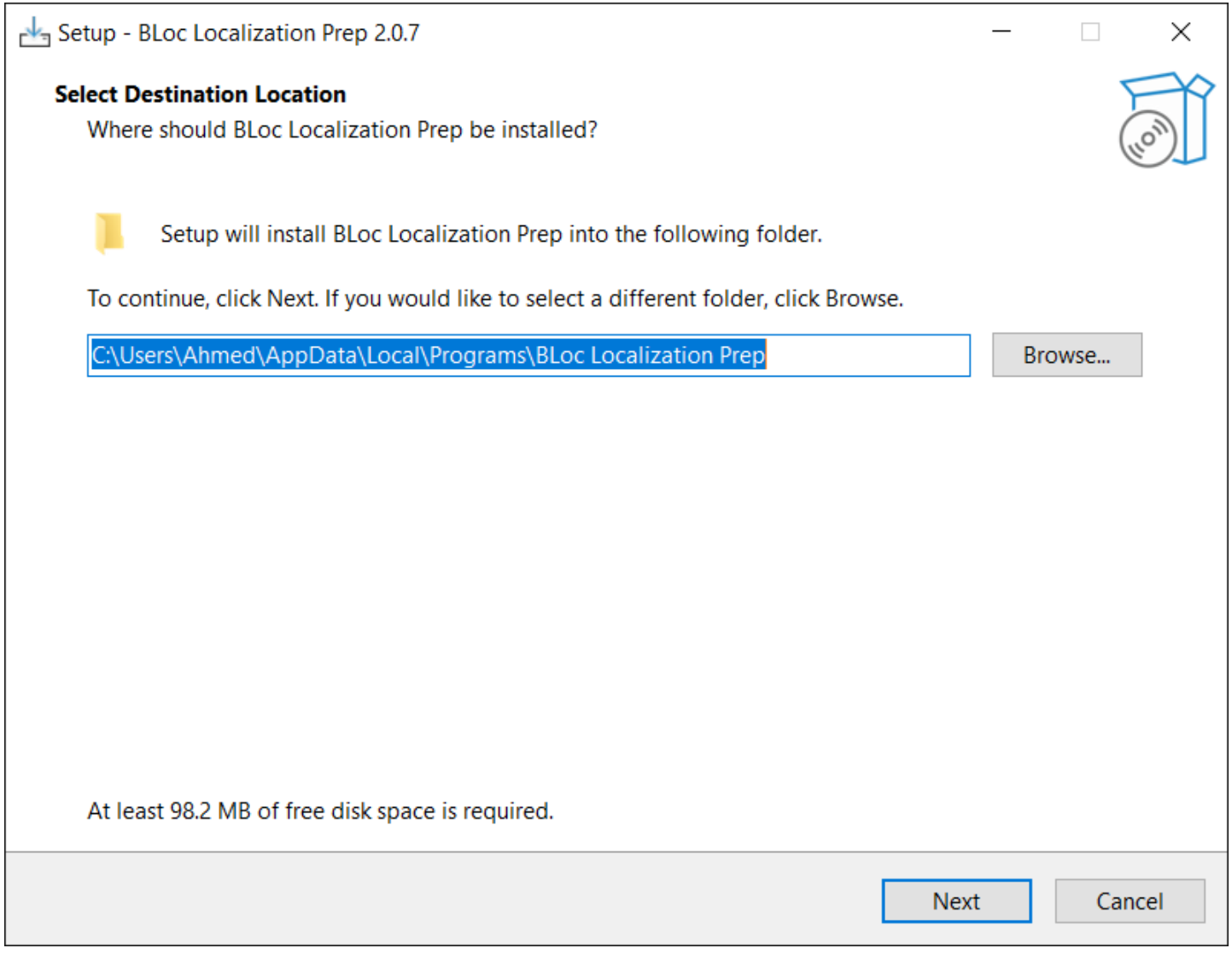
BLoc Localization Prep — customer guide

For BLoc Localization Prep 2.0.7. The examples below were made with the program on fictional Northstar files; some also used Photoshop, Excel and Word. The window pictures show the app at 80 % size so the Log fits on the screen. The pictures use fictional Northstar sample files; the files are in the Samples folder that comes with these guides.

Start and activate

Open the downloaded ZIP (BLoc Localization Prep 2.0.7.zip) and double-click BLoc Localization Prep Setup 2.0.7.exe. It installs the program for your Windows user only and does not ask for administrator rights. Click Next (keep the suggested folder), choose Create a desktop shortcut if you want one, then Install and Finish. If Windows shows Windows protected your PC, click More info, then Run anyway; the setup is not code-signed yet. Start BLoc Localization Prep from the Start menu or the desktop shortcut. It is a desktop program with no browser page. To update later, run the setup of the new version: your activation and settings stay. To remove the program, use Windows Settings > Apps > Installed apps, or Uninstall BLoc Localization Prep in the Start menu.

Start and activate screen detail



Setup 2.0.7: the first window (Select Destination Location) - Original capture.

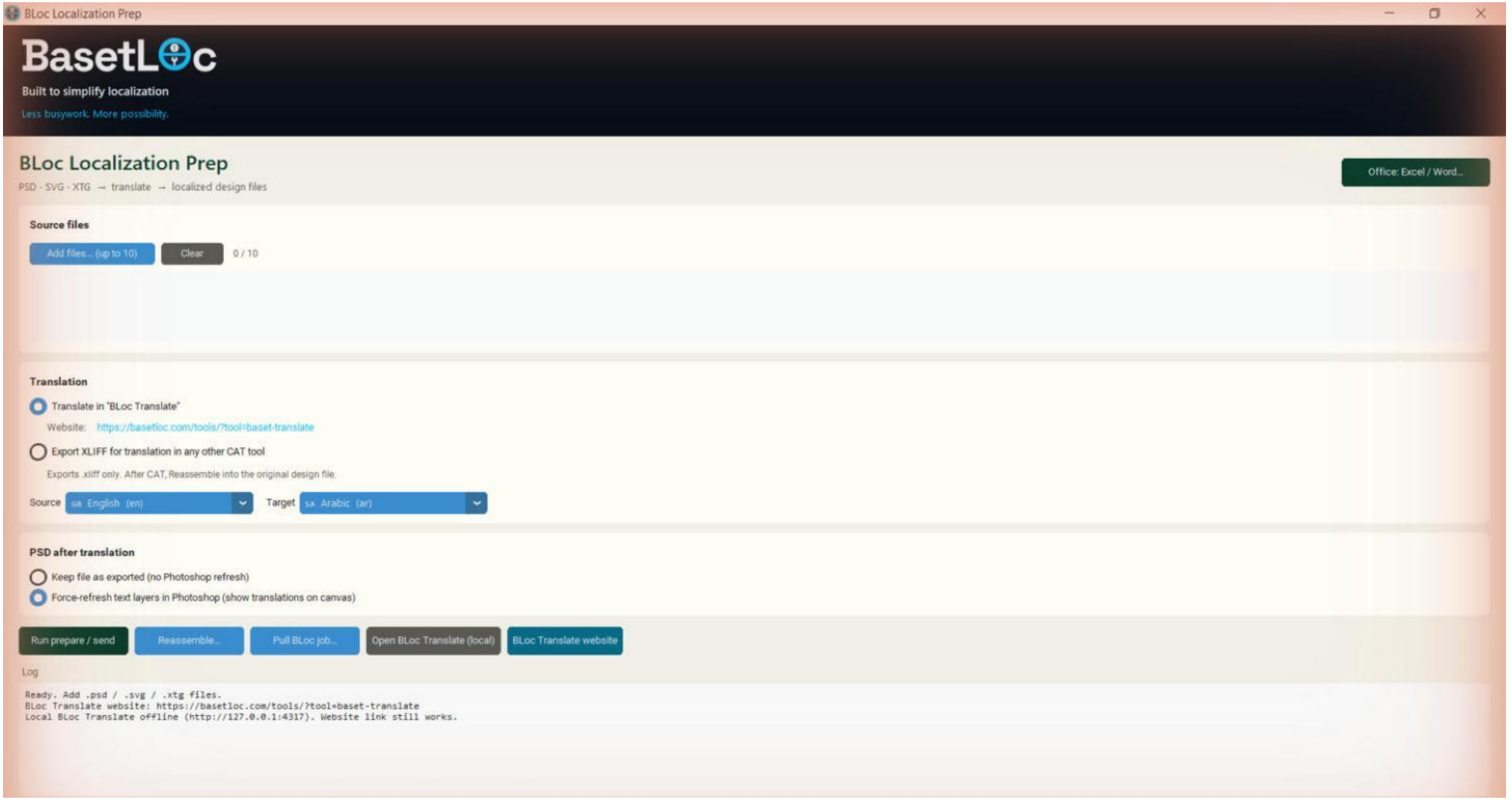
When it opens for the first time, enter the License ID and the Activation code you received, then choose Activate. The internet is needed for activation, and each Activation code works one time, on one computer. The program checks the license online from time to time and keeps working without internet for a while; if it asks, connect and choose Check again. A license that was turned off, or a computer removed from the license, locks the program; a new computer needs a new Activation code.

The working order: work on a copy of the design file, extract its text, translate it in BLoc Translate or export XLIFF for your CAT tool (keep identifiers and placeholders), import the translation into the same job and run Reassemble into a separate folder, then check fonts, overflow, line breaks, direction and placement in the design application.

Choose a workflow

Design preparation extracts text from PSD, SVG or XTG, sends or exports it for translation, then reassembles it into a design copy. Office: Excel / Word opens separate local preparation and review workflows. Use the supplied Northstar samples, keep originals, and save translated outputs to a separate folder. Native design rendering still needs review in its host application.

Choose a workflow screen detail

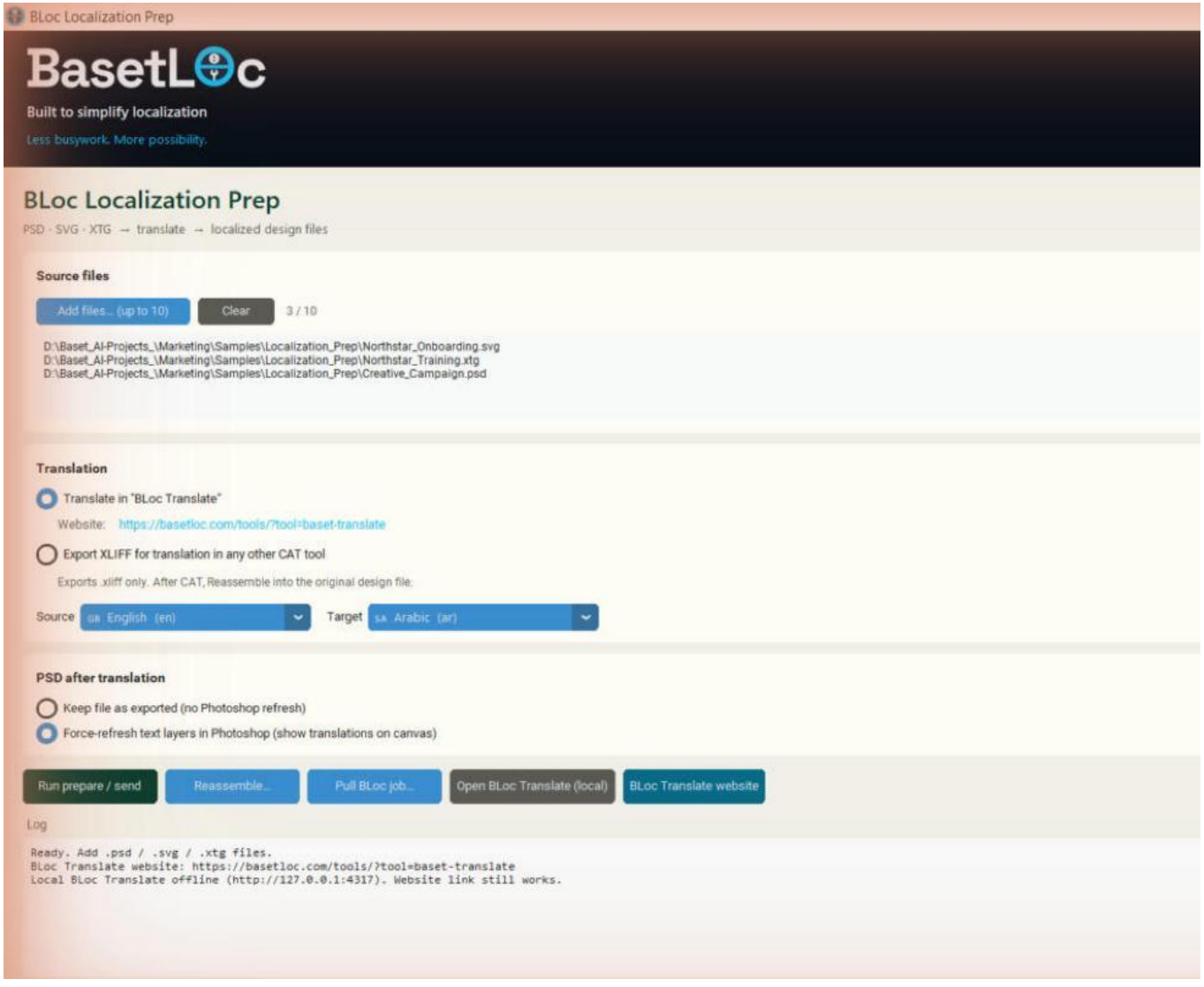


Design main screen with the Office: Excel / Word button - Original capture.

Add design sources

Add files selects up to 10 supported source files. The source list and counter show the queue. Clear removes queued entries without deleting source files. For the first exercise select the Northstar SVG; use the XTG exercise next. PSD requires editable text layers; a flattened image does not become translatable text.

Add design sources screen detail

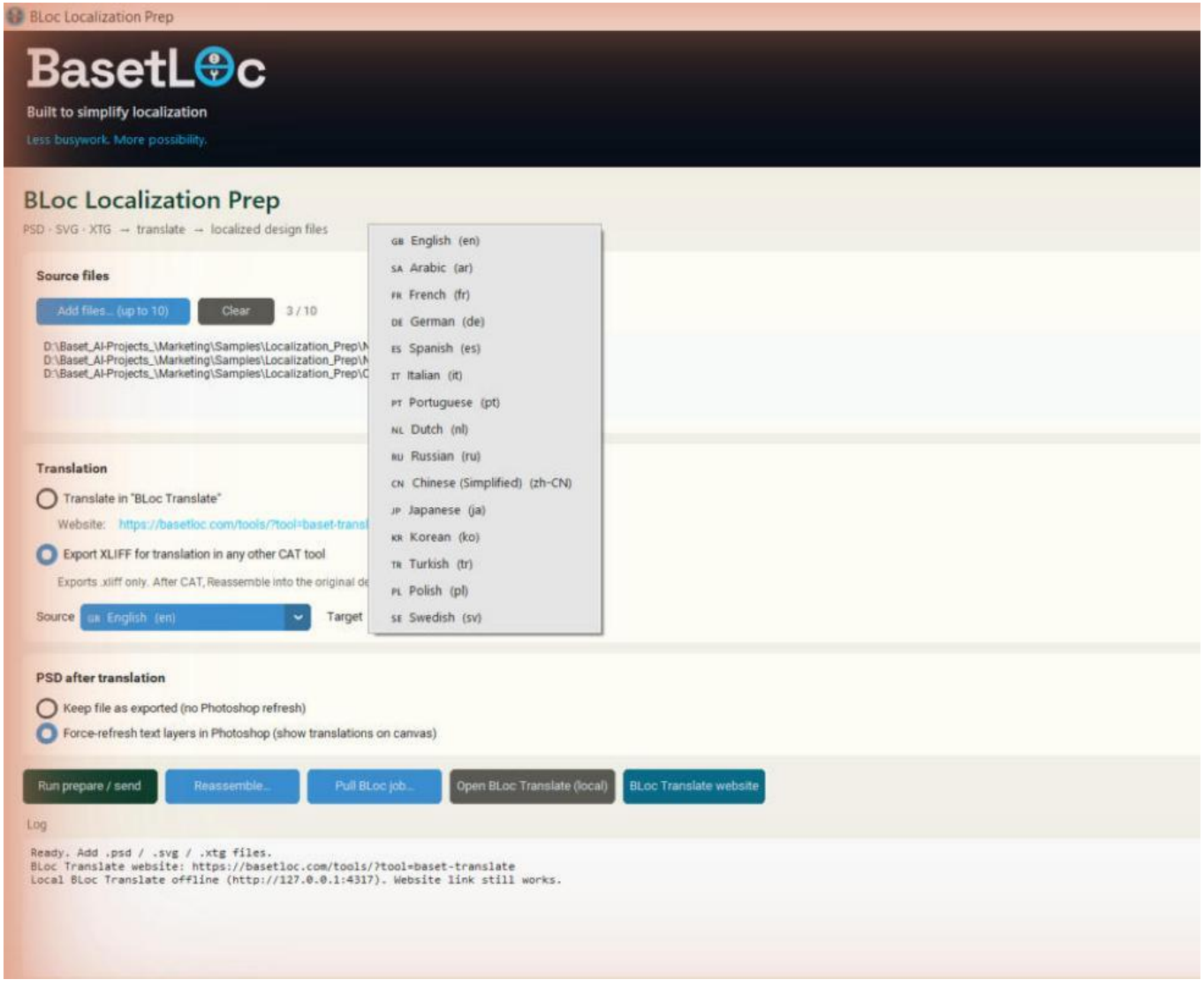


Source queue with the Northstar SVG, XTG and PSD - Original capture.

Choose translation and language settings

Translate in BLoc Translate sends prepared content to the supported local workflow. Export XLIFF for translation in any other CAT tool produces an exchange file. Source and Target identify language direction; they do not themselves translate. Website opens the published service; Open BLoc Translate (local) opens the local application. Run prepare / send starts the selected operation. Read the Log for the export location, IDs and failures.

Choose translation and language settings screen detail

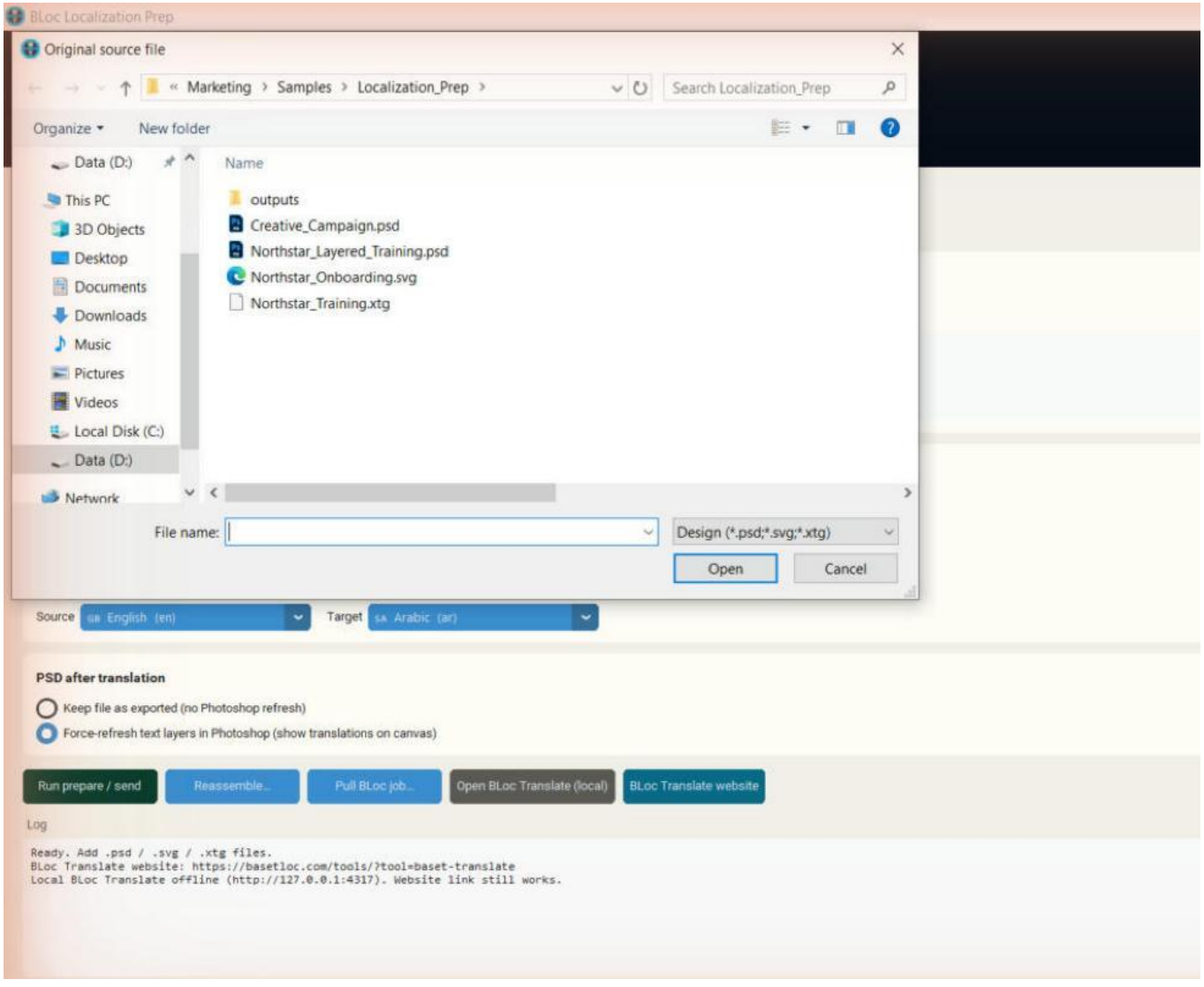


Export XLIFF chosen and the Target language list - Original capture.

Reassemble and refresh PSD text

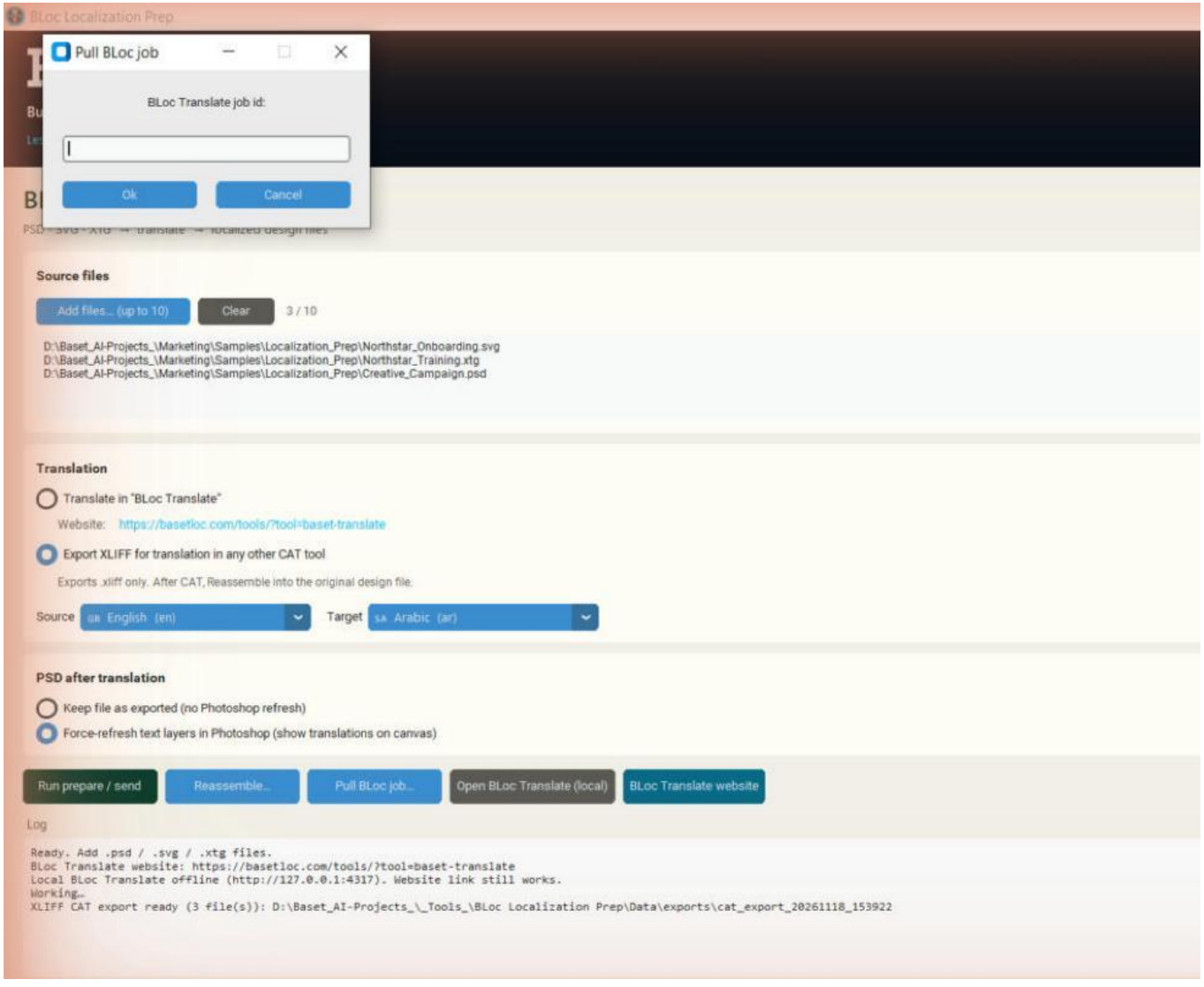
Reassemble selects translated content for reconstruction into the original format. Preserve IDs and source structure in the CAT tool. Pull BLoc job asks for a BLoc Translate job ID; use the job associated with the prepared source. Keep file as exported avoids Photoshop refresh. Force-refresh text layers in Photoshop asks the host to refresh the translated text on canvas; it requires Photoshop. A successful file write alone does not confirm a correct PSD preview. Inspect layers, fonts, clipping and line breaks in Photoshop.

Reassemble and refresh PSD text screen detail



Reassemble asks for the original source file first - Original capture.

Reassemble and refresh PSD text screen detail

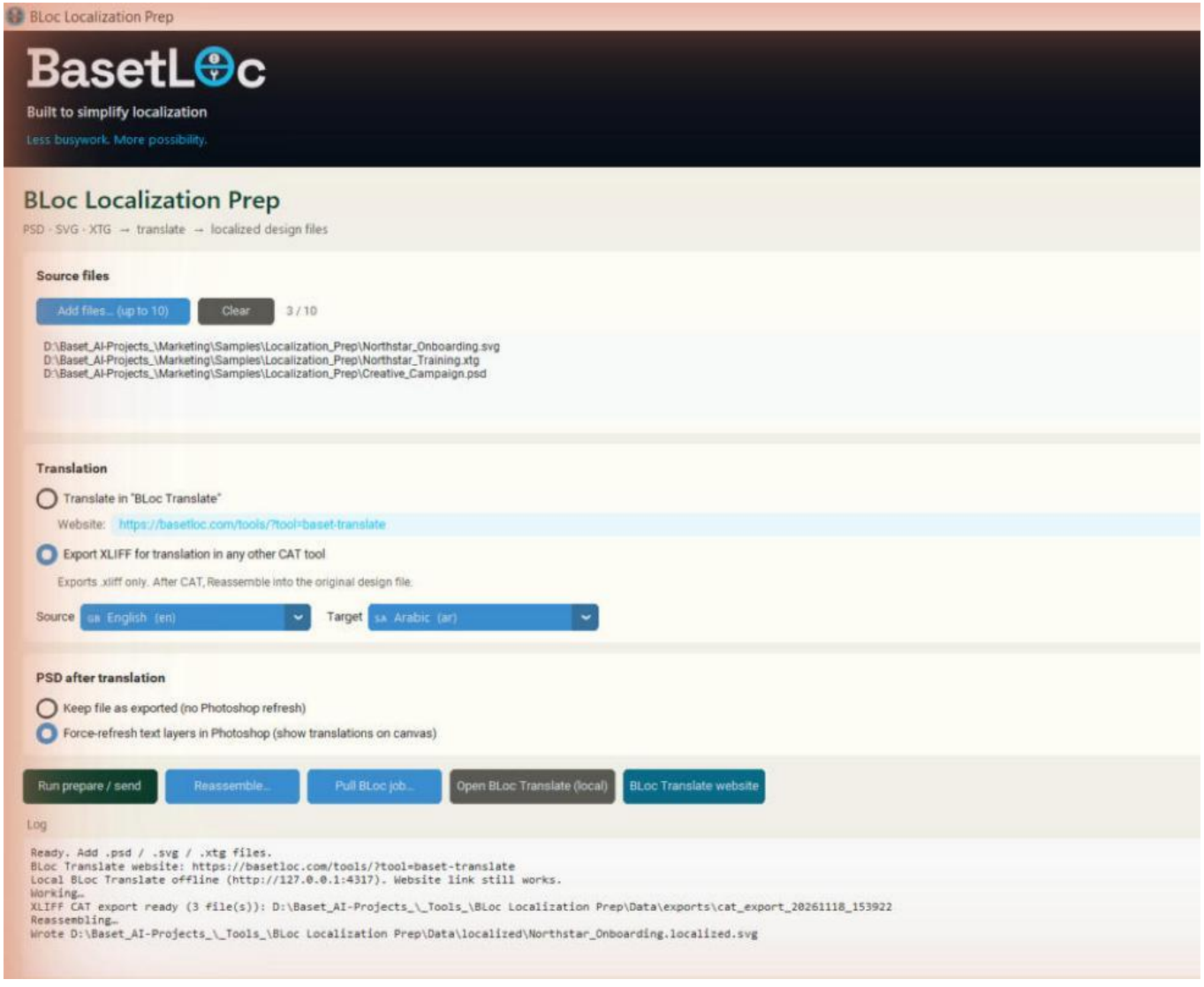


Job ID prompt and the PSD after translation options - Original capture.

Inspect the supplied SVG and XTG examples

The SVG sample contains 24 text units and has an existing verified source-function extract/inject exercise. The XTG training fixture uses explicit tagged text with authored Arabic targets. Keep translated unit IDs unchanged. Compare course code NS-ONB-2027, times, capacities and contact details after reconstruction. Authored translations are training references; a source-function round trip is not a native visual validation.

Inspect the supplied SVG and XTG examples screen detail

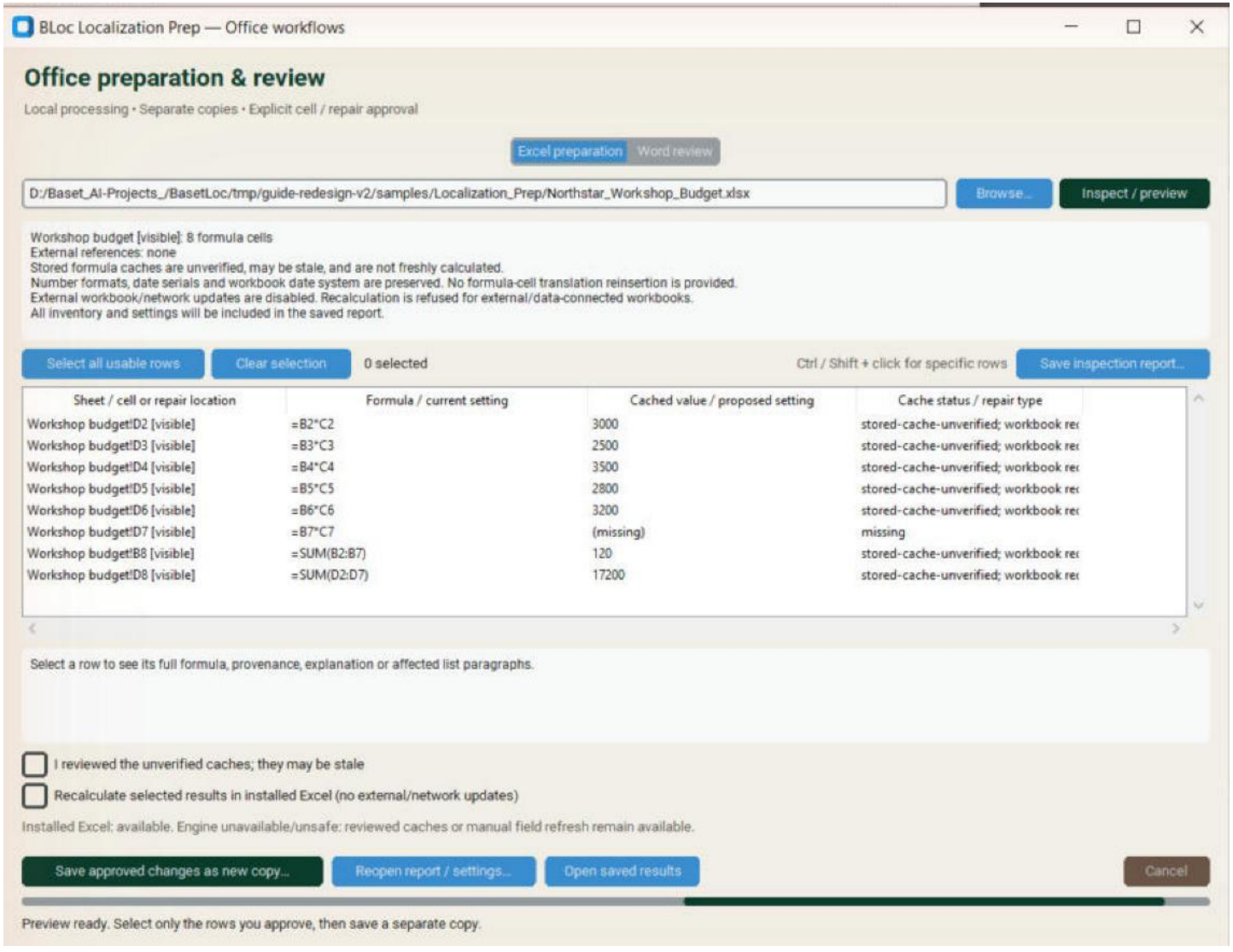


Log after the XLIFF export and the SVG reassembly - Original capture.

Excel preparation — inspect first

Browse selects an XLSX file. Inspect / preview reports formula cells and proposed handling. The table shows location, current formula, cached value/proposed setting, and cache status. Ctrl/Shift-click selects specific rows; Select all usable rows selects eligible rows; Clear selection resets selection; the counter reports the number chosen. Save inspection report writes the review evidence. Legacy, encrypted and macro formats are unsupported by this workflow.

Excel preparation — inspect first screen detail

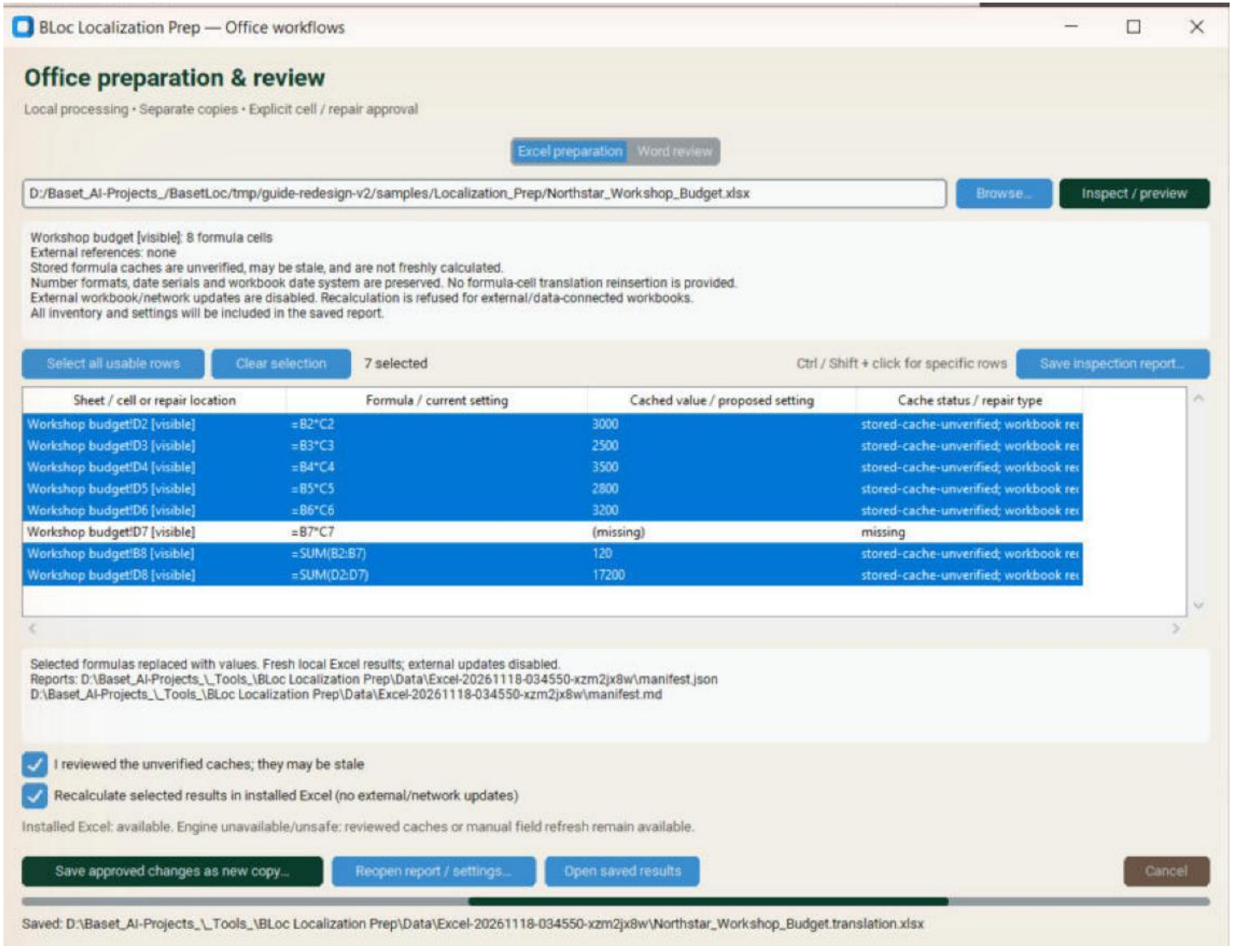


Excel inspection: seven stored results and D7 missing - Original capture.

Excel preparation — approve and save

I reviewed the unverified caches acknowledges that saved formula results may be stale. Recalculate selected results in installed Excel uses the installed engine without external/network updates. Choose only results you have reviewed. Save approved changes as new copy writes a separate output. Reopen report / settings restores saved review context; Open saved results locates output; Cancel requests cancellation during work. Inspect output values and retained formulas separately; the app does not justify business calculations for you.

Excel preparation — approve and save screen detail

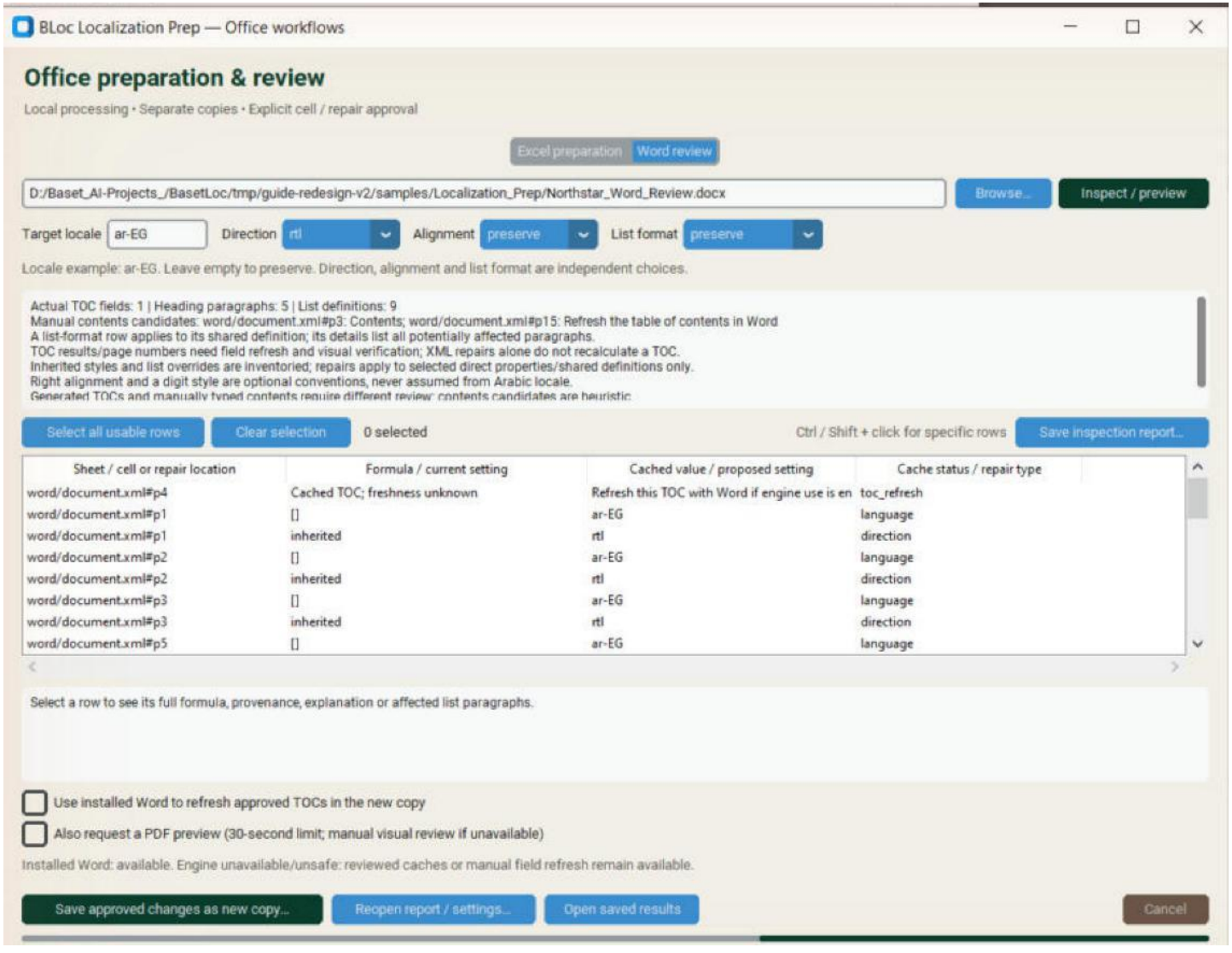


Seven rows approved, both options ticked, saved as a new copy - Original capture.

Word review — options

Browse selects DOCX; Inspect / preview examines actual TOC fields, heading styles, list definitions and language/direction properties. Target locale accepts a locale such as ar-EG; blank preserves it. Direction is preserve, rtl or ltr. Alignment is preserve, left, right, center or both. List format is preserve, decimal, decimalZero or arabicAbjad. Direction, alignment and numbering are independent; selecting RTL does not imply every paragraph should be right-aligned.

Word review — options screen detail

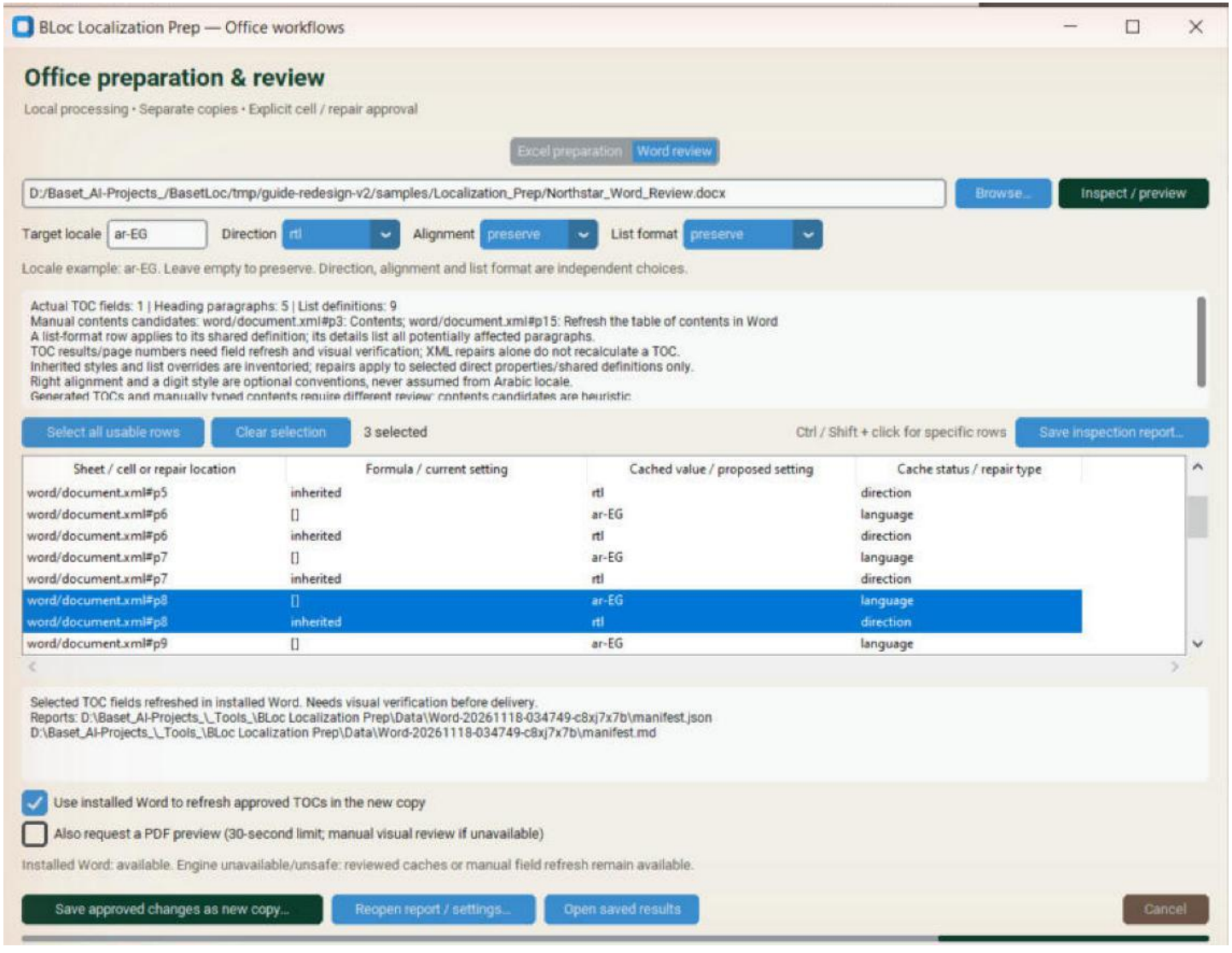


Word review with Target locale ar-EG and Direction rtl - Original capture.

Word review — approve repairs

Select only intended repair rows. Save inspection report retains the proposed changes. Use installed Word to refresh approved TOCs updates approved fields in the new copy when the engine is available. Also request a PDF preview has a 30-second limit; if unavailable, inspect manually. Save approved changes as new copy produces a separate DOCX. Reopen report / settings, Open saved results and Cancel have the same roles as in Excel. Check headings, list continuation, TOC entries, mixed-language codes and page breaks in Word. From version 2.0.5 a paragraph that starts with English and has at least as many English words as Arabic words (a code, an e-mail, or Course ID followed by a short Arabic part) gets no right-to-left proposal, so its words keep their order. A brand name followed by an Arabic sentence still gets the proposal.

Word review — approve repairs screen detail



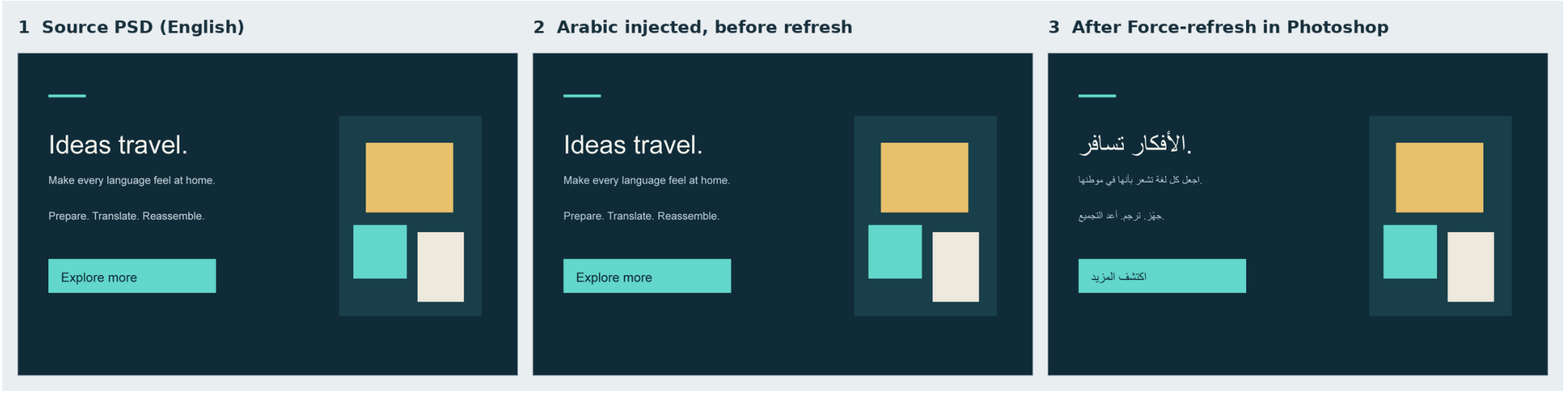
TOC refresh and the Arabic paragraph repairs approved and saved - Original capture.

Worked examples and verified results

All files are in Samples/Localization_Prep; results are in its outputs folder. Arabic texts are authored training references, not machine translation.

- SVG: Northstar_Onboarding.svg has 24 text units. Extraction, XLIFF export and reassembly with the application's functions kept all 24 authored Arabic targets. Right-to-left layout and line fitting still need review in a design application.
- XTG: Northstar_Training.xtg has 14 tagged units. The round trip kept all 14 authored targets. QuarkXPress rendering was not checked.
- PSD: Creative_Campaign.psd has four editable text layers. After injection, the Arabic texts, layer names, types and bounds survived saving and reopening. In Photoshop 2025 the injected copy still showed the English pictures of the text until the tool's own refresh script (Force-refresh text layers in Photoshop) ran; then all four Arabic texts appeared on the canvas. The text stayed left-aligned and the full stop appeared at the right end of each line, because the paragraph direction was still left-to-right. Set paragraph direction, alignment and size in Photoshop after the refresh. Before and after pictures: outputs/psd-native-check.
- Excel: Northstar_Workshop_Budget.xlsx has six workshop rows and eight formula cells. Seven have stored results; D7 has none on purpose. With I reviewed the unverified caches, the seven reviewed results were converted to values in a new copy and the D7 formula was kept. With Recalculate selected results in installed Excel (version 2.0.3, 18 November 2026), Excel recalculated all eight results and the tool wrote them to a new copy: D7 = 2200, the enrolment total 120 and the budget total 17200. Excel saves copied formulas such as D2:D7 as one shared formula; version 2.0.3 reads these. Version 2.0.2 stopped on them with "Recalculation did not produce a usable matching formula result", so use 2.0.3 or later.
- Word: Northstar_Word_Review.docx was inspected with Target locale ar-EG and Direction rtl. Only the Arabic paragraph's language and direction repairs and the TOC refresh were approved. With Use installed Word to refresh approved TOCs, the empty table of contents was rebuilt with five entries (Contents, Programme, Arabic review, Accessibility and Approval). The optional PDF preview reached its 30-second limit, so the tool saved the reviewed copy without a preview and said so in its report.

Worked examples and verified results screen detail

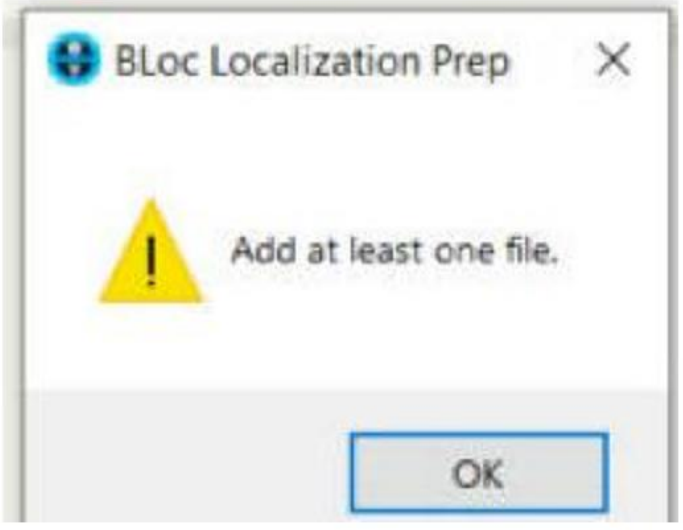


PSD before and after the Photoshop refresh - Pictures of the saved output files; not a screenshot of the tool.

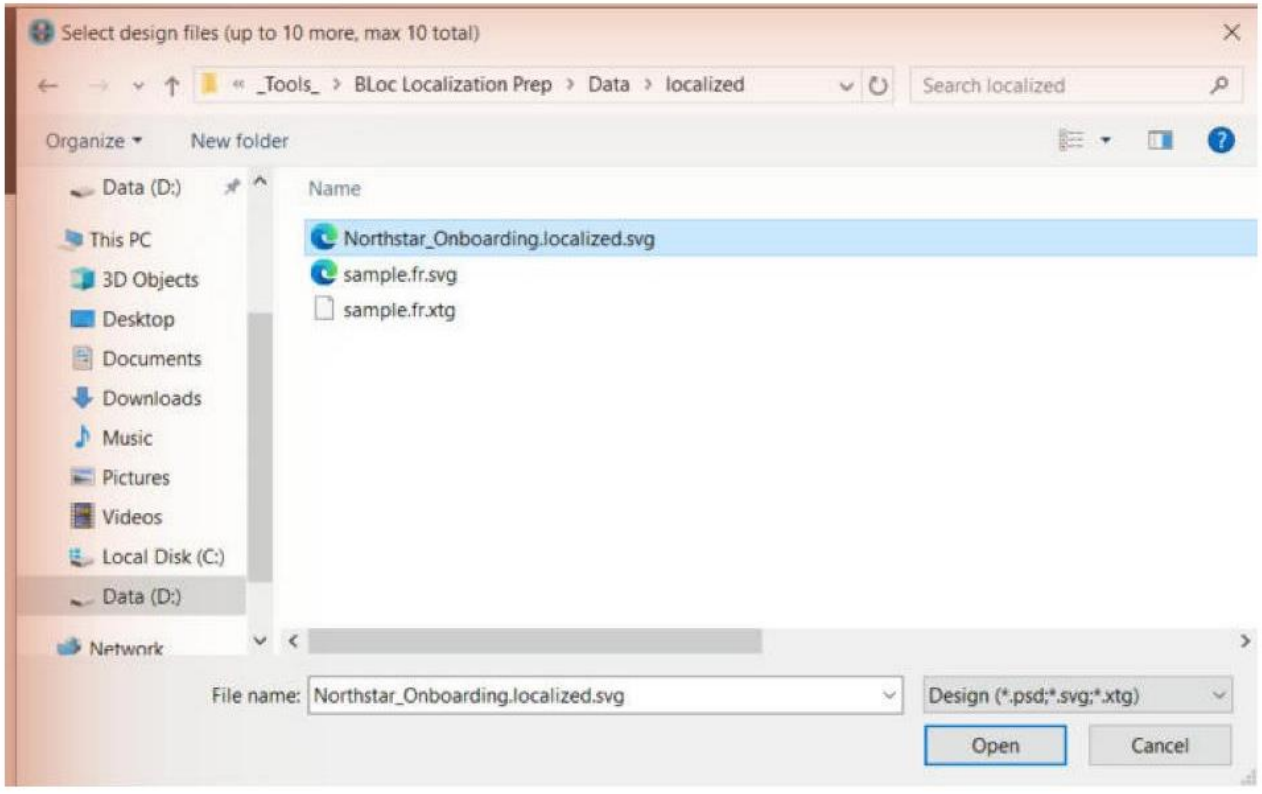
Resolve errors and finish

For no eligible text, check that the file contains supported editable content. For missing translation units, restore original IDs and re-export. For an unavailable Office or Photoshop engine, use the documented manual review route rather than claiming native refresh occurred. The source/owner build can show Code updated — restart to apply; that development notice does not describe a customer editing feature. Keep source, translated exchange, reconstructed output and review notes together.

Validation message (no file added)



Finished output: Data\localized



Validation message when no file is added, and the finished output folder Data\localized - Original capture.

Limits and troubleshooting

- The Office workflows do not translate files, upload to a CAT system, synchronize spreadsheets or do general bilingual QC. Converted formula results are not put back into a different workbook automatically.
- Original design and Office files are never edited. Each Office result goes into its own folder with its manifests. Keep the job package and translated XLIFF so you can rebuild.
- Installed Word can refresh approved tables of contents. The optional PDF preview has a time limit; if it is not available, open the reviewed DOCX in Word.
- Reassembly fails: make sure the translation belongs to the same extraction job and that identifiers and codes are intact.
- A formula cell is not available: check its saved result and the supported calculation path instead of forcing it.
- Preview or Office step fails: check that the desktop Office program is installed, and use the reviewed copy to check by hand.
- For support, note the exact step, the visible message and whether a small non-confidential example shows the same problem.