# German Localization Tool Docs

# Prerequisites and Installation

- 1. Unzip the **archive XXX.zip** to any folder on your machine. The machine must have Windows with the latest .NET Framework 4.8 updates.
- 2. Run the **EXE** file in the **Bin** sub-folder. If the tool does not run or report FileNotFoundException or similar in the Windows Event Viewer, then go to the troubleshooting section at the bottom.
- 3. Verify that the user name in the tool is displayed correctly (it is based on your machine and is used to identify translations from different Translators (native German speakers within the company, external agencies, some customers), to resolve potential conflicts later during the nitration (each operation is linked to the Translator).



**DISCLAIMER**: We intentionally made things simple due to the limited resources and time, so we chose a WinForms app without sophisticated web services, record locking, and installation methods. Depending on user feedback and experience, we may evolve the first MVP further. For now, it is critical to us to get started fast, get first strings translated and verified using the tool, and get things up and integrating into production for dear German customers.

#### Overview

We consider several roles of users of this tool:

- Translator
- Integrator (the DevExpress Team)

The tool has multiple filters at the top for different translation statuses (Not Translated, Translated, etc.), which are also display grid rows different colors.



It uses the standard WinForms grid capabilities for filtering, sorting, etc. You can also use the following shortcuts for the most typical tasks, to do your work faster. When navigating through grid entries:

Enter, Space – Translate Row or Group of Rows

Alt + M - Show Row Menu

Please review the Translation Tasks and FAQ sections before using the tool.

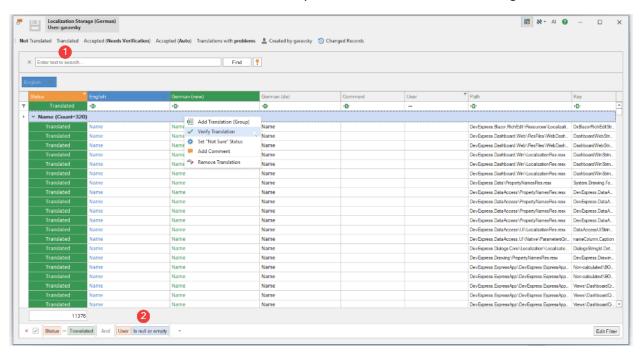
### **Translation Tasks**

# Task #1. Green Row or Translated Filter – Review records and validate/fix them in case of errors

### Verify a translation based on existing/old German strings (Status = Translated and User is Empty)

It is important to review the German New (green text) and German DE (black text) columns where User is missing (when User is not empty, then other Translators already verified the records).

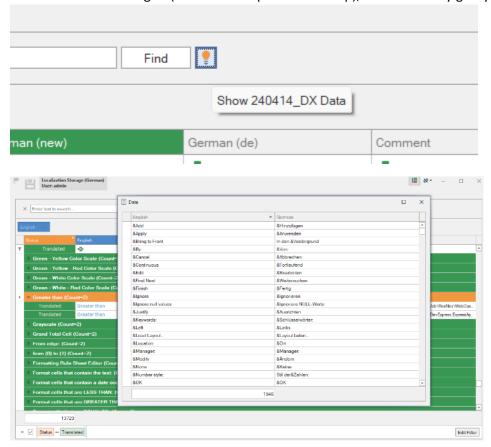
You can use the group or row commands **Verify Translation** if everything is fine – this explicit validation is important for us, and it also puts a Translator name into the User column. You can use the context info in the Path and other columns or ask the team, if you are not sure about the meaning.



By default the sorting is done by the descending the number of occurrences in key (from popular to rare). It is helpful that all the Translators have the same sorting for easier navigation.



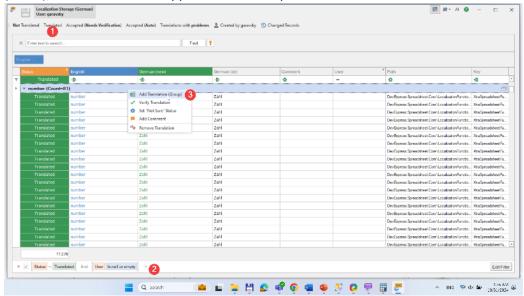
**Advanced Tip**: You can also open the original online Excel translations for each row using the Lamp menu command in the main grid (near the Find panel at the top), because it may give you more context:



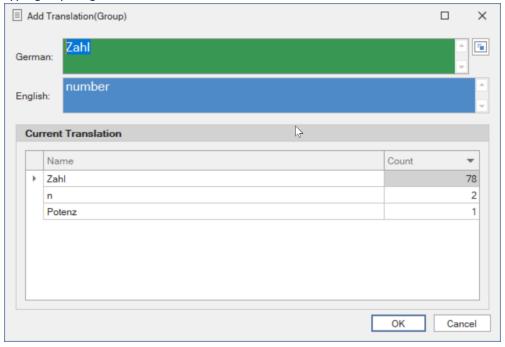
Fix an error using a group or row Add Translation command

A translation can be applied to ALL the elements with the same group/key (see the "number" below) or individual row. Use the **Add Translation Group** menu command or keyboard (Enter or space). Press OK

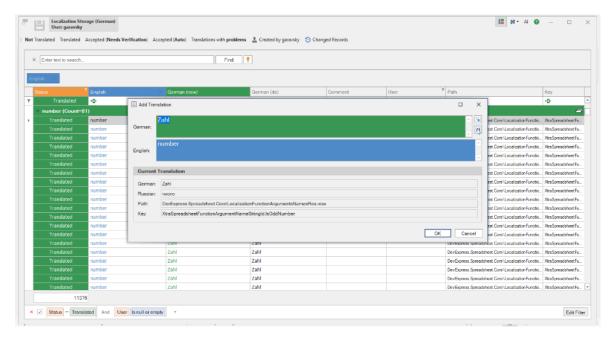
(Alt+O), and then it will be applied. After that, press Save.



You can either type in the German field manually or can use the **Copy** button on the right of the editor. This button helps you quickly copy the selected value from the grid below to the actual value without typing anything.



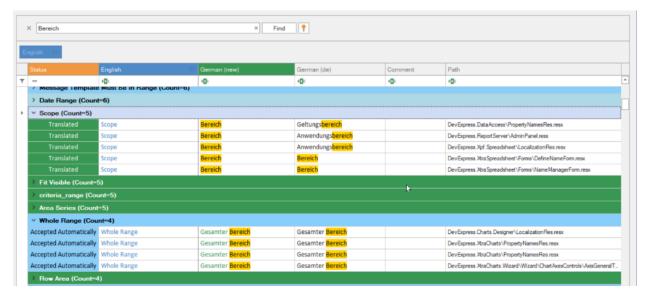
If you use the **Add Translation (Row)** menu command, then you can additionally use the **AI** button to translate a word without typing. This will try to localize an English value to German, based on previous English/Russian translations, if they existed. We did not employ AI for translating all the strings intentionally, because based on past experience with Bing Translator there may be issues and high risks of propagating mistakes massively. Still, AI can save some typing efforts or give inspiration (there are some admin settings to tune the translation creativity, but we are not describing it here).



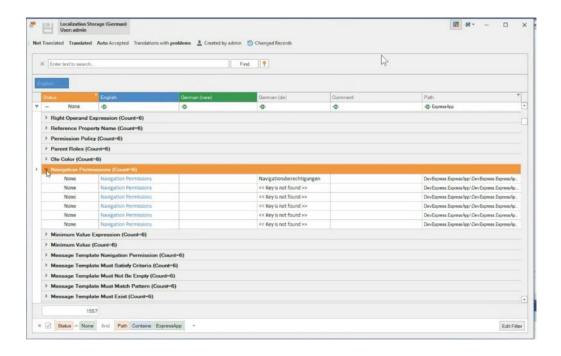
#### Find a similar word in previous translations

You can check for specific occurrences of a certain word using the Find Panel, Auto Filter Row and other grid search features. Search is done through all the columns, not only the English key. It is useful when you have doubts or too many options.

For example, you want to check what word other rows already used, how often, check if a synonym exists for a word or both words can be used interchangeably, etc. This will help you make a final decision when being at the fence or to avoid situation with choosing a peculiar word, which is not used anywhere else. Refer to the screenshot showing the Find Panel search:



The following example shows the ExpressApp filter in the auto filter row:

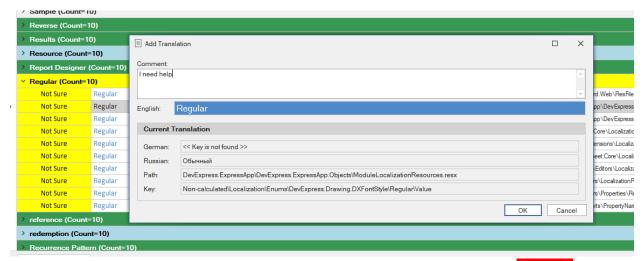


#### Leave comments when you are not sure how to translate or need Team clarification

To mark an individual row/translation as unclear (Status = Not Sure), use the **Set "Not Sure" Status** context menu command for a row or the whole group of rows.



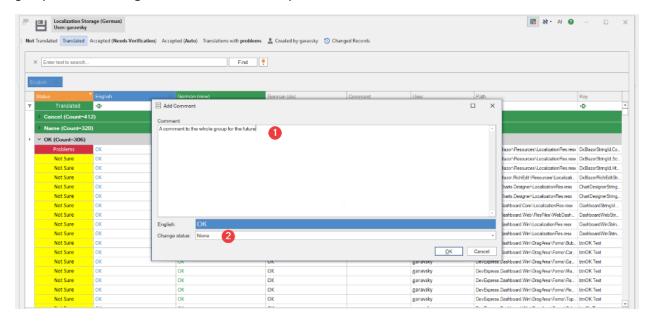
Then use the **Add Comment** command for the whole group or individual rows to leave actionable comments for the Team about your issue. For instance, it is unclear whether the word singular, feminine, whether it is a noun or verb, you can also ask for a screenshot, etc.



Not Sure records with non-empty Comment field will change the status of the row to Problems, which can be filtered / found later. To remove the Problems status, just leave an empty comment.



To add a comment for the whole group (English key), invoke the **Add Comment** command for the whole group and set **Change status** to None in the opened form:



# Task #2. Blue Row Filter – Review automatically accepted translations based on trustworthy number of similar translations

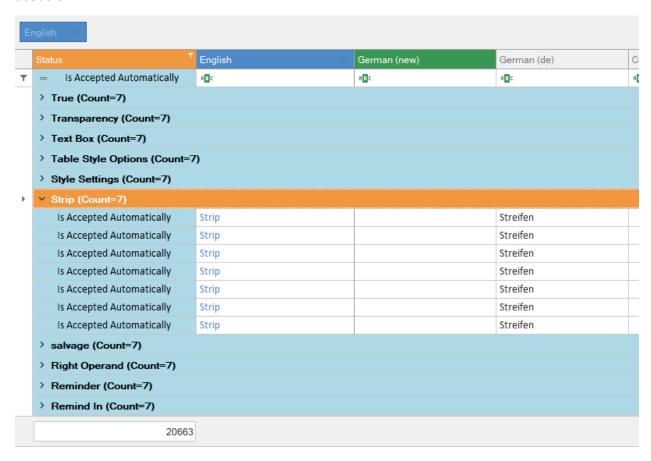
This translation consists of automatically translated strings. There are two types.



**Need Verifications** - Translation for strings with one value. It makes sense to check these records after the main work is finished. (14K)

**Auto** - Translation of strings where there were two or more repeating values. The degree of confidence in such a translation is higher. (13K)

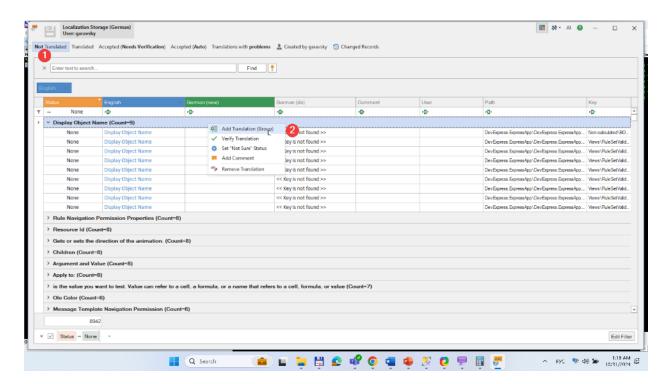
Blue with black letters: we translated them automatically, because all the user translations were the same, so we trust it by default. There are about 27K. Right now, Translators do not need to take care about it.



In the future, we will at least review group keys with 1 translation(Need Verification), because they may be less trustworthy than groups with 10, 20 equal user translations

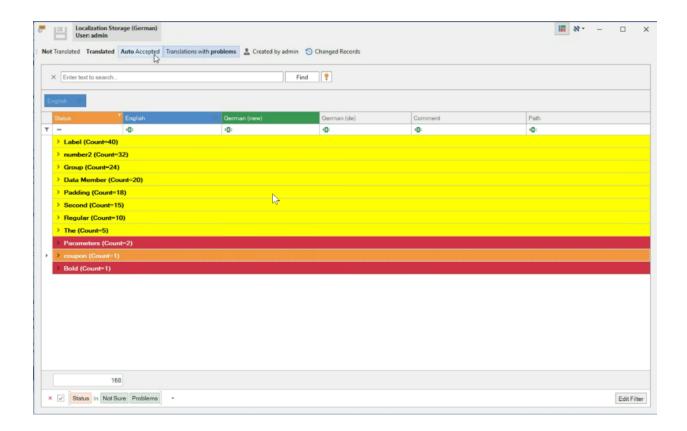
## Task #3. Untranslated Filter – Provide missing translations.

We have to translate about 9K rows (no German translations at all). For this, use the group or row commands **Add Translation**:



Task #4. Yellow Row or Not Sure Filter – Review records with insufficient info and request the Team clarification, Leave comments. SKIP FOR NOW.

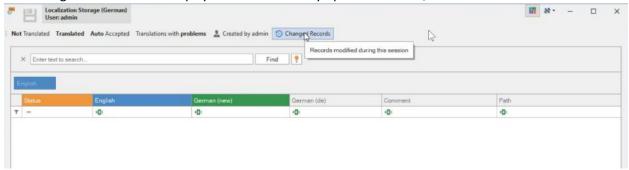
Activate the **Not Sure filter**, shows the things we were not sure of and that need consulting with the team. The plan is that Translator leaves notes and avoid ambiguity (in cells where NO any translation exists).



**NOTE**: For now, we do not react to Not Sure with existing translations, but later we will review them. Also, we will pay attention to Not Sure with empty translations.

# Pass Translations to the Team for Production Integration

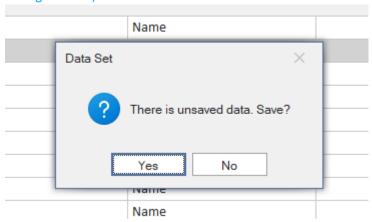
The Changed Records filter helps you see the recently updated records, until the Save button is clicked.



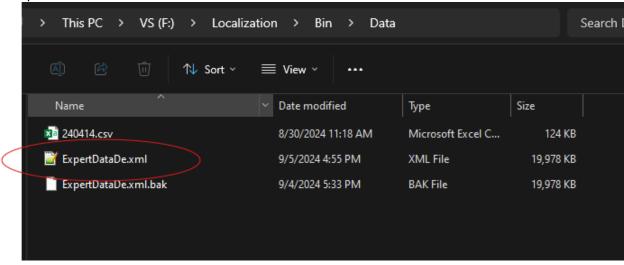
Once you are done, follow these steps:

1. Save the changes using the Save button. Even if you close the form, it will ask to save the changes.

TIP: we recommend that you save data after each significant translation operation (no autosaving for now).



- 2. Locate the **ExpertDataDe.XML** file in the **Bin > Data** sub-folder:
- 3. Post the file as a ZIP archive to the Team via email or chat for further review and integration into production.



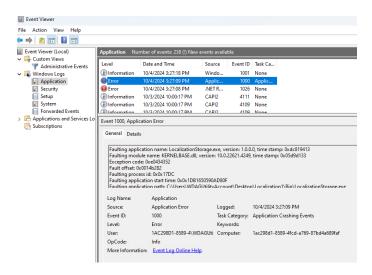
**TIP**: There is the **ExpertDataDe.XML.bak** file that allows you to roll back to the previous state before you started the tool. If you've a mistake, then find the backup file, and change the extension to XML, and restart the tool. You should not touch the CSV file, because it contains the old translations you did in the online Excel file.

# FAQ and Troubleshooting

## The tool does not run or shows errors

The most typical cause of this behavior is missing .NET Framework 4.8 updates on the target Windows machine, so ensure they are installed (never bad thing for security and other reasons anyway).

Also check Windows Event Viewer for the exact error details:



To fix the startup issues, download <a href="https://dotnet.microsoft.com/en-us/download/dotnet-framework/thank-you/net481-web-installer">https://dotnet.microsoft.com/en-us/download/dotnet-framework/thank-you/net481-web-installer</a> and then reboot your machine. If this does not help, obtain the other error details along with the list of installed .NET Framework versions on your machine as per <a href="https://stackoverflow.com/a/35773863/592926">https://stackoverflow.com/a/35773863/592926</a> and send this info to the Team, along with the screenshot of the System Information dialog:

| Item                            | Value  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| OS Name                         | Microsoft Windows 11 Enterprise  |
| Version                         | 10.0.22631 Build 22631   |
| Other OS Description            | Not Available  |
| OS Manufacturer                 | Microsoft Corporation  |
| System Name                     |  |
| System Manufacturer             | Dell Inc.  |
| System Model                    | Precision 3561   |
| System Type                     | x64-based PC   |
| System SKU                      | 0A68   |
| Processor                       | 11th Gen Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-11850H @ 2.50GHz, 2496 Mhz, 8 Core(s), 16 Logi |
| BIOS Version/Date               | Dell Inc. 1.31.0, 6/5/2024   |
| SMBIOS Version                  | 3.2  |
| Embedded Controller Version     | 255.255  |
| BIOS Mode                       | UEFI   |
| BaseBoard Manufacturer          | Dell Inc.  |
| BaseBoard Product               | 03G764   |
| BaseBoard Version               | A00  |
| Platform Role                   | Mobile   |
| Secure Boot State               | Off  |
| PCR7 Configuration              | Elevation Required to View   |
| Windows Directory               | C:\WINDOWS   |
| System Directory                | C:\WINDOWS\system32  |
| Boot Device                     | \Device\HarddiskVolume1  |
| Locale                          | United States  |
| Hardware Abstraction Layer      | Version = "10.0.22621.2506"  |
| User Name                       |  |
| Time Zone                       | FLE Daylight Time  |
| Installed Physical Memory (RAM) | 16.0 GB  |
| Total Physical Memory           | 15.7 GB  |
| Available Physical Memory       | 1.59 GB  |

If this does not help, contact the team for further assistance.

## Where can I find invalid/broken translation records?

The **Bin\Logs\240414\_Errors.txt** file contains everything, which was not included into the tool due to errors or issues with keys.

## I found mistakes with the English text/description themselves: what should I do?

Leave comments to groups/rows, so we can distinguish them from others. We will definitely return to this later after we complete the first things first. Among other reasons is that such English mistakes must be extremely rare among more than 20K of rows. This is not a priority right now, same as other yellow/problematic records that need clarification from the team.

### Uncertain about what to do or have a question: whom to contact about the tool?

Please forward your questions and suggestions to the Team or people who gave you that tool via email or chat. We can also organize a meeting with screensharing, if necessary.

It is important to fully understand things and ask rather than accidentally break existing translations. We are more than happy to help since we have this big mutual goal.

## Have a suggestion or want a new feature for the tool?

We would appreciate it if you try to use the tool for real translations, translate the first 50, 100, 200 rows and understand how the tool works in practice, see what is critical and what is not. You are free to speak up, and we will iterate and improve the tool based on your feedback, where possible.

We must all distill issues by severity or showstopper/not showstopper, because we do not have all the resources in the world from the Team and time may show that certain things are not critical in essence - perfection should not kill our progress or prevent us from achieving the ultimate goal in 2-3 months or so.

### Cannot understand the translation context: what should I do?

If you are uncertain about context, need screenshots, clarification from the Team, cannot induct the right meaning from the Path column, other RU and English captions, feature context, other similar translations, etc., then just leave a comment and move on. For example, if you are not sure if a word must be a noun or verb, then write a comment about it explicitly. Be specific, because the Team may not understand concise or ambiguous/non-actionable comments, and we will both have unnecessary back and forths.

Try to find a balance here as well: we cannot really clarify 10K strings (as it will take years of your and team time and we will not achieve our goal with more evident issues like missing or plain wrong translations), so taking some reasonable risks and responsibility is fine.

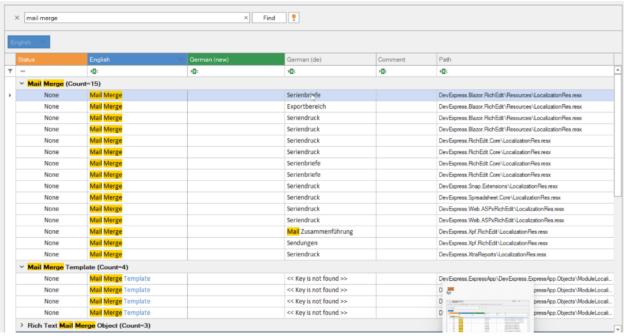
# Why certain unique translations like Cancel (English) for Green rows are "ignored" or display the "Translated" state?

The green translated state is now because we researched all the strings and contexts (including the RU and EN strings for Cancel) and **took responsibility for this green item**, and opted for a single "Abbrechen" item as the right translation here.

Originally, the creators of various forms and controls in teams were over-creative and instead of checking how others translate this common UI element for its main purpose/scenario, decided to invent something special, which is not good in this case. As a result, the app consisting of various controls from different teams now gets different captions for the same semantic command. For instance, Schließen instead of Abbrechen where in EN Cancel and RU Отмена is totally valid. We also took responsibility and even risked a bit with &Abbrechen >> Abbrechen, because it was safe enough to do (we cannot add & everywhere either, because in certain UI/platforms it is not processed/supported).

Another example is the Mail Merge group. Apparently, here the Blazor, WinForms, WPF, SpreadSheet teams went over-creative too and instead of checking how others translated this in the past, they invented their own translations, just because they could. No blame on them, but in this case all the strings refer to the same semantic item Mail Merge, which is also clear from the Path column and context, knowing just a little about this Excel/Word feature. We rely on your general German and tool/IT experience here, and also on the previously translated strings. You can open your German version of Word after all or look up strings in online resources for Office products, etc. In the second case (Mail

Merge Template), there are no translations and you can combine the phrase by translating Template, or again finding a similar Office feature just because you know one exist from experience. If you cannot unambiguously decide on this, then you just leave a comment on this item and request additional info, and team gets back to you later.



We assume that this strategy will work for 99% of cases, and we are OK with the risks of that 1% and dealing with customer feedback, should this change become critical for them (customers will report this to us, if this critical or simply change it on their own in the Localization Tool). For the rest 99%, again, we will have **more consistent translations throughout the application**. That is our strategy by default and we are ready to take responsibility for this and adjust in the future based on customer feedback, because it is better for the ultimate goal we have and the resources we have in teams and yours.

Of course, in critical cases of disagreement, you are always welcome to leave comments in the tool (to clarify with the teams) or enter a different translations. All rows with comments will be then filtered out and passed to teams for processing, and then they will return to you with team clarifications to make a final decision (we do not expect many of those, though – we must also be realistic about the number we can clarify with the Team and find a balance).