

Infoterm Annual Report 2005

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

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Introduction

Over the year 2005, Infoterm's activities concentrated on:

- Standardization activities especially geared towards fundamental methodology standards related to comprehensive content management, content integration and global semantic interoperability;
- Engaging in joint activities with UNESCO and WHO;
- Promotion of terminology at international, regional and national levels;
- Provision of assistance to terminology networks.

As all Infoterm activities are highly interconnected in order to benefit from synergies, the foci mentioned above can be found in some or most of the project, conference, and liaison as well as standardization activities listed below.

Foreshadows of the Semantic Web: comprehensive content management, content integration and global semantic interoperability

In the course of the development of the third generation mobile technologies globalization is accelerating, as the convergence of mobile computing and mobile communication (MCC) necessitates the integration of systems and processes. At the same time MCC fosters decentralization and distributed methods – also concerning content. No wonder that localization – especially of content – is the other side of the medal called globalization. Thus, the term *glocalization* was coined.

In a letter to *Business Week* (2002-04-08) Tim Berners-Lee himself wrote:

“The WWW contains documents intended *for human consumption*, and those intended *for machine processing*. The Semantic Web will enhance the latter. The Semantic Web will not understand human language ... The Semantic Web is about machine languages: *well-defined, mathematical, boring, but processable. Data, not poetry.*”

This statement indicates differences in the conceptions of semantics, syntax and ultimately semantic interoperability between various domains of the sciences and technologies on the one side and the social sciences and humanities on the other side.

Since it is content, which counts for the general user – not technology, we must consider the semantic web also under the aspect of semantic interoperability, as it is understood in human communication, namely content interoperability. Before long most of the data (reference data, instances, values, etc.) will consist of *structured content*, such as terminologies, typologies, classification schemes, product data, coding systems etc., many of which are – formally speaking – language resources. In the combination of globalized infrastructures and localized content resources, content repositories will most probably be maintained most cost-efficiently by the respective user communities. *Global semantic interoperability* thus means more than just the geographical dimension.

Needless to say that this necessitates many new and new types of methodology standards, as only commonly accepted standards will ultimately guarantee semantic interoperability.

Standardization and related Activities

ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources”

In 2005, Infoterm continued to hold the secretariat of the ISO Technical Committee 37 on behalf of the Austrian Standards Institute (ON). ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources” is gradually becoming a major player in the semantic web community, bringing in its competence and experience in data modelling of terminological data and other language resources (LRs) from the point of view of ‘content’ as domain experts’ understand, which is complementary to the point of view of the ICT approaches.

East Asian Regional Meeting of ISO/TC 37

The Meeting was held on the premises of the Japanese Standards Association (JSA), Tokyo, 18 November 2005 and organized by the Japanese National Committee for ISO/TC 37. The presentations and discussions concentrated on the pertinent activities in the EAFTerm member countries, especially those contributing directly to ISO/TC 37 standards:

- within the framework of ISO/TC 37/SC 2:
 - AWI 23185 Assessment and benchmarking of terminology holdings (China)
 - NWIP 10241-X Terminology entries in standards – Part X: Localization of international terminology standards (Japan)
- within the framework of ISO/TC 37/SC 4:
 - NP 21829 Terminology of language resource management (Korea)
 - NP 24614-1 Word segmentation – Part 1: Principles and methods (China)
 - NP 24614-2 Word segmentation – Part 2: Chinese, Japanese and Korean (China)
 - NP 24611 Morpho-syntactic annotation framework (Korea)

The lively debates following the presentations were concluded by a joyful reception hosted by JSA.

OFMR 2005 – Open Forum on Metadata Registries

More than 90 participants considered the OFMR 2005 with the theme “Semantic Interoperability: Where Meaning Meets Metadata”, a great success. It took place from 11 to 14 April in Berlin and was jointly organized by JTC 1/SC 32/WG 2 “Development/Maintenance” and ISO/TC 37,. In a meeting of representatives of the two groups, on 15 April, it was decided to cooperate on a regular basis in the form of an “Ad-hoc Meeting Liaison”. It was also strongly suggested to intensify the discussion on “semantic interoperability and how to achieve it”. The OFMR 2006 will take place in Japan from 20 to 22 March and will focus on terminology and metadata. The general aim is to establish a theoretic-methodological basis for semantic interoperability, for which a network of federated registries could be seen as indispensable.

ISO-IEC-ITU-UN/ECE Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning standardization in the field of eBusiness

The second biennial meeting in 2005 of the Management Group (MoU/MG) of the ITU-ISO-IEC-UN/ECE Memorandum of Understanding concerning eBusiness standardization was held in Beijing (China) on the premises of CNIS (China National Institute for Standardization) on 12-13 October. It was the first meeting of this high-level coordination group in China. At this meeting two documents, which had been endorsed by ISO/TC 37, CEN/ISSS/CDFG and CEN/ISSS were discussed:

- ISO/TC 37/N496 “Semantic Interoperability and the need for a coherent policy for a framework of distributed, coordinated repositories for all kinds of content items on a world-wide scale” (MoU/MG/05 N0221)
- ISO/TC 37/N497 “eBusiness Standards and Cultural Diversity” (MoU/MG/05 N0222).

The MoU/MG officially endorsed the first document as an “overall vision and guideline” to guide standards developers of IT standards and methodology standards related to structured content in the field of eBusiness (and beyond). The second document prepared by the CEN/ISSS/CDFG, the Cultural Diversity Focus Group of the Information Society Standardization System of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN/ISSS), will be further studied under the aspect of its applicability for “standards conformity and interoperability assessment” to ICT standards themselves. Thus, CEN/ISSS/CDFG, which links European and international standardization groups with projects relating to multilingualism and cultural diversity, may gain major influence on ICT standards.

ISO Terminology Database (ISO/TDB)

The whole of ISO standardized terminology (amounting to around 150.000 entries) in English has been keyed in by CNIS (China National Institute for Standardization) within the framework of a project of EAFTerm (East Asia Forum on Terminology) as a contribution to ISO/TC 37 activities. This has triggered the establishment of an ISO/TMB Ad-hoc Group “Standards as databases”. General accessibility of these data may well have implications on the standardization process itself and on the business model of standardization in general.

In this connection it is worth mentioning that several standards bodies have started to record their national standardized terminologies and are looking for applications in support of boosting the sales of standards. They are highly interested in the emerging ISO/TDB. The Austrian Standards Institute (ON), for instance, has recently finalized the implementation of a terminology database of its standardized terminologies. It is planned to make it accessible to the general public via the ON website. Each terminology entry identifies the standard, from where it has been taken. By clicking on the standard’s number the user is directed to the ON-Webshop , where s/he could immediately order the standard. Thus standardized terminology is a direct marketing tool for standards sales.

WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC)

WHO has designated a number of collaborating centres to work with it in the development, dissemination, maintenance and use of the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) to support national and international health information systems, statistics and evidence.

The WHO-FIC Network includes:

- all designated WHO-FIC Collaborating Centres
- the WHO Regional Offices
- the responsible area of WHO Headquarters

and, recently, also Infoterm. The Network meets on an annual basis to discuss matters of mutual interest and to advise WHO. Its work is based on a Strategy and Work Plan, which is being implemented through a number of WHO-FIC committees conducting their business outside the annual meeting.

The last meeting of the Network took place in Tokyo (Japan), 16-22 October 2005, and comprised a strategic panel on classifications and terminologies. Participants expressed the need for

intensified cooperation between classification and terminology activities, in order to improve knowledge representation, particularly with a view to increasing interoperability between health information systems. WHO and its members would like to set standards in this field for the benefit of people. In this connection, the options for an international network of research centres in terminology focusing on clinical terminology were discussed among other strategic topics (*see*: <http://www3.who.int/icd/tokyomeeting/documentlist>).

Infoterm was able to provide guidance on various aspects of (multilingual) structured content, such as classification schemes and terminologies of WHO to be stored and maintained in federated repositories in the future. Recent aspects of solving legal issues (copyright, liability etc.) through a business model supported by a network of federated repositories, in which data were maintained on the basis of well-defined metadata, met with great interest.

Project activities

TDCnet – European Network of Terminology Information and Documentation Centres

Some members of the European Association for Terminology met on 7 November in order to discuss the relaunch of the project ETIS – the Electronic Terminology Information Server –, which was initiated some years ago by the TDCnet Consortium. A new special interest group was established (EAFT/SIG TermDoc) with a view to starting a new project called eTIS. A working paper on the feasibility of this project is under preparation and will be submitted to the SIG sometime in spring 2006.

The International Terminology Award 2005

The *International Award for Applied Terminology Research and Development* (ARD) is granted every second year for the best achievement (in the form of an academic dissertation, thesis or equivalent) in applied R&D in the field of terminology and terminography. Due to the change in the presidency of the Jury at the end of 2004, and the lack of sufficient good candidates, EAFT, Infoterm and GTW have decided to postpone the Award until 2006.

IN-SAFETY

Within the framework of the IN-SAFETY Project Infoterm has analysed the “content” occurring in traffic signs and especially “variable message signs” (VMS). It was found out that all kinds of representations, whether verbal or non-verbal can be subsumed under “structured content”. Since local variants (“locales”) occurred even in pictograms and other visual representations, all content entities occurring in traffic signs can be treated equally at the same level of locales. The concept of term autonomy can be extended to visual representations to become representation autonomy. The resulting basic data model can be regarded as simpler than the basic terminology data model, and it can nevertheless cope with an even higher degree of complexity.

Co-operation with UNESCO

A number of ISO/TC 37 experts have been involved in the compilation of a UNESCO document on the method of how to formulate and implement a terminology policy in a language community. The UNESCO *Guidelines for designing terminology policies*, can be accessed or downloaded from the UNESCO Portal: (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001407/140765e.pdf>).

So far, the document exists in English only. However, Infoterm is trying to have it translated into various other languages. The document also serves as a basis for a planned international standard to be prepared by a new project in ISO/TC 37/SC 1/WG 4 “Socioterminology”.

Infoterm was represented at the Conference on Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace, which UNESCO, in partnership with the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), the Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie (AIF) and the Government of Mali organized in Bamako, Mali, from 6 to 7 May 2005. The Director of Infoterm delivered two papers, entitled “Terminology Standardization” and “Interoperability of Metadata”. The event was one of UNESCO’s thematic meetings in preparation for the second meeting of the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis, Tunisia, 16-18 November 2005.

EuroTermBank (ETB)

Infoterm took actively part in the project “EuroTermBank – Collection of Pan-European Terminology Resources through Cooperation of Terminology Institutions”, co-funded by the EU Commission in the framework of the programme “European digital content for the global networks”, in cooperation with the Institute for Information Management (IIM) of the University of Applied Sciences Cologne. IIM is one of eight partners in the project and responsible for one of the main tasks to be accomplished in the first year (2005): the establishment of a procedural, organizational and legal framework, including the drafting of standard document templates for the regulation of the legal relationships between ETB consortium, users, and copyright holders of the terminology resources to be used within ETB.

For this purpose, the quite controversial issue of copyright with respect to terminology and databases was briefly outlined, followed by an overview of the relevant EU Directives and descriptions of the respective national legislation written by experts of the countries involved – Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. On this basis and oriented on the Guide to Terminology Agreements, prepared by Infoterm (published jointly by the European Language Resources Association [ELRA] and the International Network for Terminology [TermNet] in 1996), different contractual standard templates were elaborated. The document is one of the public Deliverables of the ETB Project.

Part of the results of this Deliverable was used by ISO/CS as reference in connection with first efforts to establish an ISO central TDB in cooperation with ISO member bodies already having their standardized terminologies in database format. It was also used for presenting in more general form the legal aspects related to structured content, when such content is made available via the Web.

Activities in Europe

AUSTRIA

The Austrian Standards Institute (ON) has recently finalized the implementation of a terminology database on its standardized terminologies. It is planned to make it accessible to the general public via the ON website. Each terminology entry identifies the standard, from where it has been taken. By clicking on the standard's number the user is directly guided to the ON online shop, where s/he could immediately order the standard. Thus, standardized terminology is a direct marketing tool for standards sales.

ICELAND

Íslensk málstöð (Icelandic Language Institute) provides the active terminology committees in Iceland and other experts in different fields with linguistic advice and technical assistance when it comes to terminology and publishing of their terminologies. This is mainly done through its Word Bank on the Internet. In 2005, this database contained 59 special language (multilingual) glossaries/terminologies, 49 of which are accessible in a single multidisciplinary search.

See: <http://herdubreid.rhi.hi.is:1026/wordbank/search?changeToWebLanguage=EN>

In 2005, the Word Bank registered 847.358 searches, an increase of 22,6% from 2004. Glossaries/terminologies in the fields of “printing”, “language technology” and “reading studies” are under preparation. Íslensk málstöð also published an Icelandic translation of Heidi Suonuuti's *Guide to Terminology*. This guide, originally written in English, has now been translated into Icelandic, Swedish, Esperanto, Croatian and Chinese.

NORDTERM

Nordterm is an association of organizations and societies in the Nordic countries which are engaged in terminology work, training and research. It is composed of Terminologigruppen (Danish Terminology Group), Sanastokeskus TSK (Finnish Terminology Centre), Íslensk málstöð (Icelandic Language Institute), Språkrådet (Norwegian Language Council), Samisk språknemnd (Nordic Sami Institute), and Terminologisentrum TNC (Swedish Centre for Terminology). Nordterm was chaired by Iceland in the period June 2003 – June 2005, and is chaired by Norway in the period June 2005 – June 2007. See: <http://www.nordterm.net>

In 2005, Íslensk málstöð organized the “Nordterm Days” in Reykjavik, Iceland, (9-12 June) including

- a one day course (9 June) in terminology on “The role of terminology in the production of specialized texts for the general public”,
- a Conference on “Words vs. terms” (10-11 June)
See: <http://www.nordterm.net/info/2005/Nordterm2005-en.html>,
- the meetings of the Nordterm's steering group and working groups as well as the General Assembly (11 June).

Two projects were carried out in cooperation with Nordic colleagues:

- 1) A pilot project on web-based teaching in terminology, at university level. The project, called TERMDIST, is organized by Stockholm University, with the participation of Íslensk málstöð, Copenhagen Business School, Syddansk Universitet in Denmark, Vaasa University in Finland, Norwegian Business School and Terminologisentrum TNC in Sweden.
- 2) “Terminologins terminology” (NORDTERM 2) was revised.

COUNCIL FOR GERMAN-LANGUAGE TERMINOLOGY (RaDT)

Infoterm was represented at and contributed to the meetings of the RaDT, in Luxembourg on 8-9 April and in Bern on 4-5 November 2005.

The meeting in April focused on initiatives of the RaDT vis-à-vis the National Commissions for UNESCO in preparation of the 33rd session of UNESCO's General Conference in fall 2005. In particular it was discussed to submit recommendations concerning terminology aspects in:

- human capacity building and empowerment for preparing and using content with the right methodologies and skills (incl. soft skills) for the knowledge societies (which are characterized by linguistic and cultural diversity)
- a roadmap for strategic coordination of methodology standardization concerning content interoperability"
- the support for UNESCO's information efforts in the field of multilingualism and cultural diversity via its IFAP portal. See:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1627&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

In connection with the discussion on the “Professional profile for terminologists”, the English version of a RaDT document in German, the President of the European Association for Terminology (EAFT), Prof. Rute Costa, was invited to discuss ways and means for promoting the profession of the terminologist at European level.

A discussion on the “modernization” of terminology work – especially with respect to collaborative and networked terminology work and the respective workflows – was started, which was continued at the second meeting in November with discussion papers on “new web-based kinds of terminology work” (Wikipedia-style) and “semantic interoperability of terminologies and other kinds of structured content”.

The document on “domain loss” – describing the phenomenon of developed languages losing their language capabilities in certain domains (subject fields), if they do not actively and constantly develop the respective terminologies – was adopted for publication.

The RaDT decided to present a paper on its activities at the spring session of the tekomp Conference in Weimar, 4–5 May 2006, and to hold its next meeting there.

Activities in Central and Eastern Europe

ESTONIA

In Estonia, terminology is developed by experts, researchers, handbook and university textbook writers, technical translators, etc. Associations involved in terminology work are the Estonian Terminology Association, the Estonian Legal Language Centre, and the Institute of the Estonian Language. Their main tasks consist of coordinating the work on LSP and terminology in Estonia, developing terminology collections, translating the Estonian legislation into English and the EU legislation into Estonian, and creating and administrating a database of legal translations as well as a terminology database. Translation priorities are set in close co-operation with the ministries and approved by the Council of Senior Civil Servants and the Minister of Justice. Various terminology committees, connected with various public and non-profit organizations, are involved in the standardization of terminology, such as the Estonian Civil Aviation Administration (ECAA), the

University of Tartu, the Estonian Accounting Standards Board (EASB) the Ministry of Social Affairs, and others.

HUNGARY

The Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO established in 2005 the Terminology Council of the Hungarian Language (Magyar Nyelv Terminológiai Tanácsa – MATT), which is in charge of coordinating terminology creation, lexicography, and language planning in Hungary. To fulfil its tasks, the Council drafts strategic recommendations for government, business and public administration organizations, coordinates terminology work, and represents Hungary in the network of international terminology organizations. The Council members are terminology experts and representatives of institutions and organizations active in or making use of terminology, for example the Hungarian Ministry of Justice, the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, the Hungarian National Bank, the Hungarian Standards Institution (MSZT), the Research Institute for Linguistics (Hungarian Academy of Sciences), and others. MSZT is observer member of ISO/TC 37.

LATVIA

In Latvia, the main institution for the development of unified, coordinated and harmonized multibranch terminology is the Terminology Commission of the Latvian Academy of Sciences (TC of LAS).

It has institutional contacts with various institutions involved in the implementation of the Latvian state language policy and in relevant terminology issues, such as the State Language Commission, the Latvian Language Institute, Latvijas Standarts (LVS) (the Latvian national standards board), and others, as well as private companies. The main functions of the TC of LAS consist of developing a uniform and scientifically grounded national terminology system harmonized with the international concept systems and theoretical principles of terminology work, coordinating terminology work in Latvia, rendering methodical and methodological support in subject-field terminology issues, and approving terms and definitions for the usage in standards.

LITHUANIA

In Lithuania, three institutions are working in the field of terminology: the Centre of Terminology at the Institute of Lithuanian Language, the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language (VLKK) and the Lithuanian Department of Standardization's Lithuanian Standards Board (LST), whose Technical Committee 37 is correspondent member of ISO/TC 37. Their principal activities include research into the history of Lithuanian terminology and theoretical issues of present-day terminology, the establishment of principles and standards of Lithuanian terminology and terminography, practical work of standardization of terminology in various fields as well as the creation, evaluation and standardization of new terms, and the education of specialists in the field of terminology. New terminological dictionaries should ideally be approved by the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language before being published.

POLAND

In Poland, the most comprehensive terminology work is being carried out by the Polish Committee for Standardization (PKN) in all fields of terminology work: methodology, creating and maintaining terminology resources. The Office of the Committee for European Integration (UKIE) maintains a database of legal terms and phrases for translations into Polish of EU legal instruments passed in English/French/German. Other institutions involved in the development of methodology

for terminology work and in terminology creation are the Council for the Polish Language of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the International Specialized Terminology Organization (ISTO), the Polish Society of Economic, Legal and Court Translators (TEPIS) as well as universities. Technical Committee 256 of PKN is participating member of ISO TC 37.

Activities in Asian Countries

JAPAN

Hardly any country is richer in terminological activities than Japan – and nowhere else these activities are less visible than in this country. Terminology – or rather specialized lexicography – once had enjoyed a high reputation in Japan. It can be said to be one of the cornerstones of Japan's stupendous economic development after 1868. However, today it suffers from an image of old-fashioned, dull and tedious. This may change with JSA's (Japanese Standards Association) efforts to make its comprehensive standardized terminologies available to the general public also in electronic form.

1. On 18 and 19 November 2005 the following meetings took place on the premises of the Japanese Standards Association (JSA) in Tokyo:
2. East Asian Regional meeting of ISO/TC 37 (18 November p.m.): see above
3. 18th Symposium on Terminology of the Terminology Division of the Japan Society of Information and Knowledge (JSIK)

8th EAFTerm Meeting

The 8th annual meeting of the East Asia Forum on Terminology (EAFTerm) was again attended by delegates from all EAFTerm members: China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia – and a representative of ISO/TC 37. Two main topics were dealt with:

- (1) State-of-the-art reports on terminology activities in EAFTerm member countries
- (2) The preparation of a database and dictionaries of multilingual vocabulary based on terminology standards.

Ms. Yu, representing CNIS, reported on the achievements in recording all ISO standardized terminology: nearly 60.000 entries from more than 500 terminology standards and about the same from the terminology chapters of more than 6.000 subject standards amounting to 118.344 entries. She explained that already at this stage several thousand “problem cases” were detected, which should be revised or harmonized by the respective TCs prior to making the data generally accessible to experts in ISO standardization. A representative of ISO/CS who happened to be in Tokyo at that time, explained how much ISO/CS is taking this project seriously and what chances are connected if the project was successful. Prof. Choi of KORTERM reported on a new Korean law on terminology obliging all public institutions to take care of the terminology of their fields of specialization.

The next EAFTerm meetings will take place in China (August 2006), Mongolia (2007) and Korea (2008).

18th Symposium on Terminology

In his opening lecture Prof. Miyajima draw the complex picture of terminology import (foreign loan words – jp: *gairaigo*) and terminology export (jp: *gaikoogo*). Japan imported terms in the past from China by form and meaning – many of which were actually imports from other countries,

such as India. Many terms were “created” by Japanese in the Chinese variant called “kanbun”, which was used in Japan as official language or writing system for many centuries. Some of the translations of specialized books from European into Japanese kanbun were then imported into Chinese, where it influenced terminology development. Today, Japanese vocabulary (primarily in the general purpose language) consists of 33.8% autochthonous Japanese words (whatever this may mean), 49.1% Chinese loan words (pronounced in Japanese *kunyomi* or in Japanese Chinese pronunciation *onyomi* or in mixed pronunciation), 8.8% English and other languages and 8.3% in mixed Japanese and loan form.

The presentation on the multilingual production of parts of the IEV (International Electrotechnical Vocabulary of the IEC) revealed incredible character set problems in the pre-print and printing process due to a lack of multilingual competence of the printing house (in the 1980s), and later at IEC/CS (where it comes to side-by-side presentation of terms in Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, English (with definition), French (with definition), German, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish or due to software problems (among others based on character set coding). Similar problems still exist when retrieving multilingual information from a website containing non-European language material and will further increase in the course of cross-database search and retrieval of data in different languages from several distributed repositories.

The presentation given by Mr. Takayuki Tabe on the preparation of a 6-language spring terminology was of particular interest, showing the “tangible” value of terminology in industry. He first explained, that springs occurred in East Asia already as early as the 5th to 6th century (e.g. in order to fix the eyes of Buddha statues from within), and are present today in nearly all electrical and mechanical devices as well as in all kinds of products. The Japanese spring manufacturing industry alone produces annually about 500.000 tons of springs of a total value of 340 bn. JPY.

The Japan Spring Manufacturers Association (JSMA) embarked on said dictionary in cooperation with ISO/TC 227 “Springs”. The 6 languages covered are: Japanese, English, Chinese (plus Singapore Chinese or English), Malay (plus Indonesian), Thai and Vietnamese, and includes also graphical representations. Industry experts as well as researchers from the 8 countries covered contributed to this publication, which thanks to good management and the motivation of those involved could be issued within two years.

Mr. Tabe – by demonstrating with real products, how difficult it is to “name” new springs with hitherto unknown properties – aptly explained, what “misunderstanding” in industrial relations can bring about:

- wrong products from suppliers
- patent infringement cases
- liability suits from customers, etc.

especially in a world marked by globalization, where sub-contractors in other countries manufacture part of the production for Japanese makers and their customers world-wide. Thus the spring terminology directly helps to reduce costs in the production process as well in the trade relations hereafter (not to mention secondary costs due to whatsoever misunderstanding or mistake).

These and a number of other presentations revealed that terminology as a field of scientific endeavour and practical applications has not only made great progress in East Asia, but is already on track to be taken serious in practice as a cost-saver in industry and trade.

CHINA

China used terminology work and management methods in connection with its entering WTO. Hundreds of thousand, if not millions of new terms of globalized trade and industry had to be re-created in Chinese for this purpose. In this connection it was also realized, how important standardized terminologies especially of ISO and IEC standards – so-called open standards – are to fend off accusations of unfair practices or hidden obstacles to trade. That is why the China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS) has become so keen on the ISO/TDB project and its extension into the EAFTerm framework.

MONGOLIA

Mongolia is an active member of EAFTerm, the East Asia Forum on Terminology. Under the project leadership of CNIS, KORTERM, the Japan Standards Association (JSA) and the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology (MASM) are cooperating in the EAFTerm Standardized Terminology Project. In phase 1, the ISO standardized terminologies in English were recorded. In phase 2, it is planned to assign Chinese, Japanese, Korean and later also Mongolian equivalents to the ISO terminology entries. In phase 3, standardized terminology entries from national standards will be exchanged between China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia and the corresponding equivalents will be mutually assigned. The resulting experiences will serve as example for transnational cooperation in terminology standardization.

Activities in African Countries

Infoterm was encouraging and practically supporting the training and networking of an Ethiopian translator/terminologist, who founded recently the first Ethiopian translators association (NATIE). Further to the TermNet project with UNESCO “TermTrain”, Infoterm intends to establish or strengthen Pan-African cooperation and networking together with existing institutions or networks involving also the UNESCO Regional Office in Addis Ababa. Thus, existing formal and informal partnerships with African organizations, such as PanSALB, the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, the South African Bureau of Standards (stanSA), have been intensified.

Association Matters

Statutory Meetings

The 7th session of the Infoterm General Assembly was held on 23 August 2005 in Warsaw at the Polish Committee for Standardization (PKN), where the annual meetings of ISO/TC 37 and its Subcommittees took also place. A new Executive Board was elected for a two-year term of office on this occasion. It is composed of the following members:

- Ms. M. Alberts, PanSALB (South Africa)
- Ms. A. Aukšoriūtė, LKI (Lithuania)
- Mr. K.-S. Choi, KORTERM (Rep. Korea)
- Mr. H. Hjulstad, SN (Norway)
- Ms. M.C. Plested, COLTERM (Colombia)
- Mr. K.-D. Schmitz, DEUTERM (Germany)
- Ms. N. Sévigny, PWGSC (Canada)
- Ms. Xinli Yu, CNIS (China)

At the ensuing meeting of the new Executive Board the following members were co-opted:

- Mr. C. Laurén, IITF (Finland)
- Mr. L. Romary, Chair, ISO/TC 37 SC4 (France)
- Ms. J. Zeumer, DTT (Germany)

Furthermore, Mr. K.-D. Schmitz was re-elected President of Infoterm and Mr. H. Hjulstad and Ms. M. Alberts were elected first and second Vice-President respectively. The Board also decided that Mr. K.-S. Choi remain Alternate Vice-President for an additional term.

Change of Premises

In order to reduce office space costs and increase efficiency thanks to mobile technology and outsourcing agreements, Infoterm moved on 16 September 2005 to new premises in the 6th Vienna district.

Conference Activities

Infoterm was actively involved in the following events:

Symposium on Terminology and Knowledge Management, organized by the German Society for Terminology, Cologne, Germany, 26-27 March 2005

14th Meeting of the MoU/MG, CEN Management Centre, Brussels, 4-5 April 2005

22th Meeting of the "Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie" (RaDT – Council for German Language Terminology), Centre Culturel de Rencontre, Luxembourg, 8-9 April 2005

OFMR 2005 – Open Forum on Metadata Registries, Berlin, 11-14 April 2005

Conference on Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace, Bamako, Mali, 6-7 May 2005

Asian Pacific Workshop on Terminology (APTerm), organized by the Terminology Association of Hong Kong (TAHK), Hong Kong, 16-18 June 2005

7th International Conference on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering (TKE 2005), Copenhagen Business School (CBS), Denmark, 16-19 August 2005

GTW General Assembly, CBS, Copenhagen, 16 August 2005

ISO/TC 37 Meetings, Warsaw, 22-26 August 2005

15th Meeting of the MoU/MG, China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS), Beijing, 13-14 Oct. 2005

2005 IFSAMP: International Forum on Standards and Application of Manufacturing Product data technology - ISO/TC 184/SC4 Industrial Data, CNIS, Hangzhou, 20 October 2005

Meeting of the Heads of WHO Collaborating Centres, Tokyo, Japan, 21 October 2005

23th Meeting of the "Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie" (RaDT), Federal Chancellery, Bern, 4-5 November 2005

ETIS/SIG Meeting, Centre de Terminologie de Bruxelles, Brussels, 7 November 2005

8th EAFTerm Meeting, Japanese Standards Association, Tokyo, 18 November 2005

East Asian Regional Meeting of ISO/TC 37, Japanese Standards Association, Tokyo, 18 November 2005

18th Symposium on Terminology, organized by the Terminology Division of the Japan Society of Information and Knowledge (JSIK), Tokyo, 18-19 November 2005

Liaison Activities

Infoterm is in liaison with a number of ISO/TCs, such as

- ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language resources” (and its SC 1, SC 2, SC 3)
- ISO/TC 46 “Information and documentation”
- ISO/TC 154 “Graphical symbols”
- ISO/TC 173/SC 2 “SC on Classification and terminology of the TC on Technical systems and aids for disabled or handicapped persons”
- ISO/TC 176/SC 1 “SC on Concepts and terminology of the TC on Quality management and quality assurance”

It represents ISO/TC 37 in the MoU/MG (Management Group of the ITU-ISO-IEC-UN/ECE Memorandum of Understanding concerning eBusiness related standardization)

Infoterm is member or associate in:

- CEN/ISSS/EC – CEN/ISSS Workshop “Electronic Commerce”
- CEN/ISSS/eCAT – CEN/ISSS Workshop “Multilingual e-catalogues”
- RaDT – Council for German Language Terminology

It enjoys an official status with:

- UN/DPI (Department of Public Information of the United Nations in New York) as “Associate”
- WHO (World Health Organization) as “International Collaboration Centre for Terminology”
- ISONET (Information Network of ISO) as “Information Centre for Terminology Standardization”

and co-operates closely with:

- UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- ISO – International Organization for Standardization
- TermNet – International Network for Terminology
- IITF – International Institute for Terminology Research
- TDCnet – European Network of Terminology Information and Documentation Centres

For further information, please consult the Infoterm Website <http://www.infoterm.info>