Reflections on MDE from ICSI / SRI

Barbara Peskin & Elizabeth Shriberg
(for the ICSI / SRI team)

International Computer Science Institute, Berkeley, CA
STAR Laboratory, SRI International, Menlo Park, CA
We are making progress...

• Accomplished our first complete MDE eval cycle!
  – Put in place task definitions, tools, data, …
  – Though amidst much chaos, and still require debugging, refining
• Embarked on interesting & profitable research lines
• Forged a strong MDE community  [per aspera ad astra?]

However,
• This year’s evaluation was more “dry run” than “eval”
• Most infrastructure was too late and too unstable to support solid research
For This Next Year

We need...

• First and foremost: **STABILITY!** to do solid, sustained research
• Some small tweaks / bug fixes immediately to improve quality of resources and provide more stable base for ’04 research
• More (and more representative) data to fuel the research effort
• Time – to support MDE exploration, improve analysis, increase understanding
Planning for Future Efforts

- We need to start planning now for future steps, e.g.
  - non-English languages
  - expanded tasks (such as richer Edit structure)
  Plan for spec, pilot, maybe even dryrun, in ’04 – formal eval in ’05

- We need better coordination / interaction with the STT community (tighter integration, not further separation)
  - Within site: reasonable level of interaction
  - But programmatically: increasingly decoupled (workshops, resources, priorities)
  Need to find good balance to support focused activities yet meet global goals, program requirements