



translate.org.za
opensource software translation project

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mozilla backs SA translation team with grant

South Africa - South Africa's award-winning multilingual software developer, Translate.org.za, has been awarded a grant by the Mozilla Corporation to extend its translation tools. The US-based Mozilla Corporation, a subsidiary of the Mozilla Foundation, co-ordinates the development of popular Internet software projects such as the Firefox web browser and the Thunderbird email client.

Mozilla awarded the grant to Translate.org.za to further its work on Pootle, a web-based translation tool, as well as the Translate Toolkit. The grant also covers a still to be released offline translation tool.

Translate.org.za's Friedel Wolff says that the organisation is extremely pleased to be recognised by Mozilla for its localisation work. "The grant from Mozilla not only helps us to carry on with our work on Pootle and the Translate Toolkit, but is also a fantastic recognition of the work that Translate.org.za has done."

"The grant from Mozilla is based on the strength of the work that we have done in the past and the tools that we have released to users," he says.

Translate.org.za's translation tools are already widely used in the open source community and Pootle is used by projects such as OpenOffice.org, the One Laptop Per Child project, Creative Commons and OpenSolaris.

"Our translation tools are also in use by quite a few Mozilla localisation teams globally," says Wolff.

The grant from Mozilla will provide Translate.org.za with financial backing to extend the capabilities of the Toolkit and Pootle, including making the tools more accessible and easier to use.

"One of our objectives with the grant is to make the tools more accessible to users," says Wolff. "We want to limit the amount of technical knowledge users need to use the tools so that they can be used by more users." Other goals for the tools include simplifying management of translations and making it easier to monitor the quality of translations.

Project progress and further information is available from the project website:

<http://translate.sourceforge.net/wiki/developers/projects/mozilla>

About Translate.org.za:

Translate.org.za is a South African NPO and winner of awards in 2006 & 2008 for bridging the digital divide and furthering multilingualism. Translate.org.za specialises in free and open source software, document standards, multilingualism, software translation and language rights advocacy. For more information, please visit <http://translate.org.za>.

About Mozilla:

The Mozilla Corporation is a subsidiary of the Mozilla Foundation which co-ordinates the development of open source Internet applications such as the Firefox browser and the Thunderbird email client. The Mozilla Foundation promotes openness, innovation and opportunity on the Internet by supporting the community of Mozilla contributors and by assisting others who are building technologies that benefit users around the world.

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