

## **Volker Jantzen - SVOX AG**

The importance of speech technology for the fully networked car

Geneva, 5-7 March 2008







#### The Voice-Enabled Car

o Hollywood's (= Audi's) Vision: I Robot



 State-of-the Art **Technology**: BMW Talks



State-of-the Art **Product**: Volkswagen RNS 510









### Why Speech Technology?

## Higher safety

- Eyes on the road
- Hands on the steering wheel

#### o More efficient HMI

- Faster data input (e.g. destination)
- More flexible navigation through menus

#### New dimension of interaction

- Dynamic voice directions
- Reading of content (E-mails, SMS, WWW or WAP)







### So what's the problem then ...?

## Problem 1: People are used to haptic and visual HMI

- Changing a habit takes energy and time
- Talking to a machine may feel awkward
- Problem 2: People have had bad experiences
  - Recognition rate was too low
  - People had to memorize voice commands
  - Voice feedback was unpleasant or hard to understand
- o Problem 3: People cannot (yet) buy it









#### **Anything new out there in ASR?**

## One-shot destination input

Germany US Michigan

Cities: 72.000 3.000

Streets: 715.000 329.000

 Recognition of city, street, and house-number in one utterance

- On-the-fly activation of street name vocabulary for selected cities
- Improved recognition by combination of city and street name recognition scores









### Text-to-Speech – Isn't it annoying?

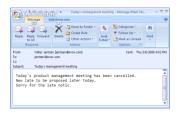
**Annoying:** Poor Text-to-Speech





**Better:** High-end Text-to-Speech





**Best:** Well-designed voice instructions and dialog prompts using TTS tools















#### **In Europe TTS != TTS**

## Pronouncing cities and street names right in foreign countries is not trivial

	Australia	Belgium	US	France	Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether- lands	Portugal	Sweden
en-UK	9			<b>©</b>	<b>©</b>	0	0			0
ru-RU		0	0	9			0			0
de-DE	0	9	0	9	9	0	0		0	0
es-MX	0	0	0	0	0			0		0
ca-FR	0	0		0	0			0	0	0
nl-NL	9	0)	0	0	0	0)	0		0	0
sv-SE	0	0,	0)	0,	0,	0	0	0)	0	0,

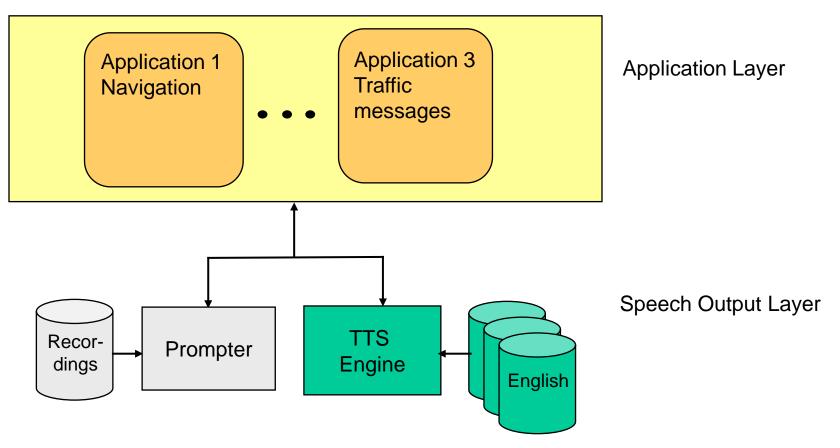






#### The Fully Speech-Enabled Networked Car

## From application-driven speech output...



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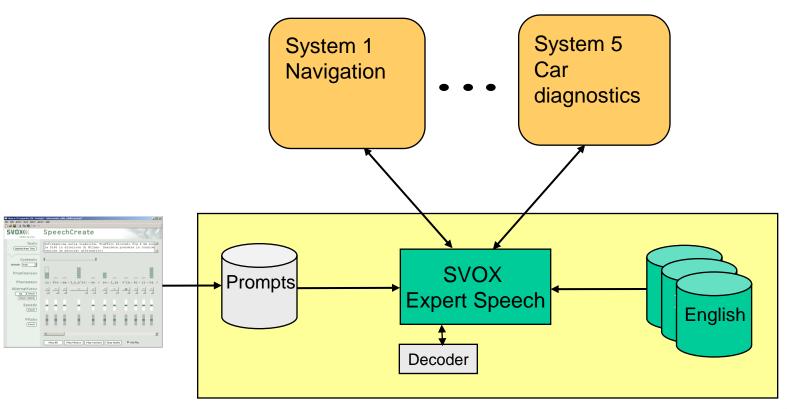






#### The Fully Speech-Enabled Networked Car

# ... towards intelligent speech I/O middleware for connected systems.











#### Let's Talk ...

# Volker Peter Jantzen CEO SVOX AG

jantzen@svox.com +41 43 544 06 26

SVOX AG
Baslerstrasse 30
8048 Zürich
Switzerland





