A Multilingual Content Type

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I-D: draft-tomkinson-slim-multilangcontent-02
Problems we are addressing

• Sending mail to recipients with unknown preferred languages especially where the poor results of machine translation is unacceptable. For example announcement emails to customers, clients and sales prospects.

• Single-language email conversations stifling collaborative communication in a team spanning multiple languages. Promote inclusivity in email.
Important points

• New Content-type: multipart/multilingual
• Multilingual preface for non-conforming email clients
• Email client selects the message part based on user’s preferred language and translation type
• Translated subjects for list views eg. Inbox
• Optional language independent message part to show when there is no preferred language match
Example multiple language email. Select part based on user’s preferred language and translation type (original/human/automated)

From: Nik
To: Nathaniel
Subject: Simple example multiple language message
Content-type: multipart/multilingual; boundary=aaaaa
--aaaaa
<English Preface explaining message format for non-conforming email client>

<Spanish Preface explaining message format for non-conforming email client>
--aaaaa
Content-Language: en; translation-type=original
Content-Type: text/plain
Subject: Simple example multiple language message

Hello, this message content is provided in your language.
--aaaaa
Content-Language: es; translation-type=human
Content-Type: text/plain
Subject: Ejemplo simple mensaje en varios idiomas

Hola, el contenido de este mensaje esta disponible en su idioma.
--aaaaa--
Status so far

• Near to completion but keen for more input
• FAQ at https://trac.tools.ietf.org/wg/slim/trac/wiki
• Discussion will be within SLIM working group on the slim@ietf.org list
• Trials of message format starting now, we just need volunteers. Please see the SLIM list for details.
• but there are some changes I have made to a new version to be submitted today