

Partners Monthly Progress Statement

Project Code 10500

Project Acronym VISICAST

Reporting Period: 01/01 – UH part Report No:

1 – Issues

1.1 Objectives

Objectives	<i>Progress towards achieving objectives</i>
<p>Visicast will develop, evaluate and apply realistic virtual humans (avatars) to the generation of European deaf sign languages. The gesture description language and the associated real-time virtual humans will be used in the human-computer-interface of many applications. It will</p> <p>In the Applications Work Packages</p> <p>1. Enhance the status of Europe's deaf citizens by improving their access to public services and entertainment, and enable them to develop and consume their own multimedia content for communication, leisure and learning. It will build applications for the signing system for:</p> <p>1.1 Television</p> <p>WP1: Television & Broadcast Transmission</p> <p>1.2 Multimedia and the Internet</p> <p>WP2 Multimedia and WWW Applications</p> <p>1.3 Face-to-face transactions</p> <p>WP3: Face-to-Face Transactions</p>	<p>Detail progress</p> <p>Editing of captured data for DGS version of weather forecast model continued.</p>

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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"> ▪ End-user-readable documentation of HamNoSys refinements continued. ▪ Work towards completion of Del 5-1 continued, esp. on lexicon format.

1.1 Deliverables

Deliverable Code & Name		Month Originally planned	Current view Revised Month	Actual delivery
Del No. 5-1	Interface Definitions	12	15	
Del No. 5-3	Proto text-to-sign	18	19	

3 - Project Meetings held

Title	Date	Location	Comments
WP 5 meeting	10.01.01	London	3 UH
Consortium Meeting	11.-12.01.01	London	4 UH

4 - Dissemination / Promotional Information

4.2 Articles Published , Press coverage etc.

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<i>Date and Type</i>	<i>Details</i>
Radio interview broadcast on 3.01.01 16:35 by Deutschlandfunk	Interview with Rolf Schulmeister (UH): "Pantomime aus dem Rechner - Virtuelle Dolmetscher übersetzen Sprache in Gebärdensprache" within the programme "Forschung aktuell"

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		1.00							1.00
		Hortensia Popescu		0.12			0.38				0.50
		Constanze Schmaling		0.02			0.48				0.50
		Total		1.14			0.86				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		58							58
		Hortensia Popescu		15			50				65
		Constanze Schmaling		3			73				76
		Actual Hours Total		76			123				199
		Planned Hours		43.33			210				253.33
		Acumulated Hours		866			1497			40	2403

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