid workflow
 - Previous translations
 - Rejected translations

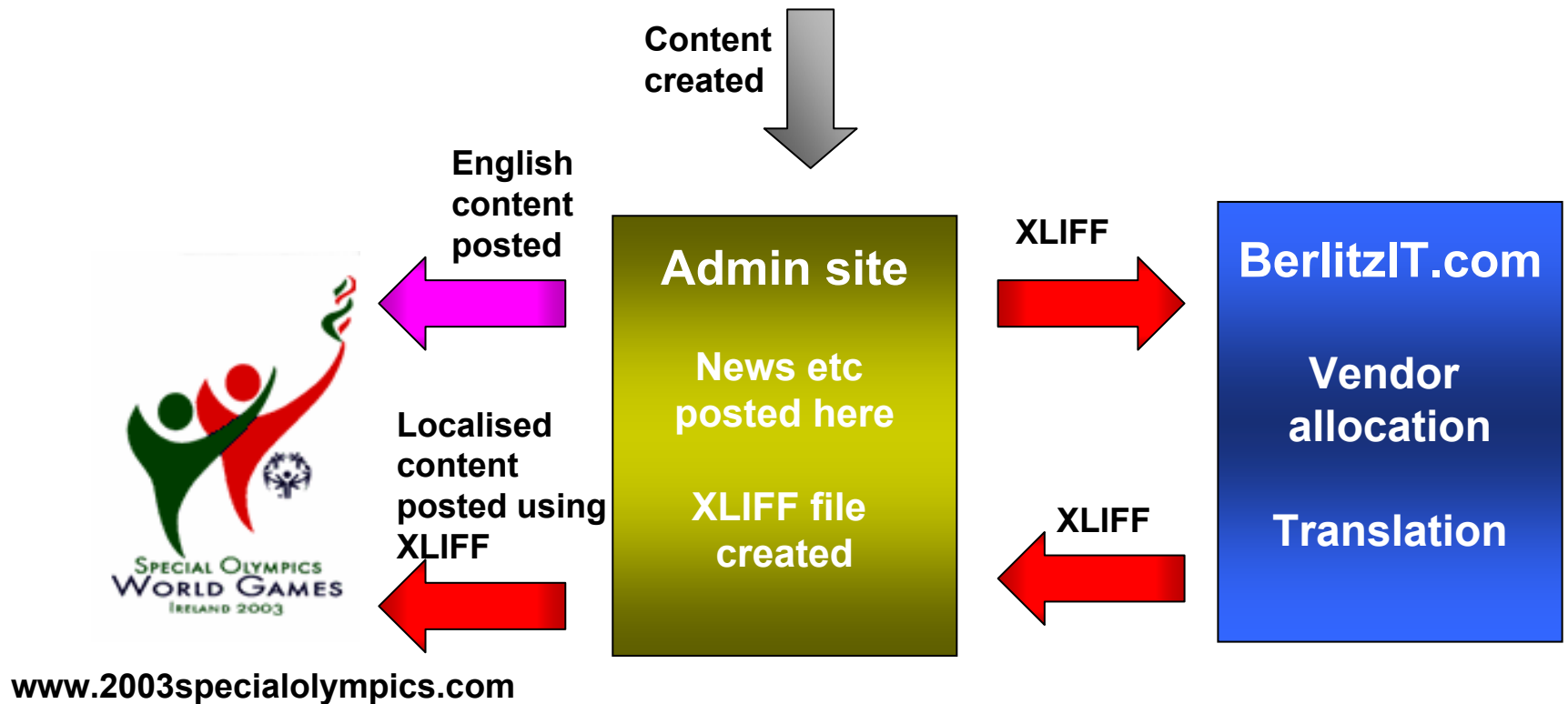


XLIFF in Action

- Special Olympics 2003
- Microsoft CMS/ BerlitzIT integration
- RC file
- IBM's Domino Global Workbench/
BerlitzIT integration
 - Will be demonstrated as part of the Web Services presentation



Special Olympics 2003



Special Olympics 2003

- Initial plans were for XLIFF to be used in News and some other frequently changing sections.
- MediaOne have redeveloped the site
 - Conform to W3C recommendations on accessibility
 - www.specialolympics2003.com
 - www.mediaone.ie
- XLIFF now used for entire site



Microsoft CMS

- <source>

<g id="1" ctype="p" clone="yes">New Range Rover features an all-aluminium bonnet and door skins - some of the largest pressings of this material in the world.</g>

<g id="2" ctype="p" clone="yes">Extensive use of aluminium throughout New Range Rover means resistance to corrosion and lower body weight for improved stability.</g>

</source>

- <target>

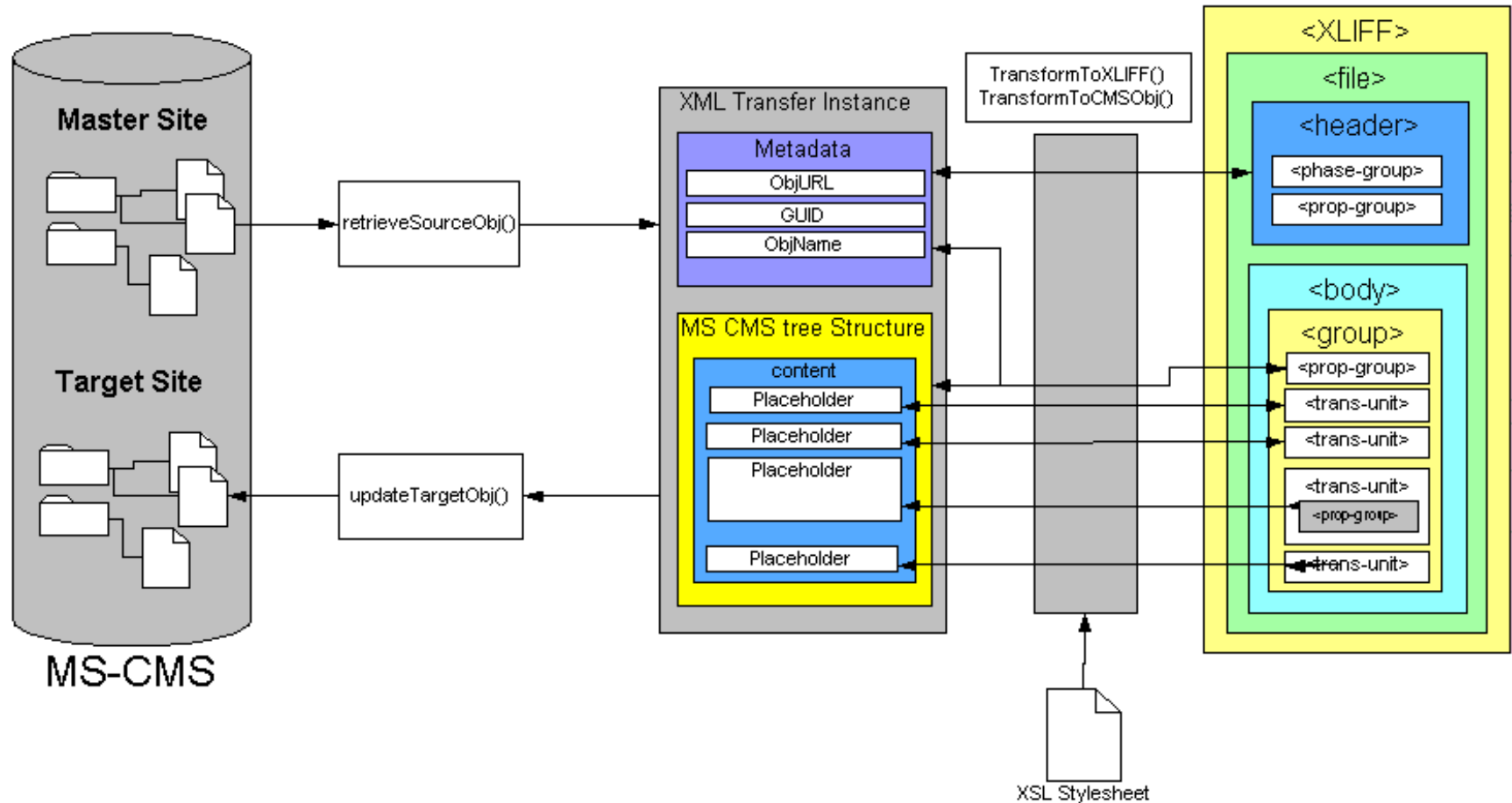
<g id="1" ctype="p" clone="yes">ニューレンジローバーはアルミ製プレス製品としては世界最大クラスのオールアルミのボンネットとドアスキンを採用しています。</g>

<g id="2" ctype="p" clone="yes">アルミを大幅に採用したことで耐腐食性の強化と車体下部の重量軽減による安定性の向上が実現できました。</g>

</target>

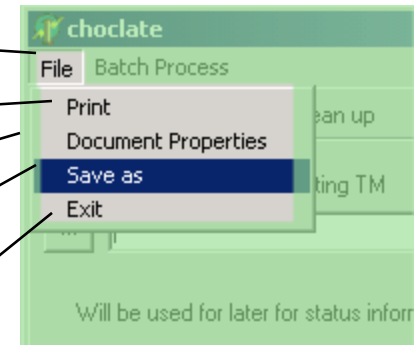


Microsoft CMS to XLIFF



XLIFF examples – resource file

```
- <group restype="menu" resname="IDR_PV_MAIN">
- <trans-unit id="1" restype="popup">
  <source>&File</source>
  <target state="needs-review">&Datei</target>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit id="2" restype="MENUITEM" translate="yes">
  <source>&Print</source>
  <target state="needs-review">&Drucken</target>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit id="4" restype="MENUITEM" translate="yes">
  <source>&Document Properties</source>
  <target state="needs-review">&Dokument Eigenschaften</target>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit id="5" restype="MENUITEM" translate="yes">
  <source>Save &As</source>
  <target state="needs-review">Speichern &Unter</target>
</trans-unit>
- <trans-unit id="6" restype="MENUITEM" translate="yes">
  <source>&Exit</source>
  <target state="needs-review">&Verlassen</target>
</trans-unit>
```



XLIFF – The future

- Oasis TC working on 1.1 spec
- Plan to release this as an Oasis XML Standard
- Tightens up 1.0 spec
 - 1.1 backward compatible with 1.0 spec
- Schemas
 - XSD
- Namespaces



After 1.1 spec

- Localisation directives
 - Mechanism for marking up content for translation.
 - May be used in wide variety of translatable material
- Promoting XLIFF
- Further work on the XML standard for localisation



More Information

- The XLIFF TC Web Site: <http://www.xliff.org>
- XML Internationalization and Localization by Yves Savourel
- Presenters
 - Tony Jewtushenko, (Oracle)
(tony.jewtushenko@oracle.com)
 - Peter Reynolds (Bowne Global Solutions)
(peter.reynolds@bowneglobal.ie)
- Contacts
 - XLIFF TC Chair: Tony Jewtushenko (Oracle)
(tony.jewtushenko@oracle.com)
 - Your corporate XLIFF TC representative
(See www.xliff.org for names)

