

Partners Monthly Progress Statement

Project Code 10500

Project Acronym VISICAST

Objectives continued	Progress towards achieving objectives
<p>It will in the Research Work Packages</p> <p>2 Develop systems for the generation, storage and transmission of virtual signing.</p> <p>3 Refine user-friendly methods for capturing signs (WP4 Animation and Modelling)</p> <p>4 Create a machine-readable notation to describe sign-language gestures (hand, face and body) which can be used to retrieve stored gestures or to build them from low-level motion components.</p> <p>5 Use this descriptive language to produce tools that can translate from both speech and text into signing. (WP5 Language and Notation)</p> <p>6 Trial and evaluate the Application prototypes (WP6 Trials and Evaluation)</p> <p>7 Ensure effective management, external communications and publicity for the project (WP7 Project Management, External Communications and Publicity)</p> <p>8 Ensure appropriate exploitation and dissemination of results (WP8 Exploitation and Dissemination)</p>	<p>WP 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (Del 5-2) End-user-readable documentation of HamNoSys refinements started. ▪ <p>WP 8: Interview held by Deutschlandfunk in preparation of a feature report on Visicast for the radio news magazine "Forschung aktuell" to be broadcast in Jan 2001.</p>

1.1 Deliverables

Deliverable Code & Name		Month Originally planned	Current view Revised Month	Actual delivery
Del No. 5-1	Interface Definitions	12	15	
<p>Of the four parts of this report, one is completed, two are ready in draft version, one needs one person month to be completed. The current view with a delay of 2.5 months takes into account that the complexity of the report will probably not allow a very short turn-around with the peer reviewer.</p> <p>As the parts that flow into Del. 5-2 are completed (1) or almost completed (1), this deliverable is not expected to delay Del. 5-2. The other parts (2) are the basis for work towards Del. 5-3. As other tasks for that deliverable have already been started or can be started without delay, only a minimum influence on Del. 5-3 is expected.</p> <p>The main reason for this delay is the late recruitment at UH primarily due to the job market situation for IT in Germany. Measured by person months consumption, the WP is still ahead of plan.</p>				
Del No. 5-3	Proto text-to-sign	18	19	

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The original aim of this deliverable was to document the path half-way to the final deliverable Del. 5-4, with about half the size of the lexicon, and only easier parts of the grammar implemented. However, it turns out to be essential to first cope with the "difficult" parts of sign language grammar, e.g. classifier verb constructions first. By consequence, Del. 5-3 will document the approach to verb agreement and will contain a sufficient number of concept entries in the lexicon in order to demonstrate this functionality of the grammar. Filling the lexicon with a larger number of concepts will then be one of the tasks for Del. 5-4. This change has been suggested by the work package participants and was accepted by the Consortium Quarterly Meeting in London, 12.1.2001.

1.3 Deviations from Plan

<i>Description</i>	<i>Corrective actions</i>
With late recruitment at UH primarily due to the job market situation for IT in Germany, a substantial number of person months planned in for 2000 could not be used.	By shifting self-investment time into the first 18 months of the project, it has been possible to avoid delays that would have major impact on other work. The person months not used in 2000 shall be used for an extra recruitment for the timeframe 10.2001-12.2002 when the self-investment needs to be reduced to the planned figures due to other commitments.

Table 6.1 Effort for the reporting period (decimal man months)

P No	Short Name	Work Packages	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
		Staff Name									
4 UH		Volkert Backs		0.50			0.50				1.00
		Hortensia Popescu		0.50							0.50
		Constanze Schmaling		0.16			0.34				0.50
		Total		1.16			0.84				2.00

Table 6.2 Effort for the reporting period (person hours)

P No	Short Name	Work Packages	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
		Staff Name									
4 UH		Volkert Backs		30			30				60
		Hortensia Popescu		25							25
		Constanze Schmaling		14			30				44
		Actual Hours Total		69			60				129
		Planned Hours		43.33			215				258
		Acumulated Hours		790			1374			40	2204

Important Note

The QTR figure is the number of hours stated in the Electra form for your organisation divided by 4 to get the planned quarterly figure for the period. This needs to be apportioned over the WP in which you are working. If your planned hours are not a simple division of the annual put in your own estimates