

Exhibit A
User Agreement
Application by an Organization to Use the USC Marketplace Speech and Text Collection

The _____, an organization of approximately _____ people engaging in research and development of human language technology research and development, which is a part of:

Corporation/Partnership/Legal Entity _____

Official mail address _____

Telephone _____

Facsimile _____

Electronic Mail _____

apply(ies) to use the Information designated as the Broadcast News Speech and Text Research Collection subject to the following understandings, terms and conditions. These understandings, terms and conditions apply equally to all or to part of the information.

1. Permitted uses

1.1. The Information may only be used for linguistic research and development, including but not limited to information retrieval, document understanding, machine translation, or speech recognition.

1.2. Summaries, analyses and interpretations of the linguistic properties of the information may be derived and published, provided it is not possible to reconstruct the information from these summaries.

1.3. Small excerpts of the Information may be displayed to others or published in a scientific or technical context, solely for the purpose of describing the research and development and related issues or demonstrating the systems under development.

2. Access to the Information by Individuals

2.1. Access to the Information by an individual person is to be controlled by that person's organization. The organization may only grant access to people working under its control, i.e., its own members, consultants to the organization, or individuals providing service to the organization.

2.2 Individuals may be allowed access to the Information only after being informed of the provisions of this User Agreement. The access is to be terminated when the conditions of the application no longer apply. The organization will retain the list of all persons ever granted access to the Information and make them available upon request to any of the copyright holders and to the institution or agency holding this completed application.

3. Copyright Notice and Disclaimer

3.1. The information contained in the Broadcast News Research Speech and Text Collection is the property of USC Radio and the University of Southern California and is protected by copyright. In no event shall User publish, retransmit, redistribute, commercially exploit or otherwise reproduce any or all of the Service in any format to anyone, except that User may include a limited amount of the text in articles, reports and other documents describing the results of its text processing and speech research.

3.2. If your organization is a government agency, it acknowledges by signing this Organization Agreement that it is acquiring only restricted rights to this text information as that is defined in Clause 252.227-7013 of the Department of Defense Supplement to the Federal Acquisition Regulation Regulations and in accordance with all other terms of this agreement.

3.3. USER AGREES THAT NEITHER USC RADIO, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, OR THEIR AFFILIATES OR LICENSORS, OR THE LINGUISTIC DATA CONSORTIUM OR THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA WARRANT THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, CURRENTNESS, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF THE SERVICE. IN NO EVENT WILL USC RADIO, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, THE LINGUISTIC DATA CONSORTIUM OR THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, OR ANY OF THEIR AFFILIATES AND LICENSORS, BE LIABLE TO USER OR ANYONE ELSE FOR ANY LOSS OR INJURY CAUSED IN WHOLE OR PART BY ITS NEGLIGENCE OR CONTINGENCIES BEYOND ITS CONTROL IN PROCURING, COMPILING, INTERPRETING, EDITING, WRITING, REPORTING OR DELIVERING THE INFORMATION, OR ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS OR INACCURACIES IN THE INFORMATION, REGARDLESS OF HOW CAUSED. IN NO EVENT WILL USC, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, THE LINGUISTIC DATA CONSORTIUM OR THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OR THEIR AFFILIATES OR LICENSORS BE LIABLE TO USER OR ANYONE ELSE FOR ANY DECISION MADE OR ACTION TAKEN BY USER IN RELIANCE UPON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE COLLECTION SERVICE OR FOR ANY CONSEQUENTIAL, INDIRECT, SPECIAL OR SIMILAR DAMAGES, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. USER AGREES TO ASSUME ANY AND ALL ADDITIONAL LIABILITIES SUCH AS RIGHTS AND ROYALTIES PAYMENTS NEEDED FOR ITS USE OF THE MATERIALS.

3.4 Copyright holders of the information contained in the Broadcast News Speech and Text Research Collection include:

The University of Southern California, USC Radio and Marketplace Copyright 1996

The organization shall send a signed copy of this agreement by facsimile to LDC, fax number (+1) 215 573-2175. Alternately, the organization shall email an electronic version of the signed agreement to LDC at ldc@ldc.upenn.edu.

For the organization:

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____