

Coming: An Arabic MT System

The American company AppTek is spreading the word that it is developing an English-to-Arabic machine translation system for Unix-based PCs. AppTek directors Mohammad Shihadah and Mudar Yaghi say the program is scheduled to go into beta testing over the next few months - and they are currently prospecting for additional test sites.

Shihadah and Yaghi claim a unique feature of AppTek's system is the morphological component for Arabic which can adequately handle that language's rich collection of inflections and word reduction paradigms. AppTek has development teams at the University of Jordan in Amman and at the Hassan II University in Casablanca as well as at its Virginia site.

If all goes well with the English-Arabic system, it will be followed in due time by Arabic-English and other language pairs.

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