

Welcome to Eric's *Baby Shower* for *Language Explorer*!



FieldWorks "Language Explorer" is *kicking* and *due next month*!

Thanks to your loving support, we are expecting to announce the birth of "Language Explorer"¹ our new dictionary building tool on October 15th. My team is excited about God's provisions in making our software available to all Wycliffe translators. It has been a joy for me over the past several months working together to finalize its improvements and to ensure its features work as designed. Please keep our team in your prayers as we prepare the program for a successful delivery, free of complications. This release marks the beginning of the "Beta" stage of the software's life. "Beta" basically means that translators will be feeding the program milk, while we change its diapers. ☺ You might say that right now we are trying our best to make sure its diapers won't leak!

¹ PLEASE NOTE: "Language Explorer" is currently an unofficial name, pending Wycliffe's final christening when the software matures from "Beta" to "Version 1.0".



Glossary

FieldWorks - Our package of software tools integrated to help work through the various stages of the translation process on the field.

Language Explorer - A FieldWorks tool designed to intelligently aid in building a dictionary through user and computer analyses of word collections and their grammar.



A sonogram of our software wins smiles. ☺

John Hatton, one of our lead designers, shared a brief sneak-preview of *Language Explorer* and its features at a translation conference this summer in Papua New Guinea where John serves as a computer consultant. John surprised us with this report: *"When the demonstration was all over, our three most senior linguistic consultants all came to me and gave heartfelt thanks. None had shown any interest before; others had been skeptical. One, who had chosen not to use our previous software technology, remarked that she was so relieved to see what we were doing. Another remarked how easy to use it appeared to be. It was clear that they were pleasantly and thoroughly surprised! Translation consultants are among the toughest audience that we are likely to face, and Language Explorer won the day!"*



A Sword Unsheathed by Marj Crouch, Ghana Africa, June 2005.

A translator recently called together people from different churches to check a translation his team had drafted. As they read through some passages, the checkers would sometimes breakdown and weep. "Is this what it really says?" they would ask. "We have been hearing it all these years in another language and didn't understand it in this way." God's Word heard in the mother tongue is powerful. Heard in another language, it can be like a sword kept in its sheath.

Pray

that God will

- Provide successful release and maintenance for our software.
- Enable our tools to meet the needs of our translators.
- Grant me wisdom for my work and for my seminary studies.
- Raise up more partners to meet my needs for the coming year.

Encourage

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