PAHO MT SYSTEMS:

SPANAM® AND ENGSPAN®

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) exhibit offers MT Summit participants a an opportunity to see how the newest versions of SPANAM (Spanish to English) and ENGSPAN (English to Spanish) perform on previously unseen texts. Participants are invited to bring electronic versions of their favorite texts in English or Spanish to the PAHO booth in the exhibit hall. Alternatively, an HTML file can be selected from the World Wide Web. The software can now handle documents in MS Word 7.0 and 97, as well as HTML, SGML, WordPerfect 5.1 and 6.0 for DOS, and ASCII text files.

The PAHO MT systems were developed to meet the in-house translation needs of this international agency which specializes in public health. Over the last 20 years, PAHO has used its own software to translate more than 25 million words. As a result, the dictionaries have been enriched with terminology from many related disciplines, and the parser has been fine-tuned to handle several different text types. Other public, non-profit, and commercial institutions are finding that ENGSPAN and SPANAM can help them automate some of their translation work.

The developers will be on hand to demonstrate the capabilities of PAHO's fully automatic MT systems which have earned them a reputation for accurate and fluent translations. Participants can browse through the dictionaries, examine parses, and learn how context-sensitive lexical and syntactic choices are triggered.

Participants will also see PAHO's customized macros for Word 7.0 and Word 97. Accessed using the keyboard, menus, or toolbars, these macros can speed up the preparation of input texts, running of translations, and postediting of the output. The macros can be equally useful for other formatting and editing tasks that do not involve translation.

For more information, please contact:

Marjorie León Chief, Translation Services Pan American Health Organization 525 23rd St., N.W. Washington, DC 20037 leonmarj@paho.org (202) 974-3590