
ITIA BULLETIN

August 2003

ITIA Bulletin

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Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
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■ Editorial

Welcome to the August issue of the *ITIA Bulletin*. This month's issue features a number of articles on translation tools and translator training. *John Kearns* has provided a report on the CTTT training seminar for translation teachers while *Tanya Harvey Ciampi* discusses some Internet research tools for translators. Both articles are extremely relevant to the day to day activities of translators. As professionals in a constantly developing industry, the need to continually update our skills has never been more important. Thus, just because a person already has a qualification in translation it doesn't mean that learning should stop. As translators our job is to be inquisitive, to strive to acquire new knowledge and to update our skills.

Similarly, the tools we use as part of our job are being improved, added to and expanded. In order to provide the best possible service and to compete with the increasing numbers of people entering the profession, we need to embrace the new knowledge, tools and methods available to us.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the *ITIA Bulletin* and hopefully, it will provide some food for thought. Please let us know if you have any ideas, comments or suggestions relating to any of the articles here or subjects you would like to see dealt with.

Jody Byrne, MITIA
Editor
jody.byrne@dcu.ie

mailing list will then be the proud and lucky owner of a translation related book.

- 4 The winner will receive the book in the post /mail and his/her name will be announced in the September issue of the *ITIA Bulletin*.

So, don't delay, invite a colleague to join our *ITIA Bulletin* list and send a blank Email to bookprize@infomarex.ie

■ Tackling Spam Head-On

Every morning it's the same old routine: you log on to your email account and then spend anything up to an hour wading through the mountains of unwanted junk email that clutter up your inbox sorting the important ones from the junk advertising anything from porn to medication to loans and fad diets. Depending on your own circumstances, spam may be a minor irritation or it may be an intolerable affliction which may eventually force you to change email addresses. This is not always a simple matter - particularly for translators who

rely on email for work. There is always the fear that you've forgotten to tell someone your new address.

Despite the best efforts of various organisations, ISPs and governments, it seems that spam is unstoppable. So what can we do to prevent the daily deluge of junk mail? Well, an obvious solution would be to shut-down your PC, disconnect the various cables and throw the lot into the nearest river but that's really only for Luddites and people intent on harming the environment. To tackle spam, we first need to know how these scurrilous people find our email addresses in the first place.

Unfortunately, every time we register post our address on a website, translators' directory or online group we are effectively issuing an open invitation to the spammers to bombard us. And while some sites protect our email addresses, not all do. Using special programs called *email harvesters*, spammers scan thousands of websites and collect the email addresses they find. Once such a list has been compiled, the spammers either use it themselves or sell it on. The best way of making sure this doesn't happen is to remove your email address from every website - but how are potential customers supposed to contact you if they don't know your email

■ ITIA Chairman's Book Prize

Congratulations to the winner of the ITIA Chairman's July 2003 Book Prize who is Ursula Riezinger from Vienna, Austria. "*Scorched Earth*" by David Robbins is on its way to the lucky winner as we speak.

By way of a "continuing thank you" and in order to promote the *ITIA Bulletin* a little more, we are continuing the Chairman's Book Prize for our subscribers in August 2003.

To enter, all you need to do is:

- 1 Invite a colleague to join the *ITIA Bulletin* mailing list by their sending an Email to itia-ezine-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- 2 Send a blank Email to bookprize@infomarex.ie to confirm your participation in the August 2003 draw.
- 3 On the 20th August 2003, we will pick a low prime number at random and - in the date and time order of the replies to bookprize@infomarex.ie. A member of the itia-ezine@yahoogroups.com

■ New Members of the ITIA

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is delighted to welcome the following new members to the Association:

Corporate:

AN OIFIG AISTRÍÚCHÁIN

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

Tel: 091 524411 x 3959 Fax: 091 526 509

Email: aistriuchan@oegaillimh.ie

Web: www.aistriuchan.oegaillimh.ie/

Contact: an tUasal Eoin Ó Droighneáin, Director

Languages: Gaeilge, English

TRANSBABLEEXPRESS

Muckrush, Corrandulla, Co. Galway

Email: transbableexpress@yahoo.com

Contact: Mr. Daniel O'Donoghue

Languages: English, German, Spanish, Swedish

Specialisation: journalism, music, psychology, history, geography

Professional:

PETRA COSTACHE, MA - PROFESSIONAL MEMBER

8 Alexandra Terrace, Novara Avenue, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Tel/Fax: 01 286 7044 Mobile: 086 859 4053

ROMANIAN from English, French

AISLING HENNIGAN, BA DIPTRANS - PROFESSIONAL MEMBER

Ballyraine Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

Tel/Fax: 074 77316 Mobile 087 635 6820

Email: asilinghennigan@eircom.net

ENGLISH from French, German - commercial, EU, insurance, IT, marketing, proofreading

Ordinary

PATRICK DELANEY

Tawin, Oranmore, Co. Galway

Tel: 091- 790050

Email: paididelaney@eircom.net

ENGLISH from German - technical, literary, cultural

CLÍODHNA M. FLAVIN, BA MA

12 Ardmore, Taylors Hill, Galway

Mobile: 087 648 6961

Email: clíodhna_flavin@hotmail.com

ENGLISH from French, Italian - technical, scientific, literary, economic

JOHN M. KINSELLA, BA PHD

14 Priory View, Celbridge, Co. Kildare

Tel: 01 610 2649 (h) 01 708 4725 (w)

Email: John.M.Kinsella@may.ie

ENGLISH SPANISH from Portuguese, Spanish - Latin American, Portuguese poetry, medical

ROBERT LOOBY

146 Barton Road East, Dundrum, Dublin 14

Tel: 01 298 9805

Email: robertlooby@yahoo.com

Web: www.rlooby.batcave.net

ENGLISH from German, Polish - academic, literary

AOIFE MCINERNEY

24 Fortfield, Raheen,

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Mobile: +39 347 225 9997

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Email: gaia@translates.ie

ITALIAN from English, French - finance, law, marketing, IT

Interpreting: bilateral

SEAMUS MURPHY, BA HDIPED MSSC

Quarvue, Cornamukclagh, Omeath, Co. Louth

Tel/Fax: 042 937 5529 Mobile: 087 221 5099

Email: ssmurphy@eircom.net

ENGLISH from Danish, Norwegian, Swedish - banking, finance, company report, financial markets

BLÁTHNAID NÍ GHRÉACHÁIN, BA MA

20H Fernleigh Drive, Carpenterstown, Dublin 15

Mobile: 087 221 1789 Tel: 01 700 8083 (w)

Email: blathnaid.nighreachain@dcu.ie

ENGLISH IRISH from English, German, Irish - literary, business, finance, computing

TONY PRATSCHKE, DIPTRANS

Lothlorein, Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow

Tel/Fax: 055 29330 Mobile: 082 798 8260

Email: tonypr@eircom.net

Web: http://home.aquarius.net/a.cfm/17793

ENGLISH IRISH from English, Irish, Russian - business, international development, technical assistance, literary

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is always delighted to welcome new members to the Association.

There are five categories of membership:

- ◆ Ordinary
- ◆ Professional
- ◆ Corporate
- ◆ Student
- ◆ Honorary

Ordinary membership is open to anyone with an interest in translating or interpreting. *Professional membership* is for those who meet strict criteria set by the professional membership committee of the ITIA and which is part of the drive to raise the status of the profession in the European market.

Corporate membership is for firms and agencies associated with the profession while *student membership* is for undergraduates engaged in third level language and/or translation studies. Finally, *honorary membership* is intended for national and international persons who have distinguished themselves in our professional field.

For more information on how to join as well as for the relevant application forms, visit the ITIA website at:

www.translatorsassociation.ie

■ WWW Search Interfaces for Translators - wwwsift

The Internet Revolution

Up until a few years ago, obtaining the necessary reference material in order to tackle a technical translation was a costly and time-consuming task: numerous telephone calls and trips to the local library and further afield - strictly during business hours - were the only way to unearth valuable resources to help understand the subject matter at hand and become familiar with the relevant technical terminology.

During the past few years, the Internet has revolutionized the way in which we access information, offering translators new ways in which to carry out terminology research. Today, much of the information we need is just a click away, twenty-four hours a day: from general and specialized monolingual and multilingual dictionaries through illustrated - sometimes animated - product catalogues to multilingual websites with parallel texts; not to mention

the myriad monolingual websites providing terminology and usage in context, constituting an enormous corpus, as it were.

More Information Than You Can Handle?

However, with the ever-growing amount of information available on the internet, searching can be a little frustrating at times:

“Which of the 508,000 pages found by Google should I open in my search for a definition of the term 'bull market'?”

That number of pages to sift through is enough to make anybody feel like a bear with a sore head. To obtain fewer, more relevant results, we need to refine our search.

...the Internet has revolutionized the way in which we access information, offering translators new ways in which to carry out terminology research.

Focused Searching

This need has led to the development of a dedicated website - www.multilingual.ch - here you can find *WWW Search Interfaces for Translators*, a set of search techniques specially designed to meet the needs of translators and other language specialists.

These techniques allow you to perform focused searches for glossaries and parallel texts on the internet containing specific keywords in various languages to obtain definitions and translations of all sorts of terms, including abbreviations. All you need to do is enter your search term and hit the search button: The search interfaces will refine your search, separating the wheat from the chaff, presenting you with a list of relevant results.

For example, go to the English Search Interface page (select “English” in the drop-down menu on the left) and enter the term “bull market” [with the quotation marks, to search for the exact phrase] in the Google glossary search interface then click on Find. Your search will be sent to Google automatically, along with the necessary criteria to refine your search. All you need to do now is pick a website from the list of results.

With the Altavista search interfaces you must select a technique, click on Find, and then replace “keyword” with your own term.

Glossaries

“Lists of terminology in a specific field, generally monolingual but sometimes bi/multilingual”

Glossaries can be a valuable source of terminology: Many of the glossaries available on the internet contain terms that cannot be found in any conventional dictionary either

- ◆ because publication via the internet is that much faster than the traditional dictionary printing process - and thus better capable of keeping abreast with technology, or
- ◆ because the terminology is company-specific and would not normally be printed for the general public.

Parallel Texts

“Identical texts in two or more languages”

Parallel texts can be a valuable source of terminology as they provide not only translations of terms but also the exact context in which the terms are used.

Dictionaries provide many possible translations for terms, leaving you, the translator, with the task of choosing the correct translation in the given context. For example, the German term “*Druck*” can be translated as “pressure”, “tension”, “compression”, “burden”, “load”, “shear”, “thrust”, “printing”, “print”, “copy” etc. Which term do you choose? That all depends on the context.

Parallel texts can be much more useful as they provide you with a specific translation in a specific context. They can be used to find translations of general terms - particularly combined words, for example the German “*steuergünstig*” (*Steuer*+*günstig*), which dictionaries often fail to list, leaving you in the lurch - set phrases and technical terms alike.

It goes without saying that with parallel texts, in particular, you will need to assess the quality and authoritativeness of the texts that you find (Which is the original text? Which is the translation? Is it a reliable translation?).

Additional resources

As well as a large collection of general and specialized monolingual and multilingual dictionaries, on www.multilingual.ch you can also find a list of websites with parallel texts: these can be a good source of information if you are interested in a specific topic. By going directly to a specific website which has

parallel texts, you can obtain more results from that particular website than if you used a general-purpose search engine such as Google or Altavista, the reason being that the site's own search engine will cover more of the site's pages, including those that have not yet been indexed by general-purpose search engines and are therefore not yet retrievable through the WWW Search Interfaces for Translators.

For more information about the search interfaces, go to www.multilingual.ch and click on the *Help* links on the search interfaces pages. You can also join the *wwwsift* forum, a forum for discussing the use of the *WWW Search Interfaces for Translators* and for posting and receiving regular announcements with the URLs of websites that offer parallel texts. A limited version of the *WWW Search Interfaces for Translators* is available in the form of Microsoft Word macros, allowing you to use some of the functionality on the website to search for glossaries and parallel texts from within Word, making the search process even faster.

Tanya Harvey Ciampi
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■ CTTT Training Seminar for Translation Teachers

A Report on the CTTT Training Seminar for Translation Teachers, Universidad de Granada, Spain, July 21st to 25th 2003.

The Alhambra fortress and palace set the backdrop for this year's five-day Training Seminar for Translation Teachers organised by the Consortium for the Training of Translation Teachers in conjunction with the University of Granada and Anthony Pym's Intercultural Studies Group at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili in Tarragona. Based on the model previously used at CTTT seminars in Tarragona and Vicenza, the seminar brought together both translators and translation teachers with the aim of facilitating exchanges between both groups. The stated objective of the series is to “provide a space for the acquisition of the teaching skills most in demand in the training of professional technical (non-literary) translators at university level. Those skills principally involve the use of electronic tools, awareness of the current processes of technical translation and localization, and interactive use of the teaching space, both face-to-face and via e-learning techniques”. Language communities represented by participants this year included Arabic, Danish, Greek,

Hungarian, English, German, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish.

The seminar opened with a presentation by *Anthony Pym* providing a background to institutional frameworks involved in translator training. Pym spoke of recent developments in the field, focusing in particular on how the interests of various stakeholders – translation companies, teaching groups, university institutions, and students – made a variety of (sometimes conflicting) demands, which translator training programmes aimed to satisfy. The implications for this in developing notions of translation and translator competence are far-reaching and may be further complicated with additional demands resulting from the influence of information technology on the development of translation as a profession.

Thus those who engage in curriculum design for translator training find themselves navigating an intricate web of aims and objectives and this was the theme of the Monday afternoon session, presented by *Dorothy Kelly* of the University of Granada. In what, for the present reviewer, was the most interesting presentation of the whole course, Kelly examined curricular design for translator training, presenting basic premises, comparing models, and looking into how aims and objectives might be established. Group-work activities exploited positively the diversity of participants' backgrounds and elicited a variety of interesting views; the one conclusion to which discussions kept returning was the importance of curricular models respecting the local conditions for which translators were being trained.

The second day of the course was devoted to a presentation by *Daniel Gouadec* of the programme he has devised for training technical translators at the *Université de Haute Bretagne - Rennes 2* in France. The 5-year course which Gouadec's trainee translators pursue provides a good example of one of the most radical curricula for translator training, though one which evidently produces exceptional results (his programme has a graduate recruitment success rate of 100%). Working from perhaps the most detailed model of the process of translating which has yet been devised, Gouadec has developed training techniques which, in years four and five of the programme, often eschew traditional classes in favour of highly co-ordinated week-long team projects on large scale 'absolute' translations. At pains to distinguish between training translators and teaching translation, Gouadec's programme is unapologetically vocational and graduates from Rennes find themselves equipped to

embark on careers, not just as translators, but also as terminologists, technical writers, and language engineers. The presentation provoked lively debate among conference participants in its reconsideration of many accepted practices in translator training.

The third morning was given over to a presentation of SDLX translation software. Within the area of CAT tools, SDLX has received less attention than Trados or Déjà Vu and thus the demonstration was of interest to many participants. The system is TMX compliant, Trados compatible, and uses advanced plug-in filtering technology that frees the translator from worrying about format tags. Working within native file format saves time usually lost trying to fix format and layout errors. SDLX also shows files being translated in their native WYSIWYG editor/browser, be it FrameMaker, PowerPoint, Excel, HTML/XML, or others – not just MS Word. As such it's an impressive addition to the growing array of CAT software.

...those who engage in curriculum design for translator training find themselves navigating an intricate web of aims and objectives

Catherine Way, also from the University of Granada, led the proceedings on Thursday in a session on collaborative learning. Way presented the results of an extremely impressive interdisciplinary collaboration project carried out in Granada¹. With a view to improving translation students' ability to relate to clients, text users, and experts from other fields, and to improving their own self-confidence as translation experts when interrelating with other professions, translation students were set a task in which they would collaborate with law students in a realistic joint venture. The law students were to resolve an international

■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the *ITIA Bulletin* will be out on **15th September, 2003**. So if you have any contributions, news, suggestions or something you'd like to share, send them to jody.byrne@dcu.ie. The deadline for submissions is **10th September**.

■ Subscribing to the ITIA Bulletin

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private law case in which they would use knowledge acquired during their legal training, while the translation students would provide research skills, summaries, and translations of material in languages other than Spanish for the law students. The outcome of the project was extremely positive, with all the law students reporting subsequently that they would opt for translation graduates to do legal translation over those graduating from Law with a language. The implications of such results bode well for attempts to raise the professional status of translators and we shall continue to watch Way's future research in this area with interest.

Anthony Pym gave another session on Thursday afternoon in which he presented his online e-learning postgraduate certificate programmes 'Technical Translation and Electronic Tools' and 'Editing and Revising Technical Texts in English'. The presentation was stimulating and participants were eager to discuss other possibilities for e-learning in translator training. More information on these courses is available at:

<http://www.ice.urv.es/trans/future/index.html>

The final day of the course was devoted to a presentation of localisation by Bert Esselink of Lionbridge Technologies. One of the leading authorities in the field, Esselink discussed software user interface localisation, web localisation, and localisation project management, and also devoted some time to translation technology (CAT and MT) and content management and localisation. His presentation was lucid and often entertaining, capturing the attention of the audience throughout (no mean feat when one considers that the temperatures in Granada throughout much of the week had been over 40°!).

All in all, satisfaction with the course was high, with students learning as much from each other during the frequent social breaks as from the lectures and classes.

Further information on past and future CTTT courses may be found via the Consortium for the Training of Translation Teachers website: <http://www.ice.urv.es/trans/future/cttt/cttt.html>

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kearns@pro.onet.pl

¹ A more complete account of this exciting project can be found in Catherine Way's paper "Making Theory Reality: An Example of Interdisciplinary Cooperation", to be published in the forthcoming anthology *Translating in the 21st Century: Trends and Prospects*.

■ Translation in the News

It seems that the latest Harry Potter book is causing something of a storm across the world - and getting certain colleagues in the translation profession into more than a little trouble with the police in Chile, China and Brazil to name a few.

A Chile Reception for Illegal Potter Translation

In Chile, police have arrested two people in a clampdown on pirate copies of J.K. Rowling's latest Harry Potter book "*The Order of the Phoenix*".

According to reports, the Chilean duo are believed to have produced the first, unauthorized Spanish translation of the book which, despite a number of high profile leaks, is not due for release until the end of this year. This illegal translation has been selling on the streets of Santiago for weeks.

Police raided a production studio and arrested the two men and seized 200 copies of the translated book. News of the arrests was welcomed by the head of the Chilean Book Chamber who described the Spanish version as a "very bad translation". For more on this story see:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/s920619.htm>

Chinese Whispers Causing More Problems for Potter

Alas, the young wizard's problems don't end in Chile. According to *The Hindustan Times*, a group of over-enthusiastic Potter fans in China have translated some 35 chapters of the English version into Chinese and placed it online - even though the official Chinese translation isn't due for release until some time around September.

The culprits attempted to justify their actions by maintaining that they did not do it for financial reasons, merely out of personal interest and also as a reaction to frustration at the lengthy delays by authorised publishing houses in releasing the official translations. This, they claim, puts them in a different class to illegal publishers. Legal experts, however, disagree and maintain that the author, J.K. Rowling is entitled to sue.

Whatever your views on the books themselves, who would have thought that translation would become the latest racket for organised crime? Maybe we'll see a translator in the next series of *The Sopranos*. For more on this story see:

http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/181_324312,00030010.htm

■ Conferences

Translation and the Construction of Identity

Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul, Korea

12th - 14th August 2004

To mark the launch of the *International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS)*, Sookmyung Women's University in Seoul, Korea, is hosting an international conference with an appropriately international and pressing theme: **Translation and the Construction of Identity**.

'Translation' is used here generically to cover written translation, oral interpreting, audiovisual translation and translation in ethnography, among other forms of crosscultural mediation. Contributions covering forms of intercultural communication other than translation are invited.

The conference themes include the following:

- ◆ The construction and maintenance of national, religious and ethnic identity
- ◆ Power, diplomacy and culture in international relations
- ◆ The intellectual effects of globalisation
- ◆ Negotiating identities across cultures: migration, gender, asylum
- ◆ Self and Other in crosscultural encounters
- ◆ The impact of institutional identities on translation and crosscultural research

These themes may be approached from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds, including various strands of linguistics, pragmatics, literary theory, gender studies, postcolonial studies, sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, and media studies, among others.

Further more information, please visit the conference website at
<http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~lbowker/iatisconf/iatisconfmain.htm>

The Seventh International Conference of the Association for Language Awareness

Lleida, Catalonia (Spain)

July 19th to July 21st, 2004

The conference welcomes abstracts relating to the exploration of the means to develop one's language awareness, and evaluation of the benefits deriving from this, whether through metalinguistic introspection and reflection, or through mediated explicit knowledge about language and conscious understanding of how languages work, of how people acquire, learn and teach languages, how they use them, and are influenced by them. Also welcome are abstracts focusing on the investigation on critical understanding of knowledge, beliefs and attitudes about language, and their effects on language use, learning and teaching, on the conduct of people's everyday lives and their interpersonal and intergroup relations. Abstracts relating to language awareness issues outside these two broad areas are also welcome.

We invite 40-minute papers (25 minutes talk, 15 minutes questions), suggestions for workshops (60 minutes) and posters on different aspects of Language Awareness. A selection of papers will be published in a conference issue of the journal of Language Awareness.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.udl.es/dept/dal/ala2004/frameseteng.htm>

■ Training, Courses & Education

MA/Postgraduate Diploma in Translating **School of Languages, University of Salford**

This full-time, nine month-long taught modular translation course has attracted postgraduate students from both the UK and abroad for over twenty years.

The course aims to develop the techniques required for translation in an increasingly competitive and computer-oriented professional environment, and to help students to reflect on their own practice.

Students on this programme work into and out of English and one or two of the following languages: French, German, Greek, Italian and Spanish.

During the summer vacation following the completion of the taught courses, students wishing to be awarded the MA prepare a dissertation to be submitted in September.

The Course includes the following core modules:

- ◆ · Specialised Translation (technical, medical and legal) into and from English;
- ◆ · Lexicography and Terminology
- ◆ · Principles and Strategies of Translation
- ◆ · Information Technology for translators
- ◆ · Extended translation

plus two options from the following:

- ◆ · Business Interpreting
- ◆ · A subsidiary language (currently German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish are available)
- ◆ · Translation Studies
- ◆ · Translation from a Second Language into English (from French, German, Greek, Italian or Spanish).

Students also attend Keynote Lectures, and Seminars on specialised translation and business practice, held by professionals in the field. A series of research skills lectures, together with research seminars on Translation and Interpreting Studies are organised for students interested in the MA. For information on the Research Seminars, organised by the European Studies Research Institute of the University of Salford, see the Centre for Language and Culture page.

Assessment for award of the Diploma is based on a combination of coursework assignments and examinations. Students who have successfully completed the taught programme, and who have been allowed to proceed to the MA will be required to submit a 15,000 word dissertation by the third week of September.

Entry Requirements

Candidates should normally possess, or expect to obtain, an appropriate honours degree or equivalent qualification. Those without these qualifications may be required to take a preparatory course of study before being admitted to their chosen programme. The University's Accreditation of Prior Learning policy counts applicants' work and other appropriate experience towards their application.

For more details on this course, visit:

<http://www.languages.salford.ac.uk/courses/tranitran.htm>

■ Contacting The ITIA

Irish Translators & Interpreters Association *Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Teangairí na hÉireann*

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■ ITIA Resources for Translators

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* has compiled a series of useful information leaflets for translators and interpreters - both members and non-members alike. These leaflets are available from the ITIA website at www.translatorsassociation.ie.

- ◆ *The Translation Profession*
- ◆ *Joining the ITIA*
- ◆ *Ordinary Membership Application*
- ◆ *Professional Membership Application*
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