



eTEN RoboBraille – Project Fact Sheet

RoboBraille automates the translation of text into Braille and speech. Users submit documents as attachments to emails. In return, they receive contracted Braille documents or MP3 files. The eTEN RoboBraille project will validate the Danish service in five other European countries. The service is available free of charge to all non-commercial users.

RoboBraille is an email-based translation service capable of translating email attachments (e.g., Word documents, text files, HTML pages) to and from contracted Braille and to synthetic speech. The eTEN RoboBraille Market Validation project aims to validate the commercial viability and user acceptance of the Danish RoboBraille translation service in five additional European countries: Ireland, the United Kingdom, Italy, Portugal and Cyprus.

As society becomes increasingly dependent on literacy, the problem of textual information inaccessible to print-impaired people is likely to grow. The RoboBraille service attempts to resolve this universal problem as it makes textual information accessible to people who would otherwise find it inaccessible due to disability or reading difficulties: The blind, partially sighted, dyslexic and others who find it difficult to read.

During the eTEN RoboBraille project, the RoboBraille service will be adapted into four additional languages (Braille and text-to-speech support for British English, Italian, Greek and Portuguese) before running pilots in each of the countries with a combined target of 900 sample users. The pilot phase is divided into two parts, and the consortium will use the results from the first part as well as any feedback from the mid-term workshop to further adapt the service to meet the needs of the users.

Thus the objectives of the market validation project are:

- To analyse the market possibilities for the RoboBraille service in the 6 partner countries,
- To run pilot tests on the RoboBraille service with some 900 users from the 5 new partner countries,
- To prepare a business plan/deployment report on the conditions for initial deployment of the service and thereby enable and encourage initial deployment of the service.

The following organisations are partners in the RoboBraille Consortium:

- **Synscenter Refsnæs, Danish Centre for Visual Impairment, Children and Youth** (Synscenter Refsnæs) – Denmark (co-ordinator): A national-wide service and support organisation for blind and partially sighted children and youth.
- **ANS Associazione Nazionale Subvedenti, ONLUS** (ANS) – Italy (partner): A private Support organisation for families, teachers, educators and social operators on different areas related to visual disability.



- **National Council for the Blind of Ireland (NCBI)** – Ireland (partner): Interest organisation for the visually impaired.
- **The National Association of Housing for the Visually Impaired (NAHVI)** – Ireland (partner): School and Housing Association for the Visually Impaired
- **Royal National College for the Blind (RNC)** – United Kingdom (partner): College for the blind and partially sighted.
- **Pagkypria Organozi Tyflon (POT)** – Cyprus (partner): Interest organisation for the visually impaired.
- **Centro de Inovacao para Deficientes (CIDEF)** – Portugal (partner): Rehabilitation centre that provides and develops aids to disabled.

EU Funding:	€564,265
Duration:	July 2006 – December 2007
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Participating Countries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cyprus ▪ Denmark (Co-ordinator) ▪ Ireland ▪ Italy ▪ Portugal ▪ United Kingdom