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JRC-Names is a software product of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and consists of a database of named entity lists and a Java-implemented software. JRC-Names serves a number of purposes among which improve name search in databases or on the internet, seeding machine learning systems to learn named entity recognition rules, improve machine translation results, and more. The ability of the software to recognise known names in text of any language and to return their position, length, the standard variant of the name and the unique numerical name identifier together with its exporting functionalities makes JRC-Names a unique multilingual named entity resource tool.

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.2. In case of any dispute or difference between the Parties arising out of or in connection with this licence, the Parties shall settle it by mutual agreement. Such effort shall be deemed to have failed when one of the Parties so notifies the other in writing. In that case, each Party may initiate proceedings before the General Court of the European Union in Luxembourg.

ANNEX A – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE SOFTWARE

Version: 1.0

Language: The resource and software are not limited to any specific natural language. They are inherently multilingual. The documentation is written in English.

Components: The distribution consists of data about named entities (also referred to as ‘NE resource file’) and of software that uses the data. The NE resource file contains long lists of entity names in various languages and scripts. It furthermore contains name variants (both spelling and morphological variants), name identifiers and additional information that is needed for the functioning of the software. Entity names are names of persons, of organisations and of other entity types. Updates for this NE resource file may be made available by the Licensor via download.

The JAVA-implemented software consists of a library that matches names from the NE resource file and its variants in machine-readable written text, and of a number of source files to demonstrate how to match entities in a text and how to extract the entity information from the NE resource file. This information can then also be used to produce the full list of name variants contained in the NE resource file. The matching software, after reading and analysing the NE resource file, searches for any of the known entities in multilingual text. For every entity found, the software will return the following values: (a) the numerical name identifier; (b) the main name for that entity; (c) the name string found (this can be any variant from the NE resource file and possibly morphological variants); (d) the offset in the text; (e) the length of the name string found.

Functionalities: The software and the NE resource file can be used to recognise and mark up names of entities and their variants in machine-readable written text, as described above. They can also be used to produce long lists of names and their variants for usage by third-party software.

Documentation: The software is accompanied by JavaDoc documentation. Further details, especially about how the NE resource file was generated, are available in the publication:

Steinberger Ralf, Bruno Pouliquen, Mijail Kabadjov & Erik van der Goot (2011). *JRC-Names: A freely available, highly multilingual named entity resource*. Proceedings of the 8th International Conference ‘Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing’. Hissar, Bulgaria, September 2011.

Programming language: The software is programmed in Java.