

Forty-five minutes have passed and people have had some refreshments and people have been speculating as to the identity of the company to which the Managing Director of Gigantic Business referred.

People are now seated ready for the next lecture.

Jim walks to the front of the room.

“Well everyone, I now have pleasure in introducing the Managing Director of Large Engineering Business to make his presentation.”

There is murmuring as the Managing Director of Large Engineering Business makes his way to the front of the room and Jim takes his seat in the front row.

“Good morning ladies and gentlemen, as the chairman said, I am the Managing Director of Large Engineering Business and Large Engineering Business is the business to which the previous speaker referred.

“We at Large Engineering Business are about to launch a device that is in some ways a competitor to the Locomotive device mentioned by the previous speaker. I announce that our device will include, as well as our own original set of localizable sentences and the open source set from the LocSARA organization, will also include the set of localizable sentences known as InterJollies that are in the Locomotive device, by kind permission of Gigantic Business in the interests of interoperability for the benefit of consumers.”

There is murmuring in the room.

‘Good, they kept their word over thanking us, word for word with what I agreed that evening with their chairman.’ thinks the Managing Director of Gigantic Business.

The Managing Director of Large Engineering Business continues with his talk and, as did the Managing Director of Gigantic Business, he encourages potential competitors to participate in an industry-wide agreement to each recognise the localizable sentences of competitors in the interests of interoperability for the benefit of consumers.

‘Ah,’ thinks Edith, ‘this is what this conference that was intended to be private is all about. No wonder that Jim got a bit worried when he saw Caroline and then found there were people from the press here. I wonder how it would have played out if we were not here as well. Anyway, with the press here they should get some good publicity. I had better think out what I should say if I get asked for an on-the-record comment for publication. I need to be careful not to endorse what is not yet out there formally lest it becomes changed from what I have heard here today. Yet if I were to say “no comment” that might look like a peculiar thing to say as this is all being said to be in the interests of interoperability for the benefit of consumers. Yet I would like to know exactly why this suggestion was put forward by Large Engineering Business before I say anything publicly.’