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Case Study Institute of Educational Sciences

Enabling New Insights with the Help of Intelligent Document Processing

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„ Acodis' editor is specific to our needs and allows for easy and efficient review and, if necessary, correction of the extracted data and metadata."

→ **Stefan Kessler**
Operational Project Management "Education in Numbers"

Client
Institute for Educational Science

Task
Information extraction from statistical survey forms from 1935-1969

Scope
12'200 handwritten forms

Services
**ICR (Intelligent Character Recognition),
Data Extraction,
Setup of a Web-Editor**

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➡ Starting point

As part of the research project "Education in Numbers", the Institute of Educational Sciences at the University of Zurich analysed survey forms from the years 1935 to 1969 from the apprenticeship contract statistics of the former Federal Office for Industry, Trade and Labour. The forms contain information on the number of completed apprenticeship-leave examinations, expected apprenticeship leavers, details on apprenticeship contracts per respective canton and much more. The data set is of great importance for educational and economic history, among other things, but the documents were only available in physical and handwritten form.

〰 Our approach

As an expert in the field of intelligent document processing (IDP), Acodis was commissioned to carry out the information extraction of the statistical survey forms.

At the beginning, a total of 12,200 survey forms were manually photographed and transmitted. The forms had five different layouts and, depending on the year, there were also differences in the handwriting. In order to be able to reproduce the information digitally, "Intelligent Character Recognition" was used, which enables the extraction of handwritten data.

In order to simplify the validation of the extracted values, a web editor was developed which allows the export into any data format. The structure, as well as the use, are easy to understand and do not require a long training period.

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Customer benefit

Acodis developed the following added values for the Institute of Educational Science of the University of Zurich:

Intuitive & Simple Data Validation

State-of-the-art Digitisation Tools

Opening of new research results

Outcome

Thanks to the automated digitisation solution, the project team saved countless working hours that would have been needed for manual document processing. In addition, all information of great interest for future research could be made available in digital form.

About Acodis
Acodis is dedicated to the automation of business documents since its founding in 2016. The Acodis IDP platform, powered by machine learning, enables automated processing of any document within seconds. This replaces manual document transfers and allows extracted data to be exported in a structured format. Acodis is based in Winterthur, Switzerland, and currently employs 25 people.

Contact us

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