GhostWriter
Plan based generation of multilingual aircraft manuals

Description:
- An authoring environment to support production of technical documents by British Aerospace and Dassault Aviation.
- Each aircraft has a large number of maintenance & other documents, required in both English and French.
- GhostWriter supports generation of technical documentation in either language.
- It also gives advice about possible errors and omissions during the construction of a publication.

Technical approach:
- Maintenance procedures are written using a plan-based knowledge representation.
- Planning technology validates these procedures.
- Documents are then generated from this language-neutral representation.
- Procedures can be displayed using simple graphics.
- Success through improved productivity and increased error checking.

Benefits:
- Prototype has been used to produce documents for most of a complex maintenance procedure for the Falcon 900.
- The resulting texts are at a level close to that produced by human authors.
- Current version is interactive and semi-automatic.
- It also offers a potential speed-up in document authoring.

A Tornado aircraft with its accompanying technical documentation

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The internal representation used by GhostWriter

British Aerospace, Dassault Aviation, & University of Edinburgh
http://www.aiai.ed.ac.uk/project/ghostwriter/