

Library Localization

If you are developing OMNIS applications for an international market, you may want to translate your libraries into another language. OMNIS provides a translation library to assist you with this task. To translate a library you

- Export the text and literal strings in your library that require translation
- Translate the text
- Import the text back into your library

To open the translation library

- In the standard IDE Browser, select Library>>Open to bring up the standard open library dialog
- Locate the translation library called trans.lbr in the Local folder under the main OMNIS folder and open it

The translation browser appears. It displays any libraries you currently have open, with the exception of the translation library itself. If the library you wish to translate is not open, use the Library>>Open option on the translation browser menu to open it.

Exporting the Text in your Library

To translate your library you need to export all the text and literal strings in your library that require translation.

To export the text in your library

- Select Edit>>Export from the translation browser menubar

An export dialog appears; you can choose whether to export to an OMNIS data file or to a text file.

In either case, the Include Comments checkbox lets you filter out comments when you export text; generally you will not need to translate comments as they are not visible to end-users of your library.

Exporting to an OMNIS Data File

This opens a standard file dialog that lets you supply the name of the data file. Having named the OMNIS data file, the export process starts, and an export log keeps you informed of progress. You can export more than one library to a data file if you wish.

Exporting to a Text File

This opens a standard file dialog that lets you supply the name of the export file; the default is export.txt. OMNIS generates a file consisting of all the literal text strings as a standard ASCII text file in the format of the current platform. An export log keeps you informed of progress.

Translating the Export Data File

You edit the contents of the exported OMNIS data file in the translation library itself.

To translate the contents of the exported OMNIS data file

- From the translation browser menu, select Edit>>Editor

You are prompted for the data file name.

- Select the library you wish to translate from the list that appears when you select File>>Open

A grid field displays information about the translatable data. You enter changes in the New Value column. Alternatively, you can select Find and Replace from the Edit menu to look for specific strings; note that Find and Replace will not find partial strings. For example, if you have a test label whose old value is “My current label”, a search for the word “current” will not locate this label.

- Once you have completed your changes, use File>>Save to save them back to the data file.

Translating the Export Text File

You can edit the contents of the exported text file in any standard text editor. If you use a Word Processor, you must ensure that you use it in text mode to avoid any special formatting characters being included in the text.

OMNIS structures the export text file as a sequence of three elements per string literal in your library. Each element is on a separate line in the export file. Each line starts with a keyword that identifies its purpose, as follows

- REF=**
the location of the string in your library: *Do not change this.*
- OLD=**
the original text string in quotes, including any control characters. *Do not change this.*
- NEW=**
an empty string (“”) for you to fill in with the translated text

OMNIS regards all other lines as comments and ignores them when you import.

If an original string contains a double quote character, OMNIS places it within single quotes, and the NEW string should match it exactly. If any item contains more than a single literal, the OLD= line will consist of the right number of separate, quoted strings, each separated by a space. Strings can be up to 255 characters in length.

If you leave the NEW= empty, the OLD= string will be unchanged and untranslated. If you remove the quotes after NEW=, OMNIS replaces the OLD string with an empty string.

Importing Translated Text

Having translated the text in your library in either an OMNIS data file or text file, you can import it back into your library using the translation library.

To import translated text back into your library

- Select Edit>>Import from the translation browser
- Check the appropriate box to indicate whether you are importing from a data file or a text file and locate the file when prompted to do so

An import log and progress bar keeps you up to date with the import process.

- When you have finished, close the import log and the translation browser