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A Milestone: 200 e-Tips and 350+ Eclipse Visualizers

Keith Vincent

This is the **200th e-Tip that Wil Wilcox and I have produced**. The first one appeared in June 2001. Thus, we are now beginning our 24th year of service.

As I recall, **both the e-Tips and the Visualizers came from Wil's suggestions.** He proposed the e-Tips to share information we were providing in our e-Power workshops and in our work as Eclipse trainers. As for the Visualizers, they were partly inspired by the late **Jim Barker, the creator of SearchMaster**, who started making short videos for his product. Jim was wonderfully helpful as I began to use the video software for my e-Power Video Tutorials and Visualizers. With the blessing of **Advantage Software's Greg Seely** and Eclipse author **Jeremy Thorne**, the first 60 Eclipse Visualizers appeared in **2002** and there are now more than 350 of them.

You can find all 200 e-Tips on my website, KVincent.com. As I look at the list of topics, I'm especially struck by how the Eclipse information has stood the test of time. This is because Jeremy is so dedicated to continuity. Unlike the various versions of MS Windows that tend to rename things and move them around to where you can't find what you need, Eclipse features tend to stay consistent. The idea is that once you learn a feature or learn a command, you can continue using it.

How do the e-Tips topics originate? Wil's articles focus on new technology, and he often invests in new products in order to share his advice about them. Likewise, I maintain the e-Tips web archive at my own expense, but my articles focus on Eclipse. Sometimes it comes from experimenting with a new feature, or it may be questions that come up in a webinar or an individual training. What pleases me most is when someone writes me to ask for a tip on how to most efficiently do something with Eclipse. **Keep those suggestions coming.**

I hope you find the e-Tips helpful and that you will recommend them to your colleagues.

Our 24th year has begun. For previous tips, visit the e-Tips page of KVincent.com.

"Boost" Today

WIL WILCOX

For about 5 years now, I've been fascinated by Eclipse "Boost", which lets the translation of your steno or dictation input get help from speech recognition. It's developed so much that I'd like to describe it in three parts, as if you have never heard of it.

"Audio AI Boost" was the original name. Your audio is being analyzed by speech recognition to boost your translation. The better your audio, the better the results, so I have written several e-Tips on how to improve your audio. The speech engine was only Google Speech at first, but now you can use Speechmatics, which does not require internet access. Both speech engines keep getting improved.

1) "Boost" reminds me of Team Editing via Eclipse Connection Magic because as you're doing your thing, you may see a second cursor on your screen, where speech recognition suggestions are getting used. It began as a fairly automatic process, then additional ways were offered for user control. I have an {AIB} entry in my dictionary to trigger "Boost on-demand", but Keith lets it do automatic edits to correct drops or untrans. Use what works for you.

Here's a sample from Keith's screen to show how Boost can automatically correct errors that may come from drops or from small steno problems. The differences are shown in red. However, my screen would look different because I use my {AIB} dictionary entry at the

only spots where I want help. Later a Version 11 plugin, "Boost Edit", can help you correct your text efficiently.

2) "Boost Flow". So far, I've been saying that "Boost" follows behind you to offer help from speech suggestions. As of Eclipse Version 11, there's also "Boost Flow", which goes ahead of you to offer realtime speech suggestions that you can accept as you wish. I LOVE Boost Flow. In my busy court, it helps me cope with the fast pace and complicated terminology. It has greatly improved my realtime results.

I hope this graphic will illustrate Boost Flow. At the right edge of the screen, the notebar is showing the steno that I wrote and the speech suggestions that I

accepted via a quick steno stroke. So I am watching my screen and alternately writing what I hear or else writing a steno stroke to use 1, 2, 3 or more words from speech recognition. In this example, I wrote the first 5 words, accepted a few words, then I might write more or accept more, whichever is easier.

3) "Boost Edit" is an Eclipse 11 plugin that offers great help during editing -- steno or voice, on-demand or automatic inserts, Boost or Boost Flow. With this plugin activated, Eclipse is comparing what translated and what the speech suggestions had to offer. If it's just a small difference, the first AutoMagic suggestion will offer a word change. However, I may come to a spot that where I did not understand what was being mumbled. Usually, I'll see "Boost Edit" as the first AutoMagic choice. I'll
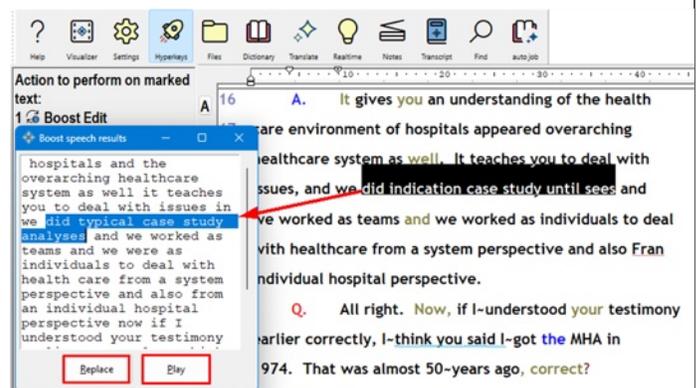
press "1" and a window opens to offer more context. The "Play" button lets me hear the audio or I can press the "Enter" key to "Replace" at that spot. Another great "Boost" feature.

I know this is a quick overview of what "Boost" can offer. I hope it (and our other 199 e-Tips) will help you get the most out of Eclipse.

Eclipse Scripts – Keith Vincent
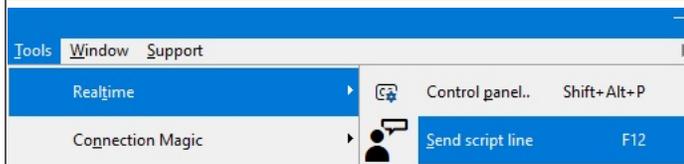
By **"scripts", I refer to pre-written text that can be a part of realtime translation, but this text is transmitted one line at a time**. It's not like an entire block file that is inserted when you use an "autoinclude" entry in your dictionary. An **example would be the lyrics of a song.** One of my colleagues provides realtime service for the Houston Rodeo, and she uses scripts a lot. She's told what songs will be performed and either has the lyrics provided or else she does a copy-paste from an internet site. No need to write each word that's sung and no risk of making errors along the way.

Although scripts are thought of as something for captioners or CART providers, they could also be used in other realtime transcription. If you know in advance that some text will be read out loud, you can copy-paste that text into an Eclipse file and use it as a script.

It's easy. Simply open your script file while your realtime translation is active.

Then place your cursor in a line of your script and "Send script line." The speedkey for that function is **F12**. Each time you press F12, Eclipse will move to the next line of your script file, ready to transmit the next line of text.

I'll try to illustrate that now. The "Opening Ceremony" part of my screen is what I am writing or what an EclipseVox user might be dictating. The bottom part of the screen is my Eclipse file for the lyrics of the National Anthem, which I'll use as a script. On a black background, I am showing what my audience would see. As the anthem is sung, I'll press F12 to feed the lyrics at the appropriate time.
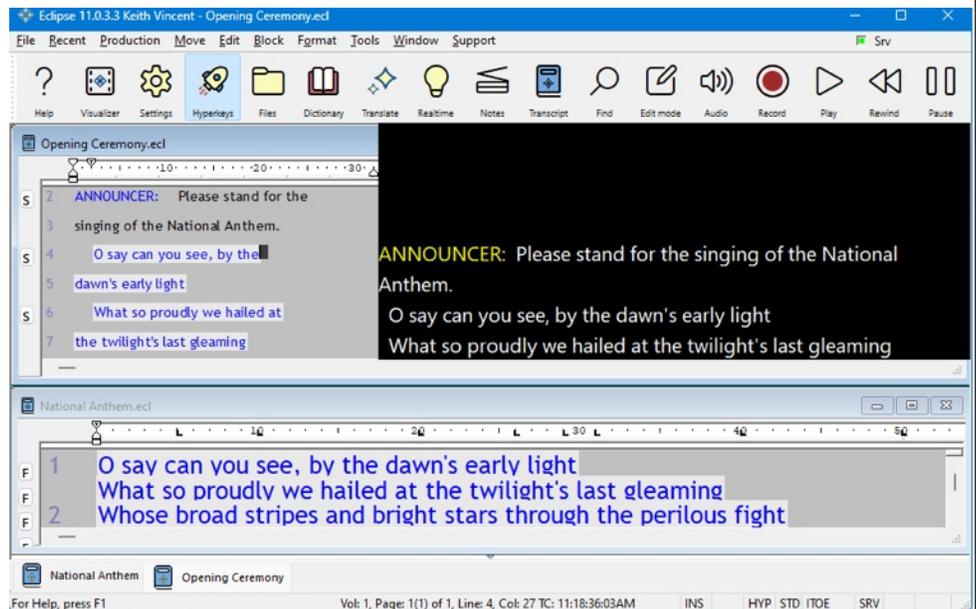
I'd love to hear how this tip inspires a creative use of scripts beyond captioning or CART service!

New Connection Magic Servers Added

Two new servers have been added to increase responsiveness for Team Editing and programs Bridge Mobile.

If these servers are closer to where you are located, you can take advantage of them.

Go to User Settings, Users, Advanced, Connection Magic. In the box next to "Internet URL", make a small change.

For the European server: https://connect**eu**.eclipsecat.com.

For the Asian server: https://connect**as**.eclipsecat.com.