The international association

Infoterm

promotes and supports the cooperation of existing, and the establishment of new terminology centres and networks with the general aim to improve specialist communication, knowledge transfer and provision of content with a view to facilitating the participation of all in the global multilingual knowledge society.

In the course of its activities, *Infoterm* has developed great expertise in:

- fostering cooperation among institutions, organizations and networks active in the field of terminology and other language and content resources;
- terminology policies and strategies;
- legal aspects of terminological data, especially copyright;
- theoretical and methodological aspects of content interoperability, standardization of principles, methods and certain applications relating to the above.

Infoterm members are international, regional or national terminology institutions, organizations and networks, as well as specialized public or semi-public or other kind of non-profit institutions engaged in terminology or language-related activities.

Infoterm members, special relations and cooperation partners strive to promote and support cooperation in the field of terminology and other language and content resources.

Infoterm

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International Information Centre for Terminology
Centre international d'information pour la terminologie
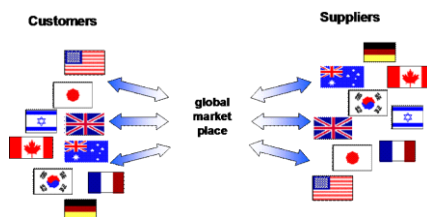Internationales Informationszentrum für Terminologie

Infoterm has offices in Vienna (Austria), Cologne (Germany) and Beijing (China).

Terminology – the basis of domain communication and knowledge transfer in all applications

Terminology plays a crucial role in all aspects of domain communication and knowledge transfer. It can appear in various kinds of representations: in spoken or written language, non-verbal communication, in one or several languages. Nowadays, communication not only takes place in human-human, but also in the form of human-machine and increasingly machine-machine communication.

In our globalized world, humans can make use of many tools to achieve successful communication. In doing so, one should consider the political, cultural and economic factors that may be closely connected with terminology, like language policies, education and training, translation and localization, legal issues (such as copyright and IPRs) just to mention a few.
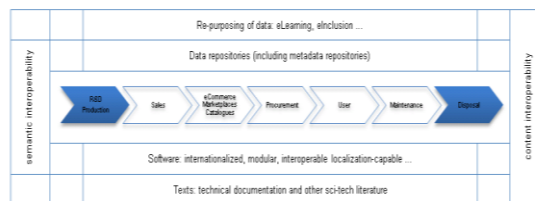
Today, terminological methods make information and communication tools more efficient and can ensure content interoperability across language and system boundaries.

The ultimate aim is to achieve content interoperability across eBusiness, eHealth, eLearning and other eApplications.

International cooperation

As cooperation across borders is essential for economic success, social progress and sustainability, modern terminology management helps to reduce duplication of work, avoid costs and collaboratively solve problems. Therefore, activities are undertaken to improve the awareness of the stakeholders involved for existing and new terminology methods and tools as well as for the latest developments in the design and application of terminology systems.

Being a global player, *Infoterm* aims at enhancing cooperation among institutions, organizations and networks active in the fields of terminology and other language and content resources as well as standardization with a view to generate benefits in terms of synergy and know-how.

Infoterm advises on virtually all aspects of structured content. This covers:

- policy and strategy issues
- standardization of structured content
- application of related methods and tools
- research and development on pertinent topics
- practical work in content management.

Infoterm, UNESCO and ISO

The international non-governmental organization *Infoterm* was founded in 1971 on the basis of a contract between UNESCO and the Austrian Standards Institute (ASI).

It emerged from the activities of a terminology research centre created by Eugen Wüster, the Austrian pioneer in the field of terminology theory and standardization in the early 1930s. Soon after the Second World War, the centre cooperated closely with UNESCO and other international organizations. From 1951 onward, it assumed the role of secretariat for technical committee ISO/TC 37 "Terminology (principles and co-ordination)" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) till 1971, when Infoterm took over. Thus, both *Infoterm* and ISO/TC 37 are off-springs of Wüster's activities.

In 1996, *Infoterm* was reorganized and established as an independent non-profit organization. It continued to host the secretariat of ISO/TC 37 until the end of 2008. As from 2009, *Infoterm* functions as twinned secretariat of this technical committee, now called "Terminology and other language and content resources".

Infoterm is registered as a scientific association under Austrian law. Its Head Office is based in Vienna.

Read more about *Infoterm* at:
http://www.infoterm.info