

Centrum Lokalizacji C&M

Case Study

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## TRANSLATION OF USER MANUALS OF MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT

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## TASK AND GOAL

Medical equipment distributors are often supplied with **PDF user manuals** – they do not get access to the source files. What they need are **PDF files in Polish**.

However, PDF format is read-only. First, target files must be translated by translators, who need to implement **specialized medical terminology** while doing so. Then, the format of the files, together with any graphics they contain, needs to be created in such a way that, apart from the language, the target files are identical with the source ones. Medical terminology needs to be consulted on continuously with experts, and approved by the customer before translation begins. Thus, **specialized glossaries** are generated, and then they are used consistently throughout the whole translation process.

## SOLUTION

PDF files need to be converted into an editable format with graphics support. **RTF format** is best suited for this purpose. One of its advantages is that it can be edited with Microsoft Word which enables it to be **easily saved as PDF**.

There are many free and commercial software applications for **converting PDF into RTF files**. We decided to choose **SolidConverter** since it allows the most accurate mapping of graphical elements. RTF files created with this program were then analyzed with **KeyStone™** – our proprietary tool used for extracting terminology from any editable format. This way, a list of specialized terminology was created. It was compared with the existing medical terminology database, which allowed us to match English terms with their Polish equivalents. Phrase not present in the database were added, and their Polish equivalents were established by consulting experts and medical literature. Finally, all terminology in the form of a glossary was sent to the customer for evaluation and approval. The approved glossary was given to translators, who used it when working on the text.

When translation was finished, an automated KeyStone™ analysis was performed to check if the **terminology was used correctly and coherently**. The text was also thoroughly proofread since an incorrect translation may lead to an erratic operation of the medical equipment and thus **put patients' health and lives at risk**.

Finally, DTP was done in MS Word and the resulting files were saved in PDF format. The customer received not only a translated text that was identical with the original in terms of format, but also a **translation memory**, and a **medical terminology base** to be used in other materials.

## ADVANTAGES

The basic advantage of the solution is the ability to translate using **CAT tools** (Computer Aided Translation) and to create a **specialized glossary** that can be consulted with the customer. By safeguarding terminology cohesion, such procedures allow us to maintain the highest quality of translation, which is essential when dealing with medical documentation. The additional advantage is the **cost reduction of subsequent translations**, especially in the case of manuals for different models of the same kind of medical equipment, which are often very similar.