

The 14-Word Job and the 18,979-Word Job

A 14-word interface update and an 18,979-word product module have almost nothing in common, except they landed in the same localization pipeline within ten weeks. This is what continuous localization looks like behind the scenes.

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The Client & the Challenge



Who We Served

An established HR and workforce management software provider operating across multiple markets, requiring ongoing localization into **eight Asian-language locales**: Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, and Malay.

Our role: software localization via machine translation post-editing (MTPE), delivered through a language partner managing the account.

The Workload Rarely Arrives Neatly Packaged

Interface Strings

Quarterly releases delivering a handful of UI updates, sometimes just a few words.

Module Releases

New features like a leave-management module could mean thousands of words across multiple locales at once.

Catch-Up Waves

Previously machine-translated content requiring regular attention, creating backlog surges across all eight locales.



Scale of the Program

42

Total Jobs

Across eight Asian-language locales over ten weeks

8

Locales

Simplified & Traditional Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay

13

Catch-Up Waves

Scheduled to process accumulated backlog content

10

Weeks

One continuous, uninterrupted production program

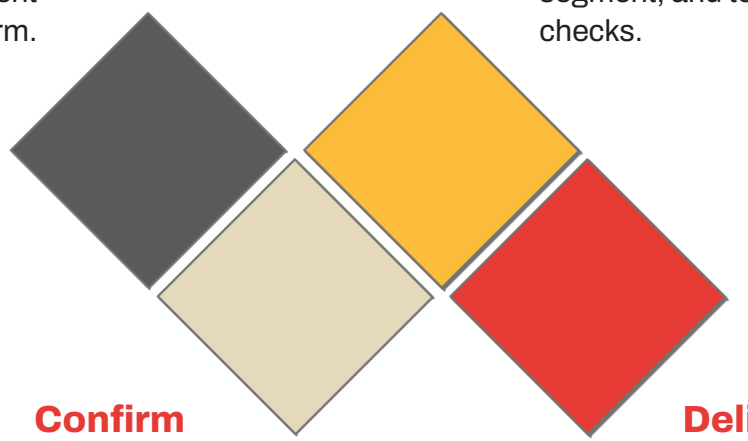
How We Managed It

Assign

Map vendor linguists to per-locale accounts in client platform.

Execute

Perform MTPE with tag, segment, and terminology checks.



Confirm

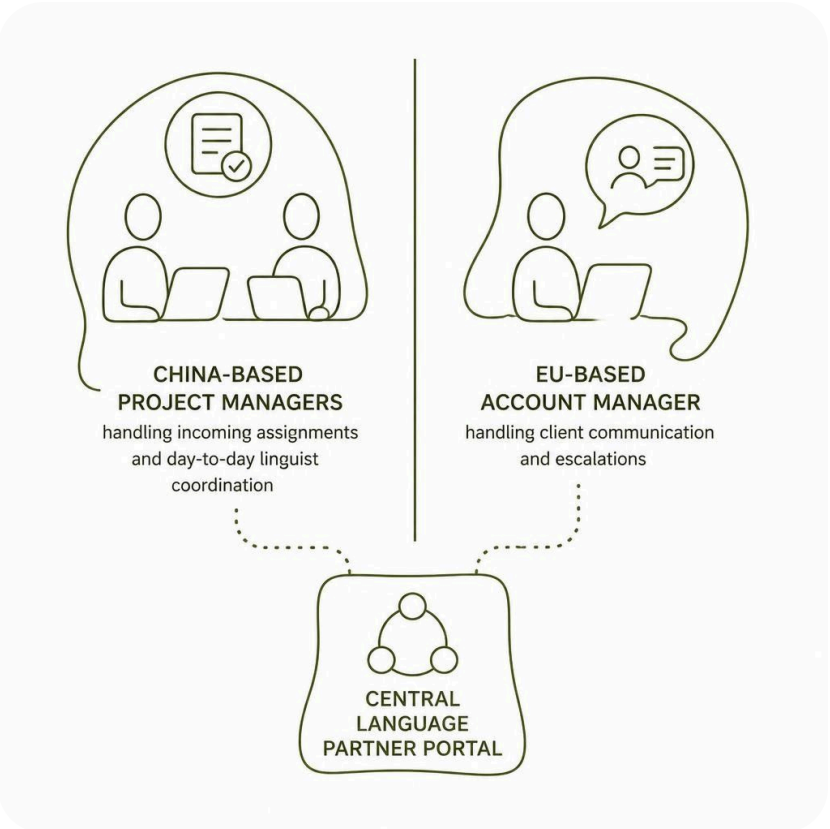
Confirm assignments in writing by language pair on arrival day.

Deliver

Return completed work through the client translation environment.

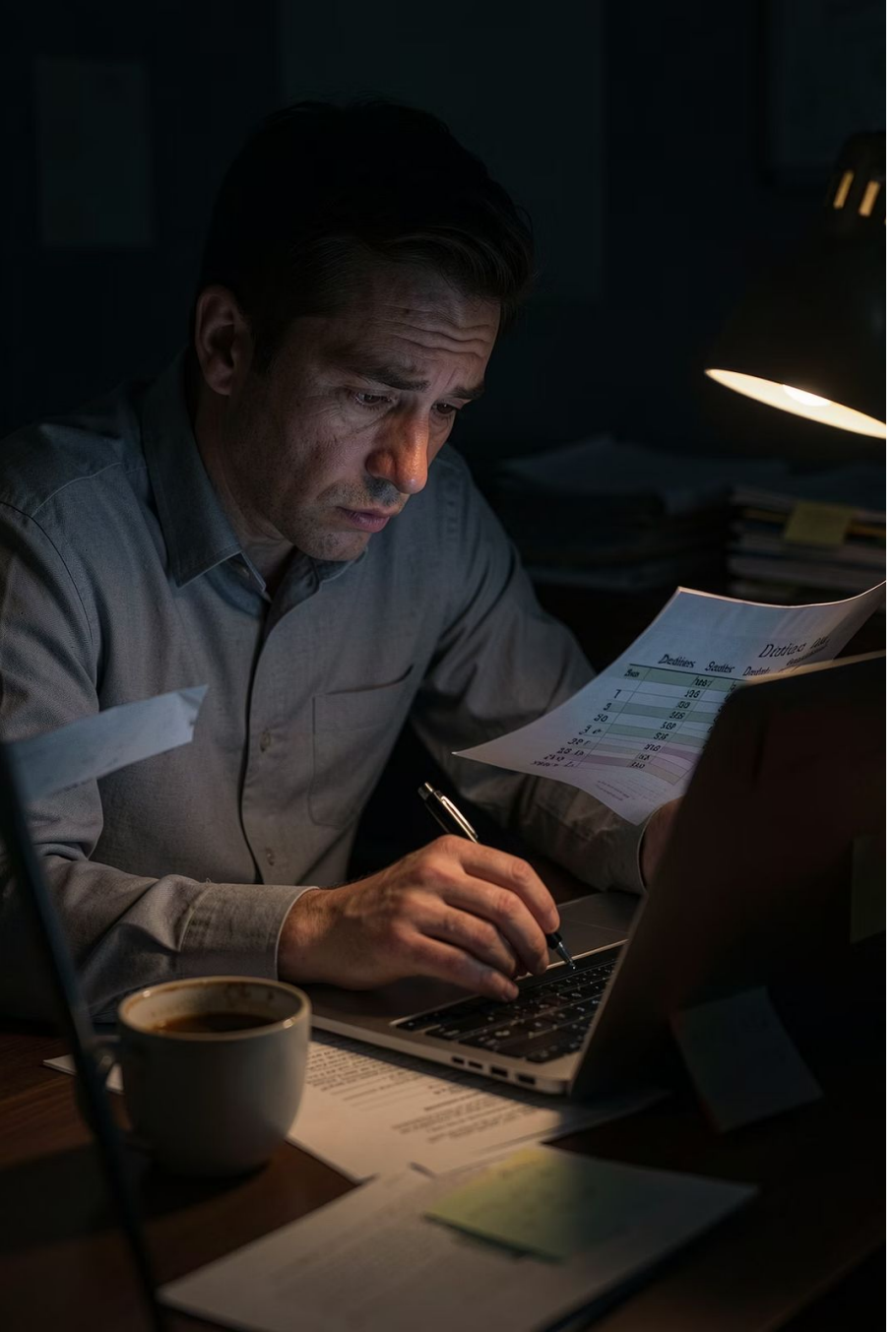
Every assignment, from 14 words to 18,979, moved through the same confirmation-to-delivery workflow, regardless of size.

Two Offices, One Coordinated Program



Cross-Office Coordination

China-based project managers and an EU-based account manager coordinated every incoming job, confirming assignments in writing, by language pair, on the day of arrival. When access credentials changed mid-program, updated logins reached relevant teams the same day.



When One Week Got Complicated

> During one particularly demanding week, the volume of parallel files made the original deadline unrealistic. Our project manager explained the situation, requested a single additional day, and received approval before the deadline passed.

Proactive communication, not silence, is what keeps a continuous program on track. The issue was documented, escalated, and resolved cleanly.

The Same Standard, Every Time

Tag & Segment Integrity

Every file checked against the English source for formatting and structural accuracy, protecting the software's display and functionality.

Client Terminology Adherence

Established glossaries applied consistently across all locales, ensuring a coherent product voice at every touchpoint.

Per-Locale Vendor Teams

Dedicated linguists assigned to each locale through the client's platform, not interchangeable, not improvised.

A 27-word batch and an 18,979-word module required very different schedules. The quality checks were identical.

Why the 14-Word Job Matters



The 18,979-word module demanded more time and resources. That's expected. The 14-word assignment is far easier to underestimate.

It still needed someone to **confirm it, assign it, check it, and return it** through the correct system, while larger projects and backlog cleanups moved through the same pipeline simultaneously.

The smallest assignments don't necessarily arrive at convenient times. And they reveal just as much about a team's reliability as the largest ones.

Reliable Continuous Localization, at Every Scale

For an LSP managing an enterprise software account, the real test isn't handling the big releases, it's ensuring the small updates never fall through the cracks.

42 Jobs Delivered

One unified workflow from confirmation to delivery

1 Documented Issue

Communicated proactively, resolved with a one-day extension

Zero Dropped Assignments

14 words or 18,979 - every job tracked and delivered

