INFOTERM News

(Compiled from Infoterm Newsletter 50)

Report on the Transfer of the Canadian Terminology Data Bank (TERMIUM) on CD-ROM to the Austrian Standards Institute, Vienna, Austria, September 1988

TERMIUM, the French-English terminology data bank of the Canadian Department of State, contains some 900.000 entries with more than 3 million terms and is now available on CD-ROM. TERMIUM which provides on-line access for users not only in Canada, but all over Europe and America, represents a valuable source of information for translators and interpreters, subject specialists, administration students, etc.

As a symbol of longstanding cooperation, Mr Winston Wells, Director General of the Terminology and Linguistic Services Branch (TLSB) of the Secretary of State of Canada, just recently handed over the latest version of TERMIUM on CD-ROM to Infoterm/Austrian Standards Institute (ON); the data will be highly valuable for documentation and training purposes.

EURALEX Third International Congress (BUDALEX '88), Budapest, Hungary, 1988-09-04/09

This Congress was organized by Akademiai Kiado, the publishing house of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The programme was subdivided into ten topics such as prelexicographical theory, general lexicography, computational lexicography, phraseology and languages of limited diffusion.

Last but not least there was a section on terminography and translation. In this section reports on practical projects such as the technical dictionary for chemistry compiled in the GDR, the Czech terminological data bank, the illustrated Japanese-English dictionary of architectural and art historical terminology and the knowledge-based integrated terminology system were presented.

Infoterm provided an overview of new developments in terminography emphasizing new structural devices, formats and advanced data carriers. The keynote speech was delivered by the Hungarian Academician Ferenc Kiefer on linguistic, conceptual and encyclopedic knowledge and their implications for lexicography. This keynote was an indication that aspects of knowledge engineering will become of high relevance to any branch of the language industry.

Finally, it should be mentioned that a new project was launched at this Congress dealing with the terminology of computerized lexicography and computerized lexicology.

Conference on Uses of the Computer in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Cologne, FRG, 1988-09-07/10

The Cologne Computer Conference took place at Cologne University, 7-10 Sept. 1988. Its general topic was "Uses of the computer in the humanities and social sciences" and was organized as a joint conference of "The International Conference on Data Base in the Humanities and Social Sciences (ICDBHSS/88)", "The 3rd Annual Conference of the Association for History and Computing (AHC)" and "The 10th International Conference of the International Federation of Data Organizations for the Social Sciences (IFDO)".

Since the design and use of data bases in these disciplines have become a well established fact, such a joint Congress was a unique opportunity for more than 500 participants to exchange ideas and experiences regarding theoretical and practical aspects of the construction and application of data bases.

Several sections were organized covering topics such as

- the registration, documentation and evaluation of data gathered in archaeology, art history, demography, philology, law, social history, economic history, etc.;
- problems of indexing, the construction of thesauri, dictionaries, directories, bibliographies etc. in these disciplines;
- the use of expert systems, information systems, visual data bases and other aspects of data base technology;
- demonstrations of software developments for specific problems;
- computer aided instruction software;
- data archives and data networks;
- methodological aspects of data base organization (including terminological aspects).

For the first time an overall view of the use of the computer in these disciplines was given. Since data in the humanities and social sciences are mostly fuzzy, very complex and often incomplete special methods were presented and discussed to scope with these problems. The awareness of the importance of exact methods of documentation and terminology control is rising, but still very low in these disciplines. Hopefully, this Conference was a catalyst for activities addressing such problems.

Recontre Internationale sur l'Enseignement de la Terminologie, Geneva, Switzerland, 1988-09-21/22

This meeting was jointly organized by the School of Translation and Interpretation of the University of Geneva and the Institute of Science and Technology of the University of Manchester and held under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the Swiss Chancellery and the Chancellery of the Canton of Berne. The programme tried to cover all aspects of terminology teaching and training, in particular the current curricula and programmes offered to language mediators, the training of terminology teachers and life-long education in terminology as well as future aspects such as the computerization of training activities.

The individual contributions are well documented in a pre-conference publication comprising almost 400 pages. The meeting itself was organized in the form of panel discussions; the topics dealt with the scope, the conception and contents of courses as well as the organization and methods of terminology teaching both in conventional and computerized form. Infoterm contributed

an overview on the training activities of Infoterm and a number of TermNet partners and participated in the round table on the structures and programmes of courses.

International Conference on Terminology for Museums, Cambridge, UK, 1988-09-21/24

Co-sponsored by the Museum Documentation Association and the Getty Art History Information Programme, the International Conference on Terminology for Museums discussed the development of terminology control in Museums and related bodies. The Conference was supported by a book exhibition and a seminar on indexing languages. The programme was structured in 13 sessions, comprising both theoretical and practical aspects, such as discipline developments, standards and international developments, the control of names as well as actual case studies, the terminology of users and future techniques and needs. Infoterm contributed a paper on the use of terminology as a management instrument for museums. At the Conference it became evident that a growing number of museums build up computer data bases and the accessibility of records through controlled terminologies is becoming a crucial issue of relevance to museum professionals. The role of standardization in this respect was widely discussed and it was emphasized thad advantage should be taken of the multifunctionality of terminology when taking infrastructural measures in museums and communicating with partners in networks or abroad.

11th CODATA Conference on Scientific and Technical Data in a New Era, Karlsruhe, FRG, 1988-09-26/29

The Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA) held its 11th Conference in Karlsruhe, FRG.

The scientific programme was divided into seven sections covering the following topics:
- biosciences and biotechnology
- industry and technology
- safety and environmental protection
- geo- and space sciences
- scientific aspects of collecting and distributing data
- legal and social aspects of data dissemination
- innovations in data handling

Most contributions focussed either on problems of recording, processing and handling of data or on the design and application of data bases containing all kinds of factual, bibliographic etc. data. In Topic 6 copyright issues concerning all types of scientific data were discussed. Problems of copyright, patenting and the secrecy of data are especially virulent in the commercial sectors of research, e.g. in microbiology, genetic engineering etc.

In Topic 7 papers were given on new media and data handling methods. The exponential growth of data in these sciences requires new data processing technologies on the one hand, and better methods of the recording and handling of data on the other.

Within Topic 1, a "Workshop on the Vocabulary and Nomenclature of Biology" was held, addressing the problems of interdisciplinary communication. The highly interesting papers presented within the Workshop covered topics such as the unification and standardization of nomenclatures, taxonomies and classifications, naming problems concerning new organisms created by genetic engineering etc. Subsequent discussions lead to the proposal submitted to the General Assembly of CODATA to set up a Commission in order to solve these problems. Its provisionary goal and methods are to promote international and interdisciplinary cooperation in the construction of new and the improvement of existing terminologies, nomenclatures, classifications etc. in biological disciplines. An information network should be established among all organizations and institutions willing to support this initiative (especially nomenclature committees of the international scientific unions, committees of the relevant journal editors, data base producers and other institutions active in terminology work in the field of biology. In order to avoid duplication of efforts and to increase the efficiency of the activities of the Commission, it is planned to establish close cooperation with Infoterm.

In general the whole Conference and the workshop in particular represented an initiative to improve the quality and efficiency of communication in and among these disciplines. Networking among the databases containing different kinds of data is only possible, if common exchange formats are agreed upon and internationally accepted terminologies and nomenclatures are used. This will increase the applicability of data bases as a research tool in biology, chemistry and related fields.

Meeting on Conceptual Analysis and Artificial Intelligence, Clausthal, FRG, 1988-10-06/08

The Special Interest Group "Begriffsanalyse" of the German Society for Classification together with the Institute of Informatics of the Technical University of Clausthal, FRG, organized the meeting "Conceptual Analysis and Artificial Intelligence" from 1988-10-06/08.

The papers given at this meeting may be divided into three major groups:
- formal concept analysis and its applications;
- mathematical and logical foundations;
- terminological concept analysis and data base design.

Papers belonging to the first group were prepared by members of the research group "Concept Analysis" of the Technical University of Darmstadt. The applicability of this method to the analysis of mathematical objects and characteristics as well as the generation of psychological concept lattices were examined.

In the second group mathematicians from Darmstadt, Clausthal etc. focussed on the theory of implications, a three-valued conceptual logic and other basic issues of mathematics and logic important for formal concept analysis.

The papers on data base design dealt with the applicability of relational data bases to formal concept analysis, the use of semantic networks in concept analysis, the present and future design of terminological data bases and aspects of terminological knowledge theory and knowledge engineering.

The last paper of the meeting was oriented towards Wittgensteinian philosophy of language and dealt with

the integration of speech act analysis in concept analysis, as well as problems with metaphors and understanding.

In general, the meeting provided an opportunity for interdisciplinary discussion of different approaches to concept analysis with methodological problems of application being of special importance. Closer cooperation among mathematicians, computer scientists and terminologists would be desirable, since the different approaches are not contradictory but rather complementary.

29th Annual Conference "Languages at Crossroads" of the American Translators Association, Seattle, WA, USA, 1988-10-12/16

This Conference devoted to "Languages at Crossroads", dealt with problems caused by a) an increasing number of students enrolling in translation courses offered in institutions of higher learning, b) an increase of contacts with neighbouring countries, and c) examination procedures of ATA and expansion of accreditation exams.

The Conference was divided into ten sections and focussed on subjects such as "Linguistics crossroads", "Translation and computers", "Scientific and technical translation", "Literary translation", "Translation or training and translation theory", "Interpreter training and interpretation training", "Interpretation – past, present and future", "Aspects of Portugese translation" and last but not least "Terminology". Particular emphasis was placed on future developments, viz. the use of computers both for purposes of translation and interpretation.

The section on terminology demonstrated how terminology documentation represented linked multifunctional terminological data to data in documentation. A computerized terminology documentation system could be used as an information management system, a tool to access different types of internal an external data, a translation assistance, a computer-assisted instruction system as well as a communication aid. On the premise that translation does not only present a linguistic transformation process but compromises also documentary and information activities, the benefits of terminology documentation system applied to translation become particulary apparent.

Readers interested in future details are referred to: HAMMOND, D.L.: Languages at Crossroads. Proceedings of the 29th Annual Conference, October 12-16, 1988, Seattle, Washington. Medford, NJ: Learned Information, Inc. 1988. 539 p.

The Austrian Standards Institute's new service "The appropriate name for firms and products"

It was by chance that Infoterm developed a new service for companies, particularly exporting firms. This service represents only a by-product of a project carried out by Infoterm. Since it does not fall under the regular scope of Infoterm activities it will henceforth be provided by TermNet, the International Network for Terminology, the statutory organs of which were established 12 De-

cember 1988. (Details on TermNet arc published on p.29 of this issue.)

Given an increasing flood of new products and firms, particularly in high technology, finding or creating an appropriate name can became quite a problem. The Austrian Standards Institute, Infoterm, is now offering assistance in this matter taking into consideration the languages of foreign export markets. Finding an adequate name very often also in abbreviated form implies the observation of the following:

a) the name should reflect the activities of the enterprise;
b) the name should be melodious, viz. it should neither sound too "foreign" nor too "homely";
c) the name should not imply unpleasant associations, particularly in foreign language export markets.

First, the activities of the enterprise or firm are delineated semantically; the linguistic data from which names will be created are derived from a socalled "International key to terminology". Elements of names are then screened and analysed systematically in order to assess their suitability taking into consideration original and present meanings of morphemes as well as possibilities for combination.

On the basis of this procedure, clients are presented with a number of possible names for their enterprises/firms and respective products. It is then up to PR-managers and advertising experts to analyse these proposals from strictly publicity and advertising points of view before deciding upon the most adequate name. For further details contact TermNet or Infoterm, Postfach 130, A-1021 Vienna, Austria.

New publications

HAMMOND, D.L.: Languages at Crossroads. Proceedings of the 29th Annual Conference, October 12-16, 1988, Seattle, Washington. Medford, NJ: Learned Information, Inc. 1988. 539p.

GROUPE INTERINSTITUTIONNEL DE TERMINOLOGIE 8GIIT9. Répertoire des publications et traveaux de terminologic [Directory of publications and projects in the field of terminology]. Brussels: CEC 1988. 20p.

GALINSKI, C.: Die Einbindung von Terminologie, Terminologiedokumentation und Dokumentation in den fachbezogenen Fremdsprachenunterricht unter Berücksichtigung der Entstehung neuer Berufe im Bereich des Informationsmanagements [The incorporation of terminology, terminology documentation and documentation into subject-oriented LSP-teaching with due consideration of new professions coming into being in the field of information management]. In: GNUTZMANN, C. [Ed.]: Fachbezogener Fremdsprachenunterricht [Subject-oriented LSP- teaching]. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, s. d., p.141-150 (Sonderdruck).

TermNet News (TNN)
TNN 20 (regular issue), TNN 21 "Special issue on the Arab World" and TNN 23 "Special issue on Canada" have just come off the press and may be ordered from Infoterm.

BiblioTerm (BIT) and StandardTerm (STT)

BIT 28 and STT 8 were published in December 1988.
BIT 29 and STT 9 are in preparation.

United Nations System Terminology Newsletter (1988), no. 2, ONv

New Infoterm-Documents

12-88 NEDOBITY, W.: Terminology as a management instrument for museums. Wien: Infoterm 1988. 6p.

14-88 NEDOBITY, W.: The creation of semantic networks by conceptual analysis. Wien: Infoterm 1988, 3p.

15-88 BUDIN, G.: Die Übersetzung sozialwissenschaftlicher Texte aus terminologischer Sieht [The translation of social science texts from a terminological point of view]. Wien: Infoterm 1988, 16p.

Meetings

July 24-28, 1989. Leipzig, GDR: International Course on LSP Text Analysis – Linguistic Criteria, Approaches, Application – for Theorists and Practitioners, Teachers and Learners in Communication for Special Purposes organized by Karl-Marx-University, Leipzig. Contact: Karl-Marx-University Leipzig, Foreign Language Centre, Karl-Marx-Platz 9, DDR-7010 Leipzig.

August 16-18, 1989. München, BRD: MT Summit II organized by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Dokumentation e.V. (DGD).

Conference themes are: MT systems; practical experience in the application of MT systems; MT systems under development; governmental view of MT; new directions in MT systems; etc. An exhibition of MT systems will be part of the Conference.

Contact: MT Summit II, c/o Ms H. STROHL-GOEBEL, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Dokumentation e.V. (DGD), Westendstraße 19, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main 1, FRG.

September 4-8, 1989. Vienna, AUSTRIA: TermNet Summer School (Succeeding the Infoterm Summer School). Venue: Austrian Standards Institute (ON), Heinestraße 38, A-1020 Vienna. Contact: TermNet Secretariat, at the address above.

August 2-9, 1990. Belgrade, YUGOSLAVIA: XIIth World Congress of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) "Translation, a creative profession"

Themes to be dealt with during the Congress will be: General theory of translation; literary translation; translation into and out of languages of limited diffusion; sci-tech translation; interpreting; translation for the media; education and training of translators and interpreters; terminology; the translator's workstation; the social, economic and legal status of translators and interpreters.

Contact: FTT Congress Secretariat, Kicevska 9, YU-11000 Belgrade, YUGOSLAVIA

1991. Vienna, AUSTRIA: 3rd Infoterm Symposium on Terminology for knowledge transfer – International terminology planning for the preparaton of high-quality multifunctional terminologies by subject specialists organized by the International Information Centre for Terminology (Infoterm).

The main topics of this Symposium will be:
– The General theory of terminology and special theories of terminology; – Terminology unification in theory and practice; – Terminologics and knowledge transfer; – Choice of suitable communication channels and data carriers; – Exchange formats for knowledge representations; – Project accompanying teaching and training activities; – Terminology standardization; – ISO and IEC principles & methods; – National and regional terminology standardization; – Tools to support terminology unification; – Applications.

For further information, contact: Conference Secretariat, Infoterm, P.O. Box 130, A-1021 Vienna, AUSTRIA.

Hidden Glossaries

AAA. AI. Glossar. In: ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT FÜR DATENVERARBEITUNG (ADV) [Ed.]: Artificial Intelligence in Österreich [Artificial Intelligence in Austria]. 1st ed. Wien: ADV, s. d., p.101-108.

AAA. Glosario Espanol-Ingles de terminos de sanidad animal [Glossary of Spanish-English animal health terms]. Ottawa: Bureau de traductions 1988. 39p.

BLEI IER, M.: Scheinfranzösisch im Deutschen [Pseudo French in the German language]. Les 33(1988)No.2, p.67-70.

JEFFERSON, R. M.; FUSONIE, A. E.: A glossary of terms used in letters by USDA scientists in referring to the pests and diseases found on the cherry trees sent from Japan in 1909. The Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees of Washington, D.C., National Arboretum Contribution, no. 4, s. a., p.55-56.

KÖPPEN, U.: Brustamputation und Brustrekonstruktion (ende) [Breast amputation and breast reconstruction]. Lebende Sprachen 33 (1988), no. 2, p.65-66.

LAMPE, B.; GERZYMISCH-ARBOGAST, H.: Management-Glossar [Management glossary]. Lebende Sprachen 33 (1988), no. 1, p.18-26. Lebende Sprachen 32(1987)No.4, p.160-163.

McHENRY, W. K.: Russian computer terms. No Uncertain Terms 3 (1988), no. 1, p.32-41.

NYKÄNEN, O.: Vannehtimatta paras? [Strings and straps in packaging. A minivocabulary]. Terminfo 8 (1987), no. 2, p.5-8.

SANTOYO, J. C.: Traduction, fertilisation et internationalisation: les calques espagnols [Translation, fertilization and internationalization: the Spanish literal translations]. Meta 32 (1987), no. 3, p.241-249 (Glossary: p.247-249).

TERMCAT: Llista no exhaustiva dels poliedres regulars crsital-lins i termes relacionats [Non-exhaustive list of polyhedral regular crystals and related terms]. Full de difusio de neologismes (1988)No.1, p.2-3.

TERMCAT: Termes Normalitzats. Area: Alimentacio; Subarea: Gastronomica; Begudes; Utillatge, Area: Electrodomèstics; Agricultura. Alimentcaio [Standardized terms. Field: Foodstuffs; Subfield: Gastronomy; Beverages; Utensils; Field: Electric household equipment; Subfield: Agriculture. Foodstuffs]. Full de difusio de neologismes (198)No.1, p.3-4.

TERMCAT: Termes Normalitzats. Area: Citologia. Genètica; Perruqueria. Cosmètica; Documentacio. Informacio [Field: Cytology. Genetics; Wigs. Cosmetics; Documentation. Information]. Full de difusio de neologismes (1988)No.2, p.1-4.

VELLA, F.: KIRSCHENBAUM, D.M.: Lexicon – Words and Phrases at the Growing Edge. Biochemical Education 16(1988)No. 1, p.55.

VIRGILIO, P. DI.: Le trait d'union parasite dans le terminologie de l'information [The disturbing hyphen in the terminology of data processing]. Meta 32 (1987), no. 3, p.335-341 (Glossary: p.339-341.)

WILDEN, A.: Lichtbogenschweißen [Arcwelding]. Lebende Sprachen 33 (1988), no. 2, p.78-81.

Redaktion: Internationales Informationszentrum für Terminologie (Infoterm), Leiter Christian Galinski. c/o Österreichisches Normungsinstitut (ON), 1020 Wien, Heinestraße 38, Telefon (0222) 267535, Telex: 115960 onorm a, Telefax (0222) 2163272.