

[SendBird] Translation

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Prepared By: Solutions Engineering

Background

- SendBird's message translation feature is powered by Google Cloud Translation API recognition engine and Microsoft Translator Engine.
- Note: It is by default that Google's Cloud Translation API recognition engine is used for message auto-translation
- Google Cloud Translation API recognition engine's [language codes](#)

Fully automatic translation: Sendbird takes care of everything

- Summary
 - If the language preference of a user is set, and Sendbird's translation service is available, *all messages sent in all channels will be translated* into *all of the preferred languages of all of the channel members*.
 - Set user language preferences via [Platform API](#).
 - Set user language preferences via SDK, [Android](#), [iOS](#), [JavaScript](#)
 - The translations are available right away for the receivers either through real time events, push notifications, web-hooks or when loading the messages at a later time.
- Use case
 - This is the most expensive, yet hassle free way of translating Sendbird messages.
 - Suitable use cases might be where multiple languages are used in a channel and it is not known between multiple parties which language users prefer.
 - It is also the most expensive, because the service will translate all messages into all of the preferred languages of the users who are members of a channel.
 - This means in some cases the service will also be translating the message into the same language it was written in.

Semi automatic translation: Request translation when sending a message

- Summary
 - Translates a message into *specific languages* when messages are sent one by one from a client or [Platform Api](#). Client code can be found here, for [Android SDK](#), [iOS SDK](#) and [Javascript SDK](#)

- Only text messages of which type is MESSAGES can be translated into other languages.
- The translation happens as the message gets saved into Sendbird's server.
- The translations are attached to the message callback for the sender.
- The translations are also available right away for the receiver either through real time events, push notifications, web-hooks or when loading the messages at a later time.
- Use case
 - This is the next least expensive way of translating messages as the client can set a limited number of translated languages.
 - This service can be used where the receiving user's language is known in advance. The storing of the receiving user's language choice may be on their Sendbird user meta data object.
 - Please note that storing preferred language on a user's object will trigger the fully automated service mentioned previously.

Manual on demand translation: Translating a message after it has arrived

- Summary
 - Manual on demand message translation is the ability to translate messages on demand.
 - In other words, instead of translating the whole conversation, you can choose the specific message to translate.
 - SendBird has a method `translateUserMessage` which takes a previously sent message as an argument. This method is referenced in our SDK references. [Android](#), [iOS](#) and [JavaScript](#)
 - When this method is called on a message the previously sent message's `translations` field is updated with whatever translations are requested.
 - The translation isn't sent via push notification, but it is available through the `onMessageUpdated` event, webhooks, and in subsequent loading of the translated message.
- Use case
 - This is the least expensive way to translate messages, however it puts the responsibility on the client side UI to trigger the message translations.
 - Scenario:
 - A user receives a message in a language they do not fully understand, but wishes to translate just the one message to double check their understanding.
 - Next to the message on the screen is a "translate" button, they click it and they can choose the language they want to translate to.
 - The UI then displays the translation, and it is attached automatically to the message object for later reference.