

Table of Emerging and Published International Standards re: T&I (updated Jan 2015)

(Note1: within ISO, IS = International Standard; TS = Technical Specification [must become an IS within a few years or be terminated])

(Note2: in the Status column, recent activity is noted by yellow highlight and, for black & white printouts, bold and italics)

(1) For certification of Translation Companies

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|---|---|---|--|
| EN 15038 Translation Services — Requirements for translation services | From the Introduction: "The purpose of this European standard is to establish and define the requirements for the provision of quality services by a translation service provider" (TSP). The focus is on process, not about how to assess the translation product in the sense of the target text. | CEN (European Committee for Standardization) http://www.cen.eu ; published; being used to certify translation companies, mostly in Europe | In use since 2006; Will be replaced by EN 17100. No further changes will ever be made to EN 15038. |
| ISO/ Draft IS 17100 Translation services — Requirements for translation services | Direct descendant of EN 15038 but intended for certification of TSPs world-wide, not just in Europe. Product standard but in the special sense of "service as a product". Does not indicate how to evaluate the actual product (the target text). | ISO TC37/SC5 (start with www.iso.org) key ISO persons: Peter Reynolds and Chris Cox. | Official ballot on the final draft is now out. Votes are due before Feb 18th. |
| ASTM New Work Item 41374 (title: " Standard Practice for Language Service Companies ") | Will cover translation, interpreting, and other language services. Could compete with ISO 17100 in the area of translation. Is expected to reference, not supersede, extant ASTM F43 standards for translation and interpreting. | ASTM F43.05 (start with http://www.astm.org) key person: Susan Amarino (chair of subcommittee 05, LSCs) | Ballot is over. Comments are being discussed within project team. |

(2) Primarily for Translation Stakeholder Communication, including specs

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|---|---|--|--|
| ASTM F2575 Standard Guide for Quality Assurance in Translation | This guide identifies factors relevant to the quality of language translation services for each phase of a translation project. The guide is intended for use by all stakeholders, with varying levels of knowledge in the field of translation. | ASTM F43.03 (start with http://www.astm.org) key people: Helen Eby (project leader); Amanda Curry, .03 chair | Minor revision published 2014; full revision underway |
| ISO/TS 11669 Translation projects — General guidance | Direct descendant of ASTM F2575. Compatible with tts.org/specs ; source of the 21 translation parameters used in a variety of projects to develop structured translation specifications. Supports clear stakeholder communication. | ISO TC37/SC5 (start with www.iso.org) project leader was Beatriz Bonnet; five years of work involving abt 20 countries. | Published 2012. Overlap w/ ISO 17100 (2015); next step for 11669 TDB |
| ISO 18587 | New project on post-editing of machine translation. The position of the US Technical Advisory Group is that work on such a standard is premature. | ISO TC37/SC5 Livia Florensa | Under active development. |

(3) Work on Translation Quality Metrics (toward a possible future standard)

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|--|--|---|--|
| QTLP MQM (Quality Translation Launchpad – Multidimensional Quality Metrics): will contribute to work item 46396 in ASTM | The MQM (Multidimensional Quality Metrics) aspect of QTLP is a framework within which to define customized translation quality (TQ) metrics (implementable as scorecards). MQM is based in part on the translation parameters in ASTM F2575. | EU-funded project led by DFKI (a German research institute); contact: Arle Lommel. ASTM work item contact: Bill Rivers. | Next step: apply MQM to TQ evaluation in QT21, which begins in February 2015. |
| TAUS DQF (Translation Automation User Society Dynamic Quality Evaluation Framework) | TAUS "framework for selecting best fit translation quality evaluation models, a knowledgebase documenting industry best practices" Focus: assessing MT output. Ideally, DQF will be harmonized with MQM. | TAUS https://evaluation.taus.net/ ; key people: Jaap van der Meer at TAUS; Sharon O'Brien at Dublin City University | Fee-based access. DQF-MQM harmonization will be part of QT21 project. |

(4) Interpreting Standards

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|---|---|--|---|
| ASTM F2089 (standard guide for language interpretation services) | From the Scope: This guide identifies the components of quality language interpretation services and establishes criteria for each component. | ASTM F43.01 (start with http://www.astm.org); key person: Monique Roske | Revision to be published 2015 |
| ISO/DIS 13611 (Interpreting - Guidelines for community interpreting) | This standard is about community interpreting. Now that a general interpreting standard is under development, to be resolved: the relationship between the two. | ISO TC37/SC5 (start with www.iso.org); key person: Verónica Pérez Guarnieri | Published on Nov 26, 2014. |
| ISO/NP 18841 (Interpreting – General Requirements) | Over-arching general standard for interpreting services. First draft was introduced at the June 2013 ISO TC 37 meetings in Pretoria. | ISO TC37/SC5 (start with www.iso.org); key persons: Marjory Bancroft & Lois Feuerle | Under active development through conference calls. |
| New ISO projects relating to interpreting | Equipment for simultaneous interpreting; legal interpreting | <i>Project leader: Marguerite Lely, EC DG for Interpreting</i> | As of Jan 2015, project is in early stages. |

(5) Terminology Standards

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|--|--|---|--|
| TBX [ISO 30042], based on ISO 16642 [TMF] & ISO 12620 [DCR] | TBX (TermBase eXchange) is for representing and exchanging terms and metadata (see www.tbxinfo.net). | ISO TC37/SC3 (www.iso.org); TerminOrgs; LTAC Global; ETSI | LISA v 2002; ISO v 2008; being updated |
| ISO 12616 and 26162 (terminology management) | Guidance for individuals and companies in terminology work and implementing terminology management. | ISO TC37/SC2 ; Barbara Karsch | 26162 published 2010; 12616 under revision |

(6) Technical (data) standards other than for Terminology

| Standard | Description | Responsible Parties | Status |
|--|---|--|--|
| TMX | Widely used XML format to represent a translation memory database to facilitate interoperability and re-use. | ETSI (www.etsi.org) translation/localization group | Was under LISA OSCAR; in transition |
| XLIFF | XML format to represent a bitext (a source text and its translation, segmented and aligned); XLIFF:doc is restriction of v1.2 designed to increase interoperability | Oasis (www.oasis-open.org) XLIFF technical committee; contact David Filip | Version 2 (Aug 2014); Version 2.1 in discussion. |
| SRX | XML format to represent rules for how a text is to be segmented. Applies to both TMX and XLIFF. | LTAC (www.ltacglobal.org) | Was under LISA OSCAR; in transition |
| GMX-Volume | XML format to represent the "volume" (word count, character count, etc. of a text for billing purposes); without such a standard the same text can be assigned substantially different word counts by various software. | ETSI (www.etsi.org) translation/localization group | Was under LISA OSCAR; in transition |
| Linport (Language Interoperability Portfolio) | Emerging standard for "containers" to represent translation project information. The <i>portfolio</i> container represents an entire project. The <i>package</i> container (called a TIPP) represents one task in a project. A portfolio typically includes source texts (and target texts when completed), preferably in XLIFF format, structured translation specifications (based on ISO/TS 11669) and support, such as TMX and SRX files. | LTAC (www.ltacglobal.org) is the non-profit that hosts the Linport project (www.linport.org/) and other projects; key people: AKM, Tomas Carrasco-Benitez (DGT), Chase Tingley (Spartan); Micah Bly (Medtronic); Jörg Schütz | Merger of three projects, including MED. MED project has been re-activated by DGT (Directorate General for Translation); APIs being debated. |
| ITS (Internationalization Tag Set) | Allows a text to be prepared for translation/localization, e.g. to mark whether an item is to be translated (<cmd its:translate="no">Build.bat</cmd>); | World Wide Web Consortium (www.w3.org/TR/its20) | Wide Impact; Version 2.0 was finalized in November 2013 |
| ISO 639 parts 1-5 (language codes), e.g. "de" is the two-letter code for German (639-1). It is used with country codes, e.g. "de-AT" is German as used in Austria. | www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/language_codes.htm : ISO 639 is the family of International Standards for language codes. The purpose of ISO 639 is to establish internationally recognized codes (either 2 or 3 letters long) for the representation of languages or language families. | ISO (www.iso.org), Technical Committees 37 and 46; ISO 639 is listed, along with ISO 9000 as one of the nine most popular standards; it affects almost everyone, including translators. Key players: SIL; W3C; LoC; IETF | Part 6 (four-letter codes) has been withdrawn. Also, there will be no substantial change to the current management model. |