## **Blog Post – Language Industry Changes 2017**

As we enter 2017, "change" is the keyword for the world's largest language services providers (LSP's). While the market continues to grow by small but steady increments, the biggest players in the industry are being disrupted by mergers, acquisitions, legal actions and more.

Of course, we already know that **XYZ ACG**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest LSP (according to language industry analyst Common Sense Advisory) will be part of the spin-off of WXY Services and merger with CDE to form a new pure-play services company. Common Sense Advisory (CSA) founder and Chief Strategist Don DePalma suggests, "the new company could reposition its ACG unit into being a full-service content-centric provider offering cradle-to-grave support for content and code development." [Read CSA blog post]

In mid-December, we learned that **Lionbridge**, the world's largest LSP, is being acquired by H.I.G. Capital. Statements by H.I.G. indicate Lionbridge will continue operating with minimal disruptions to operations, but as with most mergers and acquisitions we can assume there will be some modifications to reduce expenses and improve profitability. [Read <u>CSA blog post</u>]

The fate of the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest LSP, privately-held **Transperfect**, will be determined by a court as the two founders battle for control of the company they started in a college dorm room. [Read <u>Slator article</u> featuring Phil Shaw] [Read <u>Slator article</u> featuring Liz Elting]

The 4<sup>th</sup> largest LSP, **LanguageLine Solutions**, was purchased by French call center company Teleperformance. CSA analysis asserts this acquisition completes the offerings Teleperformance needs to provide omni-channel customer experience (CX) to its clients. [Read CSA blog post]

How do you think these changes in the translation and localization industry will affect the work you do for XYZ?