televic education

Technology in Conference Interpreter Training
Looking back, looking forward

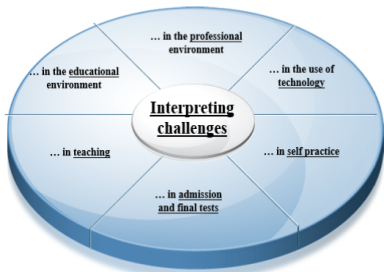Dirk Verbeke, Sales Director, Televic Education

Abstract

Universities having a master's program for interpreting are in need of a training environment simulating a real professional conference setup, but with a pedagogical approach. Televic Education, active in both fields (education and professional conference solutions), took on the challenge of combining both technologies in one solution.

The aim is to create a pedagogical environment for simultaneous conference interpreting which is easy to use, controlled by a teacher instead of a chairman and without operators.

The challenge is to create an environment in which interpreters can be trained, evaluated and tested by using tools for observation, recording, feedback and objective evaluation.

Based on feedback and research, in collaboration with Universities and professional institutions, in the field of interpreting, we have created a solution that meets these needs.
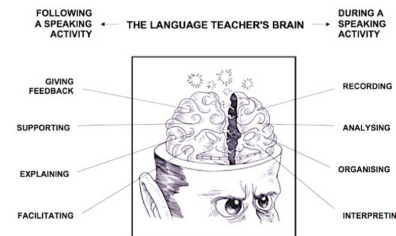
Methods and Materials

Televic Education is part of Televic, a Belgian company implementing its technology all over the word for over 70 years, **enabling communication that matters.**

Innovative communication technology

CREATE
Research-based solutions

BUILD
High-quality products and solutions

DELIVER
Unique, customized services

Pic 1. Interpreter training software and Lingua Interpreter Desk.

Introduction

Universities, all over the world, having a master's program for conference interpreting had and have a need of a training environment simulating a real professional conference set up, but with a pedagogical approach. Since Televic is active in both fields, education and professional conference solutions, a combination of both technologies in one solution was the challenge.


Results

In the 'academic conference interpreter lab' the teacher is not only the chairman but also the operator, the judge, the facilitator, the organizer and of course an interpreter expert.

Therefore you need to have the skills and the right tools.

Pic 3. Intuitive Graphical Interface and interpreterQ media player.
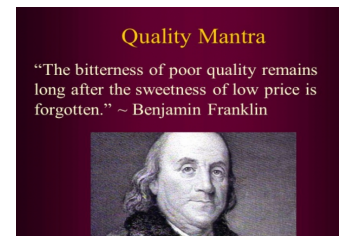
Discussion

An analysis of the history of technology shows that technological change is exponential.

Language acquisition often relies on learning abstract concepts that are hard—if not impossible—to "explain" to a computer.

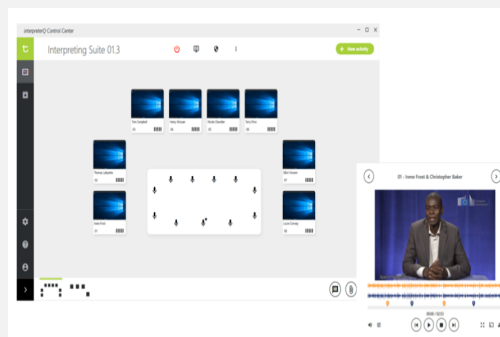But machines aim for perfection, while languages—and humans—are always imperfect.
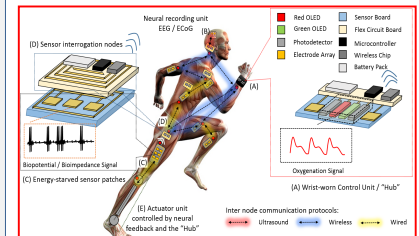
Conclusions

Whether looking back or looking forward, one must remember Benjamin Franklin's words: "The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten".

Quality! This does not only count for technology, but even more so for the translation.

Quality Mantra

"The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten." ~ Benjamin Franklin

Pic 2. Student interpreter at work (recording).

100 years
of conference interpreting

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