

FIT Standards Committee (FIT SC) work plan (submitted to FIT Council for approval)

November 2012 until February 2015

Our work plan is based on the following committee mandate approved by the FIT Council:

= = = begin mandate:

The Standards Committee (formerly Committee for Information on the Status of the Translation and Interpretation Profession) aims to build a repository of information on various T&I standards around the world. In the course of this work, recommendations will be made as to what role FIT should play in this important area of our profession. The repository and recommendations of the Standards Committee should include at least the following three types of standards:

(1) ISO standards relating to translation, interpreting and terminology (these are located in Technical Committee 37).

(2) Standards (i.e. minimal requirements) for programs that certify translators, interpreters and terminologists (these standards could eventually be used by specialized accreditation bodies and should be coordinated with the FIT Education and Professional Development Committee so that education and certification are aligned).

(3) Technology-related standards (this work must be conducted in cooperation with the Translation Technology and Terminology Committee).

= = = end mandate;

Our work plan until February 2015 is as follows:

- A. Continue the FIT Standards Committee project to gather existing standards

Izabel Arocha has agreed to head of a sub-committee to finish up this project that was started during the previous three-year cycle of the FIT Standards Committee.

This part of our work plan relates directly to repository aspect of item (1) of our mandate.

- B. Participate in the QTLP **project**

The QTLP project is funded by the European Commission but is intended to have a world-wide impact on how translation quality is assessed. The only public information available so far is on a webpage (<http://www.qt21.eu/launchpad/>), but the QTLP board has agreed to include the FIT Standards Committee as a collaborative partner. This means that we (the FIT SC) will receive

March 2013

Comment [JD1]: This refers to the Accreditation Scheme discussed in Buenos Aires.

information well before it is available to the public and be invited to comment on it and thus influence the development of the QTLP project. It is anticipated that the FIT SC will receive its first set of documents for comment sometime in December 2102 from our QTLP liaison person, Arle Lommel, who works for DFKI in Berlin.

It is expected that the QTLP project will develop a methodology for creating specific translation quality metrics (each metric being tailored to a particular set of specifications). It is anticipated that the FIT Standards Committee will use this methodology to write up a document on translation quality assessment that can be submitted to ISO Technical Committee as the proposed basis for an international standard on translation quality assessment.

This part of our work plan relates to the "recommendation" aspect of item (1) of our committee's mandate. There is no ISO standard for assessing the quality of a translation product. Since the QTLP project will move ahead with or without FIT, and since the results of the QTLP project will be relevant to the development of an ISO quality assessment standard, it is important that translators be involved in order to provide their perspective.

C. Participate in the TransCert project

The TransCert project has been funded by the European Commission, but it is expected to have a world-wide impact. The official start of the TransCert project will be January 1, 2013, and the kick-off meeting will take place sometime in January or February, 2013. One of the objectives of the TransCert project is to develop a translator certification program that is available across Europe. Another objective is to develop a set of minimal requirements for all translator certification programs world-wide. These requirements would be based on ISO 17024 and tailored to the translation profession.

The FIT Standards Committee would like to participate in the TransCert project; however, it is not yet clear how best to make this happen. One rather indirect path is already available: FIT Mundus is a member of TISAC (www.tisac.org), which consists primarily of translation-related organizations in North America. And TISAC is an official member of the TransCert project. Thus, the FIT SC can collaborate with TransCert via TISAC, starting in January. However, it would be desirable for the FIT SC to have a more direct connection with TransCert. This will be discussed with the new TransCert project leader (Alexandra Krause, University of Vienna), who has taken over due to health issues being experienced by Gerhard Budin.

This part of our work plan relates directly to item (2) of our mandate.

March 2013

D. Participate in the development of ISO interpreting-related standards

The FIT Standards Committee will follow the development of ISO standards related to interpreting and submit comments as needed, based on FIT's liaison status with ISO TC 37.

E. Consider participation in the Linport project

When committee's involvement in QTLP and TransCert is better defined, we will consider involvement in the Linport project (www.linport.org) as related to item (3) of the mandate.