Dear Readers,

Greetings from the world of terminology - and welcome to TermNet News 99-2009!

This issue of our newsletter is dedicated to India and TermNet's new member ITAINDIA, the Indian Translators Association (http://www.itaindia.org/), who launched a series of joint activities in April 2009.

From 17 to 18 April, the most inspiring and successful 1st National Conference on "Language and Translation Industry of India: Opportunities & Challenges", took place in New Delhi, jointly organized by ITAINDIA and Linguaindia Foundation and sponsored by TermNet and the Language Industry Certification System LICS.

This all-Indian conference is considered to have created a benchmark for the language and translator community of India.

As a first highlight of the event, a pre-conference workshop on Quality Standards, Terminology Management and Professional Practices on April 16, attracted more than 150 participants. The presentations given at this workshop are made available by TermNet, please refer to: http://www.termnet.org/english/events/itaindia_workshop.php

Enjoy TNN 99, we will keep you informed about current trends and developments in quality and terminology.

Looking forward to your feedback and input to TermNet News!

Best regards,

Gabriele Sauberer,
Executive Secretary of TermNet
New TermNet Member

TermNet is pleased to introduce its new Member...

INDIAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION – ITAINdia

Indian Translators Association (ITAINdia) is a non-profit making body registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860 of India and a regular member of International Federation of Translators (Fédération Internationale Des Traducteurs (FIT).

Indian Translators Association (ITAINdia) seeks to unite the translator and interpreter community of India on a common platform to address issues for the betterment of the industry and take steps to ensure that its members provide services meeting the professional standards of the industry.

Within the short span of its inception, ITAINdia has gained the confidence of quite a large number of translators and interpreters from all over India and the association continues to focus on the up-gradation of the knowledge and capabilities of its members by organizing workshops, creating quality awareness and following the code of professional conduct. Simultaneously, it constantly acts as an interface between government bodies and affiliates of the Translation Industry of India.

ITAINdia has developed relations with leading translator associations at regional, national and international levels with a view to exchange information as well as develop relations that help in the up-gradation of the translation-related as well as technological skills of its members and converge on areas of mutual interests.

ITAINdia has vibrant plans to organize events, conferences, round table discussions, seminars, and symposia wherein leading translators, interpreters, terminologists, theoreticians, educators and language experts can participate and share knowledge and voice their concerns and initiate possible improvements in the promotion of languages and culture.

For further information please refer to: http://www.itaindia.org/

TermNet Members' Products and Activities

INDIAN TRANSLATION COMMUNITY GATHERS IN NEW DELHI

Translators, interpreters and other language professionals from all over India gathered in New Delhi from 16-18 April 2009 for the National Conference on "Language and Translation Industry of India: Opportunities & Challenges". The conference and preceding workshop were the first of their kind in the region.

The warm-up activity to the conference began on 16 April 2009 with a pre-conference workshop dedicated to Quality Standards, Terminology Management, Professional Practices and CAT Tools. The workshop was hosted at the Instituto Cervantes and inaugurated by His Excellency Miguel Angel Ramirez Ramos, Ambassador of Cuba in India. He emphasized the need to create awareness about quality standards, terminology management, professional practices and CAT tools in translation.

More than 150 participants attended the workshop. Experts of international repute included Prof. Roger T. Bell (University of Westminster, UK) who brought afternoon alive through his sessions on Professional Practices in Translation. The sessions were then continued by experts from Austria: Dr. Gabriele Sauberer (TERMNET) shared her knowledge on Terminology Management and Quality Standards in Translation; Dr. Peter Jonas (LICS) explained the EN 15038 standard; Ms. Anja Drame (INFOTERM) dealt with International standardization for terminology and other language and content resources. The workshop ended with an exclusive session on CAT tools by the conference convener Mr. Ravi Kumar who emphasized the need to integrate with the translation technology. This was followed by a demonstration of a newly developed CAT tool called "Heartsome": a new generation cost effective CAT tool that fully supports Indian languages.
Those of you who were not able to attend and those who would like to read more about the topics presented in New Delhi need not worry. In cooperation with ITAINDIA, which is also new member in our international network, all presentations of the workshop sessions are now available for download on TermNet’s website, with short descriptions and links to the presentations.

Exclusively for subscribers of TNN!

Translation Industry

INDIA’S BOOMING MARKET IN CHANGE

India’s translation industry is booming, especially due to the presence of global companies in India. Many international companies outsource translation to India, the number of freelance and employed translators is large. This is partly due to low labor cost and a relatively high knowledge of the English language. Most translation jobs handled by Indians therefore is from other European languages into English. Education, training and status of the translation professional in India do not match or even reflect this situation. Awareness of quality is still low among professionals who, still, often are bilinguals without professional education in translation.

The Indian translation industry is at present in a rapid process of change. Especially since the foundation of the first real national Indian Translators Association and their efforts to network nationally and internationally and raise awareness locally a new air of growing self-awareness has been taking place in the country. More and more European clients demand not just cheap translations but also compliance with quality standards like the EN 15038. And it has to do so: Its greatest competitor, China, is catching up fast.

But another development is also noteworthy. India increasingly discovers her own potential as a consumer market, where translation means also translation into the local Indian languages. Universities are dedicated to create curricula for translators and interpreters.
DID YOU KNOW?

There are hundreds of languages in India. Numbers and statistics vary From ca. 114 to more than 1000.

Most of the languages belong to the Indo-European, Dravidian, Tibeto-Burman or Austro-Asiatic language families.

As per constitution, Hindi is the official language of the Indian Union. English was intended to be used for 15 years after in order to assist the transition from the language of the colonial power to an indigenous medium. However, due to growing concern from the large number of non-Hindi speaking communities it was decided by act in 1963 to continue the use of English along with Hindi for official purposes.

Indian states specify their own official language(s) through legislation and state borders like Tamil Nadu had to be re-drawn analogous with linguistic borders.

Legal framework governing the use of languages for official purpose:

- Constitution,
- Official Languages Act of 1963,
- Official Languages (Use for Official Purpose of the Union) Rules of 1976,
- various state laws, rules and regulations made by the central government and the states.

Upcoming Events

TERMTURK INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM - TECHNICAL TRANSLATION AND TERMINOLOGY FOR CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE

12-13 November 2009

Ankara, Turkey

The Department of Translation and Interpreting at Hacettepe University is proud to host the closing international symposium of TermTurk (Terminology for cross-cultural dialogue and specialized communication) Project which has been conducted since June 2008.

This Symposium brings together terminologists, linguists, professional translators and interpreters, technical writers, representatives of NGOs and state institutes, EU specialists, experts of international affairs, researchers and students of related fields.

For further information please refer to: www.termturk.net

News

ON BEHALF OF A LARGE GERMAN AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURER, TERMNET IS LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT REVISERS TO PERFORM QUALITY EVALUATIONS OF TRANSLATED INSTRUCTION MANUALS

TRANSLATED FROM BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE INTO ENGLISH

ENGLISH INTO DANISH

ENGLISH INTO DUTCH

ENGLISH INTO POLISH

What we expect:

- native speaker in one of the target languages (English, Danish, Dutch, Polish)
- very good command of the source language (Brazilian Portuguese, English)
- very good technical understanding in the area of car industry
- familiarity with specific terminology
- at least 3 years of documented experience in translating
- structured and careful method of working
- readiness to attend a 2-days training seminar in Austria (Vienna), in September 2009

The ideal candidate:

- has also very good command of German
- fulfills the requirements of DIN EN 15038:2006, paragraph 3.2.3 (Professional competences of revisers)

Important: Applications from students and translation bureaus / agencies can NOT be taken into account unless the individual translator or the agency is EN 15038 certified (no self-declaration accepted, only valid certificate issued by an independent third party certifier).

Please send your written application including your phone number and/or Skype address to: projects@termnet.org