



# iHelpers INNOVATION FOCUS SESSION

LT-Innovate Summit, Brussels, 19 June 2012

Innovation Opportunities, Inhibitors and Solutions

THE FORUM FOR EUROPE'S  
**LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY** INDUSTRY

[#1]

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## Our remit



- What innovations do you see for this area using LT?
- What barriers are there to achieving those innovations – for your company, and for the market in general – and how can these barriers be overcome through cooperation?

# iHelpers



- Language Technology in services is complemented by “personal” language technology embedded in the devices and interfaces of users. Today speech interfaces are relatively common (at least in major European languages), the use of online avatars is exploding, there are dozens of personal assistant and translation apps for mobile devices, and there is growing interest in the potential for intelligent physical robots as personal companions and helpers. Tomorrow consumers will expect integrated support for finding, using and communicating information in familiar, device-neutral modes, without language barriers.
- Chair: Paul Welham
- Moderator: Ruben Riestra

# iHelpers Opportunities



- Seamless x-language digital coms
- Educational – interactive based learning with avatars and regional voices
- Augmented communication devices for disabled persons
- Chat bots in call centre apps
- Voice banking / cloning
- Ageing European population – needs help
- Smart TVs
- Smart transferable devices – you phone becomes your car i/f



# iHelpers Barriers / Solutions



- No standards in speech, weak ones exist e.g. MRCP . Set standards at European level as we did in telecoms
- Lack of user involvement in apps – so involve them
- Poor technology exists – robotic voices, asr that doesn't work with access.
- Finance for research

