Tools, Tips, and Workflows ¿Sabes que LP360 es disponible en español ahora?



LP360



Support December 2013 Revision 1.0

LP360 will be available in Spanish with the release of 2013.2. Users wishing to get a preview of this capability may download the latest Experimental release which will soon be posted. Not only is LP360 available in Spanish, but Japanese as well - including two-byte characters! In fact, our LP360 development team has been busy over the past year laying the underpinnings to enable the internationalization of LP360. This has been a huge undertaking, but the benefits will be immense for our global user base. Once a language is included in the software, it will automatically be used by the program when the operating system language is set to one of the supported languages, otherwise English will continue to be utilized.

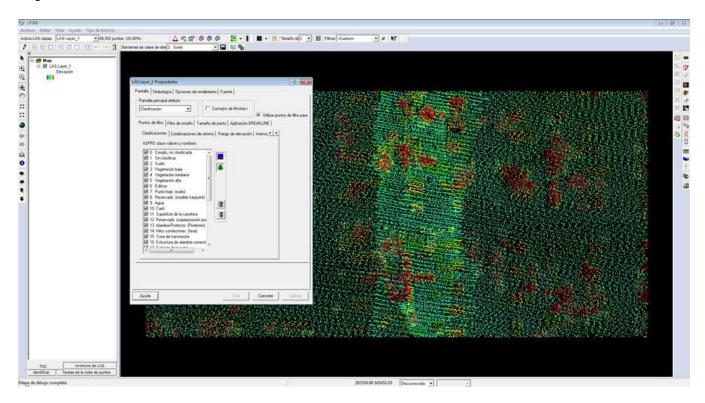


Figure 1 - LP360 with Spanish Interface

Fun Fact: This process has been referred to internally as I18N for the 'I', eighteen letters, and then 'n' in the word Internationalization.





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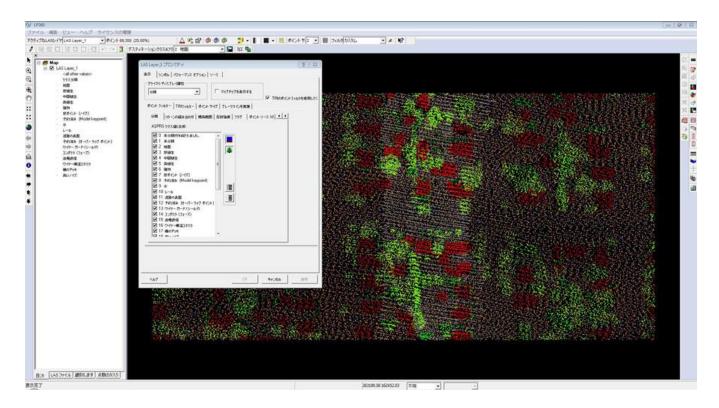


Figure 2 - LP360 with Japanese Interface

With over 6700 languages worldwide, we would be lucky as a company, let alone individuals, to know even a small fraction of those. Instead, we rely upon a number of tools to help us translate the menus and messages within the software into the desired languages. As one could imagine, that puts us in a precarious position when it comes to applying quality control on the results of the translations. Insert apology in advance here if we bastardize any of the translations too badly. And, of course, we solicit any group that would be interested in providing feedback – read that as corrections – on the translations.

Fun Language Facts

Languages spoken by more than 100 million people (in order of number of speakers)1:

Mandarin

Spanish

English

Hindi

Arabic

Portuguese

Bengali

Russian

Japanese

Five of those languages above make up the six official languages of the United Nations (in alphabetical order)²:

Arabic

Chinese

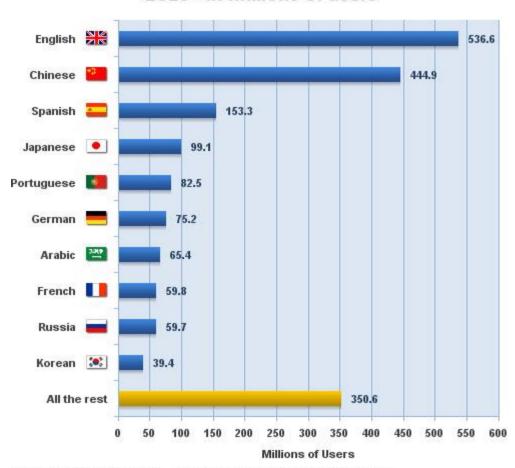
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English French Russian Spanish

As expected, these languages make up some of the most used languages on the Internet:

Top Ten Languages in the Internet 2010 - in millions of users



Source: Internet World Stats - www.internetworldstats.com/stats7.htm Estimated Internet users are 1,966,514,816 on June 30, 2010 Copyright © 2000 - 2010, Miniwatts Marketing Group

Which language will be implemented next?

Given the statistics above, you're probably wondering when your desired language will be added to the program. As mentioned in last month's "Did you Know?" article, we have a Google Group called LP360, and we'd like to use that forum to solicit your input. In the group, you'll find a link to a simple survey where you can select the language of your choice or provide comments directly to the post.

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As mentioned, the process of translating the application is not simple and is best done in partnership with some native speakers who can verify that the translations are suitable. And, where possible, done in a manner where the shortest expressions may be used to convey the meaning, so that they'll fit nicely on the dialogues. If you have a group of users who would like to volunteer to assist us with the quality control of a translation, we would be more than happy to set that up. Note that you'll want a group, as there are roughly 6000 strings currently in the software that need to be reviewed and possibly edited after the initial translation is completed.

Keep in mind that our main support staff is quite small and fairly unilingual as a result, so please keep communications with support@LP360.com in English. Recognizing the need for more than that, we do have a network of resellers around the world who provide immense help with local support in various languages.

Thank you! Gracias! ありがとうございました!

¹ List of languages by number of native speakers. (2013, October 30). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved 16:24, November 27, 2013, from

http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List_of_languages_by_number_of_native_speakers

² Official languages of the United Nations. (2013, November 17). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved 16:26, November 27, 2013, from

http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Official languages of the United Nations