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Simultaneous interpreting — Equipment — Requirements

Interprétation simultanée — Équipement — Exigences

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Translation, interpreting and related technology*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/SS A07, *Translation and Interpretation services*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 20109:2016), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— Clause 2 has been updated;

— two different situations regarding the location of the parties have been introduced;

— requirements relating to sound have been aligned with other standards and/or improved as to ensure necessary sound quality transmitted to interpreters;

— detailed requirements for video displays have been added;

— specifications on interpreting system microphone behaviour have been added;

— a measurement method for the values pertaining to hearing protection has been added.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

This document specifies requirements for the equipment for simultaneous interpreting, as well as the quality of sound and image transmitted to interpreters and from interpreters to the participants of a communicative event. Technological progress has led to profound changes in how interpreters perform their services. They can interpret in interpreting booths in the room in which the communicative event takes place, but either the entire team of interpreters or part of it can also be working from an interpreting hub, or interpreters can perform their services from an individual environment controlled by themselves. Different equipment can be used in different situations to optimize performance. This document takes these different situations into account.

Other relevant standards that can be applied in conjunction with this document, as required, are ISO 17651 (all parts), ISO 22259 and ISO 24019.

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Simultaneous interpreting — Equipment — Requirements

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements for the equipment needed for simultaneous interpreting and for the quality of sound and image transmitted to interpreters and from interpreters to the audience, irrespective of the place in relation to speakers, signers, the audience and other interpreters.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 639, *Code for individual languages and language groups*

ISO 9241-303, *Ergonomics of human-system interaction — Part 303: Requirements for electronic visual displays*

ISO 9241-410:2008/Amd 1:2012, *Ergonomics of human-system interaction — Part 410: Design criteria for physical input devices — Amendment 1*

ISO 22259:2019, *Conference systems — Equipment — Requirements*

ISO 24019:2022, *Simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms — Requirements and recommendations*

ISO 24503, *Ergonomics — Accessible design — Tactile dots and bars on consumer products*

IEC 60268-1:2010, *Sound system equipment — Part 1: General*

IEC 60268-4, *Sound system equipment — Part 4: Microphones*

ITU-T P.58, *Head and torso simulator for telephonometry*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
interpreter
person who interprets

[SOURCE: ISO 20539:2023, 3.1.13]

3.2
interpreting
interpretation
rendering spoken or signed information from a source language into a target language in spoken or signed form, conveying both the meaning and language register of the source language content

[SOURCE: ISO 20539:2023, 3.1.11]

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