

## 2008 NIST Open Machine Translation Evaluation (MT08) Progress Test – Forms

**Note:** Participation in the Progress test requires two forms to be completed and signed by the participating site's Principal Investigator:

1. MT08 Form 3a: Progress Test Pre-Release Certification, prior to receiving the Progress test set(s).  
Deadline for returning form: **January 10 2008.**
2. MT08 Form 3b: Progress Test Post-Test Certification, after processing the Progress test set(s).  
Deadline for returning form: **February 6 2008.**

Forms must be returned by fax to:

NIST  
Attn: NIST Open MT Team  
Fax +1 (301) 670-0939

# 2008 NIST Open Machine Translation Evaluation (MT08)

## Progress Test – Forms

### Introduction

In order to measure progress in machine translation performance in the Open MT program, NIST will create a special "Progress" test set of Newswire and Web data for both the Arabic-to-English and the Chinese-to-English machine translation tracks. Because the same Progress test set will be used from year to year, extraordinary measures must be taken to preserve its integrity. This document outlines those rules.

### MT08 Progress Test Set Participation

#### **Open MT participants only:**

The Progress test set will be provided only to sites participating in the Open MT evaluation who have demonstrated the capability to fully and successfully participate in one or more previous evaluations. Additionally, first-time participants will be considered on a case by case basis.

#### **Separate distribution:**

The Progress test set for a language track will be provided by e-mail at the same time as, but clearly separated from, the corresponding Current test set. The Progress test set will be e-mailed only to the site's Principal Investigator signing these forms, who is not to distribute it.

#### **Separate storage:**

If a site wishes to place the Progress test set data on a computer disk, it must be in a special directory explicitly named and reserved for that purpose. All temporary and derivative files must also be in a special directory reserved for processing the Open MT Progress test set.

#### **Separate processing:**

The Progress test set must be processed completely before or completely after the corresponding Current test set. If processed after the Current test set, and the MT system adapted to the Current test set, the system must either be rolled back to its state before processing the Progress test set, or the site must report that the Progress test set was processed after adaptation to the Current test set.

#### **No examination or reading:**

Sites are prohibited from examining the Progress test set. This includes analysis to obtain information that might fall into the "metadata" category or to verify data integrity, as well as other reading of any kind.

#### **No analysis or examination of system output:**

Sites must transmit output files to NIST without examination or analysis. To ensure that the system has operated correctly (i.e., no system crashes or other error conditions), sites are permitted to examine both machine translation system and computer system log files to check for error messages and also perform gross automatic checks on the machine translation system output. If performed, these automatic checks can include measuring the sizes (in term of bytes and lines as appropriate) of all input and output files at each stage of the machine translation process. Furthermore, the run-time of each stage can be measured. In all the above, sites are prohibited from examining the output of the machine translation system in any way that may help them to infer any content of or metadata about the Progress test set.

#### **Removal of Progress test set data and derivative files:**

Upon completion of the Progress test, all Progress test set source data and all files developed from it (i.e., hypothesis files, metadata extraction files, etc.) must be deleted from a site's system archives. If system adaptation took place while processing the Progress test set, the system must be rolled back to its status before processing the Progress test set.

**2008 NIST Open Machine Translation Evaluation (MT08)  
Progress Test – Forms**

**OPEN MT 2008 Progress Test Pre-Release Certification – MT08 Form 3a**

I affirm that (print site affiliation): \_\_\_\_\_

will abide by all the rules that NIST has imposed to protect the integrity of the MT Progress test set or data derived from it. We will not examine the Progress test set in any way, not distribute it in any way, and, after processing the data, will completely remove the test data containing the Progress test set and all derivative files from all our systems, including e-mail.

Site Principal Investigator name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Site Principal Investigator signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Principal Investigator e-mail (print): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Progress test set will be sent only here, even if other addresses were provided on MT08 Form 1.)

**2008 NIST Open Machine Translation Evaluation (MT08)  
Progress Test – Forms**

**OPEN MT 2008 Progress Test Post-Test Certification – MT08 Form 3b**

I affirm that (print site affiliation): \_\_\_\_\_

has completely abided by the rules that were imposed by NIST to protect the integrity of the MT Progress test set or data derived from it. We have not examined the Progress test set in any way, have not distributed it in any way, and have completely removed the test data containing the Progress test set and all derivative files from all our systems, including e-mail.

Site Principal Investigator: name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Site Principal Investigator signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_