

Thank you for downloading the Sivano Localization Glossary PDF. Sivano is committed to delivering quality globalization and localization solutions to our customers. The craft and skills inherent in Sivano's professionals and worldwide partners help to achieve a best of breed convergence to our globalization solution services. We strive to lead in the creation and development of services which work fluidly with your organization's workflow. With the use of industry's most advanced localization, development and project management technologies we help to provide seamless integration with our customer products.

To further help in achieving a wider understanding of the localization industry and our services, and to help understand and decipher some of 'lingo' used, we have put together this localization glossary of terms. The following terminology is associated with software and localization. In general, the definitions are not very technical in nature and are intended as a simple *lingua franca* explanation of software and localization terminology.

To navigate through this document, simply click on one of the letters of the alphabet below to take you to the section where you can find the terminology:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



API API is the acronym for Application Programming Interface. It is a set of function calls that a programmer would need to use in order to interface with a module of code.



Beta Releases Beta releases are milestone builds that are released to people outside of the company for testing purposes. Each of these testers, who may be volunteer or paid non-employees, test the product by using it as they would in daily practice. This is a greatly advantageous step in the development cycle as it gives the product a more of an all-round testing phase by users of the product.

Beta Sites Beta sites are the people who are sent beta releases for testing.

Bi-Directional (BIDI) Bi-Directional (also shortened to BiDi) refers to Middle Eastern languages which use a bi-directional text input system. Text is written from right-to-left top-to-bottom, with the exception of numbers or text written in other languages, which is left-to-right top-to-bottom.

Bitmaps Bitmaps are graphics that are stored on a pixel by pixel basis. Some examples of bitmap graphics include files with these extensions: BMP, JPG, GIF, TIF, etc. Translation of bitmaps is far trickier than translation of other file types since the text is not stored as text, but as pixels. To translate a bitmap it is necessary to either have the original background of the bitmap, or to recreate the background before adding the translated text.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



Catalyst Catalyst is a localization tool developed by Alchemy Software. It is a fully integrated professional tool that helps with project management, localization engineering, and translation. Catalyst supports the creation of toolkits with functionality such as leveraging translations from previously translated files, locking strings to prevent non-translatable strings from being translated, file tracking, file extraction, translation, and a visual editor for sizing dialogs. Catalyst was recently sold to Alchemy Software by Corel Corporation.

Concatenation The process of adding text elements or strings together to form a larger string. For example, the text string "Please remove the access cover" in the software resource file might consist of two strings, "Please remove" and "the access cover." If this is the case, the translator then sees only half the picture and therefore may not be able to select a suitable translation. Further complicating this, the target language sentence structure is typically different from the source language, which can render the concatenated string unreadable. Performing an in-context linguistic review helps to eliminate poor translation as a result of string concatenation. Also known as Dynamic Strings.

CS CS is often used as the abbreviation of Chinese Simplified (sometimes also referred to as Simplified Chinese). The Chinese government decided to simplify the traditional characters, which were very detailed and complicated. They created a new simplified character set that contains less strokes and is easier to read. The simplified character set is mostly used in mainland China.

CT CT is often used as the abbreviation of Chinese Traditional (sometimes also referred to as Traditional Chinese). These characters are the ancient characters used by the Chinese people for centuries. The construction of the characters is very detailed and complicated, with additional strokes. The Traditional writing of these characters are still used in Hong Kong, Taiwan and other Chinese speaking nations.

CJK Common abbreviation for the Asian languages Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Also known as C2JK when referring to Simplified and Traditional Chinese.

Cyrillic Often used to express text used in "Cyrillic" languages, which are also found in Slavic language groups. These include, Russian, Belarusian, Serbian, Macedonian, Ukrainian and Bulgarian. However, there are also non-Slavic Cyrillic languages such as Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Moldavian, Tajik and others. For more information please visit: <http://infoshare1.princeton.edu/katmandu/sgman/sltrans.html>.

Double-Byte Enabled Double-Byte is also referred to by its acronym as DBE, or DBCE. Since Asian character sets are huge compared to Roman character sets, it is impossible to represent all the characters with single byte character representation, which is standard for Roman character sets. Asian character sets need to be represented with 2-bytes per character. This means that code which was written only to represent Roman characters will not work for Asian versions of the software. The software developers need to make sure that anywhere a Roman character was represented by a single byte in the code is changed to support 2 bytes which will support all character sets.

Delta In Localization we use this term to define the amount of time following the original release of a product (such as English) to release the first tier of localized products. For example, a company may choose to have a 15 day delta to release the first set of its localized products into the set languages. That means that 15 days following the original release of the developed product the first tier of languages are released.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



DLL DLL is the extension used for Dynamically Linked Libraries. DLLs contain compiled code, but the difference between a DLL and an EXE is that you can't run a DLL. It is not a launchable application. It is generally a component of an application. Many software companies choose to use a single DLL per application to hold the entire user interface of the application. Then it is only necessary to translate this resource DLL for that particular application. Resource DLLs can be translated using localization tools such as [Catalyst](#).

Desktop Publishing (DTP) Desktop Publishing is the process where written documentation is formatted into their required printed form using applications such as Adobe PageMaker, FrameMaker, Quark Xpress, Corel Ventura Publishing and others.



EXE EXE is the extension used for executables. Executables are files that you can run, i.e. they launch as an application. EXEs contain compiled code, so they are binary files (they cannot be viewed through a standard text editor).



FIGS A common acronym in reference to French, Italian, German and Spanish languages. These are generally the most common European languages for which companies translate their software.

FTP File Transfer Protocol



Globalization Globalization is the process of creating code that can be used internationally. So, for example, if the English product is properly globalized, any user anywhere in the world should be able to install it on a localized operating system and the product should operate as one would expect in that locale, i.e.: On a French operating system the decimal separator should be a comma, the currency should be francs, etc.

Glossary The term Glossary has several meanings, but this description focuses on the term as used in the translation of software and related documentation. Since the software's documentation and online help is based on the functionality and terminology of the software it is necessary to use the same terminology for consistency. To ensure this consistency, it is recommended that the software is translated first and a glossary is created from the software and used as the basis of terminology for translation of the user guides and online help. The glossary basically consists of the software's source language strings (eg. English) and the corresponding target language strings (eg. French).

Gold Master The Gold Master is the final product which has gone through final Engineering and Quality Assurance testing. After the quality of the product is approved, the Gold Master is released to manufacturing (RTM).

GUI Graphical User Interface, also see [UI](#) for further explanation.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



Hyperlink These are found in HTML and XML files which contain a solid underlined text usually highlighted in a different color or shade. These 'links' indicate to the user that you can click on the text to jump to the desired topic or location.

HTML HTML is the most commonly used format for publishing hypertext documents on the Internet. This format is a non-proprietary format based upon SGML, and can be created and processed by a wide range of tools, from simple plain text editors to more sophisticated authoring tools. HTML uses tags to structure text into headings, paragraphs, lists, hypertext links etc.

HTML Help Files Many software developers and electronic publishers are using this standard to output online help files for their products. Tools for creating these are widely available for free or may be purchased as full professional products such as RoboHELP HTML.



I18N An abbreviation which refers to "Internationalization"; there are 18 letters between the I and the N.

IME IME is the acronym for Input Method Editor. It is the little editor that enables a user to enter Asian characters.

Internationalization Often used interchangeably as "Globalization", however it may be more accurate to describe Internationalization as the combination of Localization and Globalization. Globalization is the enablement of software and processes to work internationally, while Localization is the customization of products and processes for individual markets.



KCCJ A common acronym in reference to Asian family of languages: Korean, Chinese Traditional, Chinese Simplified and Japanese.



Latin-Based Text Latin-Based text is often used to describe the type of characters in languages such as those found originally in Europe. These include, French, Italian, English and many others. Please note that in some cultures these are also termed as "Roman text" - such as in Japanese, where this is referred to as "ROMA-JI".

Leveraging Leveraging is of critical importance in localization. In Localization, the purpose of leveraging is to re-use translations from previous versions of a product into newer versions of a product. This is often done by using the source and target pair files of a product to "re-use" as much text as possible, reducing the cost and time to market for the localization/translation process. It also dramatically increases the consistency of terminology between versions of a product. Sivano uses Catalyst, Trados or similar tools to automate the process of bringing translations forward into the new version. In rare cases, where the file types that require leveraging are not fully supported by Catalyst, Trados or other applications, the leveraging process is done manually.

Localization Localization is the process of customizing a product for a specific market. It generally includes translating the software, online help, documentation, adding extras or features specifically for the market, being culturally sensitive with symbols, color, and presentation. Some steps which you may consider during the localization process is to add or expand functionality for certain market, such as vertical text or IME support for Asian languages, special I/O filters for local products and text support, plugins, spell checkers, or by simply adding culturally specific clipart, photos or fonts.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



Machine Translation (MT) This process has been studied and developed by many companies, firms and governments world-wide. This involves the development and use of computer interpretation and translation of one human language to another. This very complex system of breaking down the language to interpret another is very difficult and often costly. Sivano does not use this method of translation as significant verification and editing is still required by "human" language specialists.

Machine-Aided Translation Also known as Computer-Aided Translation, is the use of software in translating documents from one language to another using Translation Memory (TM) or Machine Translated (MT) assistance in reducing the translator's need to repeatedly translate the same items over and over. In this form, the translator simply accepts, rejects or modifies the terms suggested by such software applications.

MT MT stands for Machine Translation. The concept is that if enough time is put into creating a detailed lexicon dictionary, specifically focused into specific technological terms and if the writers wrote in a very structured manner so that there was no possibility of ambiguity in the translation, then a machine could actually translate the software, documentation and online help instead of a human translator. In this way, the translation would only required review and post-editing by a human. The problems faced by many firms is that technical writers do not stick to a strict writing style that is compatible with machine translation and the post-editing is quite significant that in some cases, would almost be like translating from scratch.



NDA NDA stands for Non-Disclosure Agreement.



OLH (Online Help) Online Help files (OLH) are files which are accessed by a user of a software product to gain information about the use of the product. In the past, most online help files were were Microsoft .HLP files, which were only accessible through Windows applications. Many new OLH documents are now created using HTML.



QA QA stands for Quality Assurance. QA could also be called Software Verification or Software Testing. The main tasks of QA employees is to develop test plans, test products, log bug reports against a product, and check fixed bugs returned from the engineers.



RTF RTF stands for Rich Text Format. The RTF format is used in the creation of Windows online help files.

RTM RTM stands for Release To Manufacturing. When a product is ready to be manufactured and distributed, it is "released to manufacturing".

Runtime files Runtime files are non-compiled files that are used by a software application while it is running. Many of these files require translation but are not editable by translation tools since many of them are not standard file formats. In these cases it is necessary for the company requesting translation services to supply a description of the format of any translatable runtime files in order for Sivano to properly translate the files.



Style Guide The translation of a product's software, docs, and online help is completed by several different translators. Each of these translators must conform to the standard style set by a client and its writers, and must remain consistent between the translators themselves. In order to facilitate this consistency, the use of style guides is a must for all translators to follow.



| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



Test Plan A test plan is a written description of how to test a product in as much detail as possible to try to catch all possible problems. It is not automated at all.

Test Script Test scripts are automated tests. Many firms may use products such as Microsoft Test to write automated test scripts for their products.

TM TM stands for Translation Memory. Translation memories use a one-to-one correspondence between strings in source and target languages of previously translated files. One may use software products such as Trados and Catalyst to be virtual translation memories. The combination of the and English product with the translated version of that product are a translation memory for a new version of the product when we use a tool such as Catalyst to leverage the translation of older versions of a product into a newer version of the product. Translation memory tools, such as Trados and Catalyst, also make use of terminology glossaries, which are paired source and target language strings.

Trados Trados is a Translation Memory system used for documentation, tagged files, software, etc. Developers, and vendors use this software to leverage a translation memory from a variety of formats such as RTE, HTML and many other text related files. In order for Trados to leverage a sentence, it will compare the original to the previous already translated pair. Each sentence and the translation of the sentence is stored as a matched pair in the translation memory.

TTK TTK stands for Translation ToolKit (or Translator's Toolkit). It is also the file format used by Catalyst. Instead of using a separate files for each EXE or DLL that is in the product, Catalyst allows a localization engineer to create a single TTK file that integrates all of the translatable files.

Toolkit The translation toolkit is a bundle of several components sent to the translation vendor that include everything required to fully translate the product. The software toolkit may include the following: a spreadsheet that includes a list of all the files that need translation and a information about those files (word counts, how to translate, what tool to use, when the file is due to be returned, etc.), a document to describe the project flow and deliverables, and the files the translators will translate.



User Interface (UI) The user interface is the means in which the user interacts with the software. Most user interfaces are graphical in nature as opposed to command line interfaces which were the norm prior to Mac and Windows OS's were available.

Unicode Unicode provides a unique number for every character, no matter what the platform, no matter what the program, no matter what the language. The Unicode Standard has been adopted by many software industry leaders. Unicode is required by modern standards such as XML, Java, ECMAScript (JavaScript), LDAP, CORBA 3.0, WML, etc., and is the official way to implement ISO/IEC 10646. It is supported in many operating systems, all modern browsers, and many other products.



Vector Images Vector images are created from vector based graphics applications. The vector image is stored with information on how to recreate the image based on mathematical formulas rather than on a pixel by pixel basis. For example, if the image is a circle, the vector image may be stored with an (x,y) position and a radius. The vector graphics application would then use that information to render the image to the screen.

Vendor In localization terminology, a vendor is a company that is contracted to manage the translation and localization of a product into one or more languages. i.e.: Sivano is a localization vendor, providing services which cover most areas required by you, the client