

VistaTEC is a privately held, indigenous Irish company which provides Localisation Services to some of the world's most prestigious IT companies. Headquartered in Dublin, Ireland it delivers linguistic and technical services across more than 80 geographic languages through a worldwide network of partner office locations and is recognised for quality and innovation.

Since the middle of 2007 VistaTEC could foresee the significant adoption and integration of machine translation and the resultant shift from purely human produced translation to edited forms of machine-generated output. Following extensive discussions and clarification of the problem an IRCSET programme, which emphasizes exploratory research, was deemed the most suitable funding vehicle. With the assistance of *Invent DCU* the proposal was submitted to IRCSET in late 2007 and work on the project began in September 2008.

The research is carried out by a practising translator and post-editor with significant experience in the localisation industry with academic supervision provided by Dr. Sharon O'Brien (CNGL and the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies). This enables the research to take full account of the human translator's role in the automated translation process.

As a founding partner in the CNGL VistaTEC has demonstrated its belief in the model of industry and academic partnered research. In addition to its own participation, VistaTEC has invited a handful of customers and external suppliers to participate in the project through the contribution of translation memories and linguistic expertise. Over the course of a year synergies between the IRCSET and CNGL programs have become obvious and the possibilities for collaboration explored.

"Research and development are essential to the continued competitiveness and value proposition of our service portfolio to customers. We are committed to carrying out world-class research and we believe that close collaboration between IRCSET and CNGL can deliver this." said Phil Ritchie, VistaTEC's Chief Technology Officer.

More than ever, the driving force in the localization industry, the client, is demanding increased cost reductions, a faster time-to-market and higher quality deliverables. Meeting these challenges in the context of a process that is highly distributed, influenced by both technical and linguistic complexities and involves the choreographed interaction of many skills requires on-going research and development within the commercial and academic arenas.

For VistaTEC, the IRCSET Enterprise Partnership and collaboration with CNGL allows the firm to augment its research staff in a strategic research area, which has the potential to generate significant long-term revenue growth.