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Simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms — Requirements and recommendations

Plateformes de distribution d'interprétation simultanée — Exigences et recommandations

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology,* Subcommittee SC 5, *Translation, interpreting and related technology*.

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

The use of simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms is a relatively new field of activities for interpreters. Parameters and conditions for using these services in settings where the interpreters are, or are not, in the same room as participants and speakers are still under development. Meanwhile, developers, providers and users need information about basic requirements and recommendations relating to these platforms.

Equipment and facilities for simultaneous interpreting are also covered in ISO 2603, ISO 4043, ISO 20108 and ISO 20109.

For certain settings and specializations, such as multilingual conference interpreting, additional specific provisions are applicable.

This document has been developed as a Publicly Available Specification, prior to the development of an International Standard on simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms. It is likely that the content of this document will form the basis of an ISO standard in due course.

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Simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms — Requirements and recommendations

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and recommendations for using simultaneous interpreting delivery platforms in settings where the interpreters are, or are not, in the same room as participants and speakers at a communicative event.

In conjunction with ISO 20108, this document provides the relevant requirements and recommendations for the quality and transmission of sound and image to interpreters and from interpreters to participants, and for the configuration of the interpreter's working environment.

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 639-3, *Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages*

ISO 2603:2016, *Simultaneous interpreting — Permanent booths — Requirements*

ISO 4043:2016, *Simultaneous interpreting — Mobile booths — Requirements*

ISO 9241-410, *Ergonomics of human-system interaction — Part 410: Design criteria for physical input devices*

ISO 20108:2017, *Simultaneous interpreting — Quality and transmission of sound and image input — Requirements*

ISO 20109:2016, *Simultaneous interpreting — Equipment — Requirements*

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

IEC 60268-7, *Sound system equipment — Part 7: Headphones and earphones*

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

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

3.1
interpret
render spoken or signed information from a source language to a target language in oral or signed form, conveying both the register and meaning of the source language content

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.1]

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3.2
interpreter
person who *interprets* (3.1)

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.3]

3.3
interpreting
interpretation
rendering spoken or signed information from a source language to a target language in oral or signed form, conveying both the register and meaning of the source language content

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.2]

3.4
simultaneous interpreting
mode of *interpreting* (3.3) performed while a *speaker* (3.17) or *signer* (3.18) is still speaking or signing

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.13, modified – the words "or signer" have been added.]

3.5
simultaneous interpreting delivery platform
virtual environment that manages the processing of audio and video signals during the transmission of information from *speakers* (3.17) or *signers* (3.18) to *interpreters* (3.2) and thence to an *audience* (3.16) in *simultaneous interpreting* (3.4)

Note 1 to entry: Other equipment necessary in simultaneous interpreting, such as *interpreter interfaces* (3.6), *microphones* (3.9), *headphones* (3.10) and cameras, attach to the simultaneous interpreting delivery platform.

3.6
interpreter interface
equipment containing controls for listening and speaking used by the *interpreter* (3.2) to facilitate *simultaneous interpreting* (3.4)

3.7
interpreter console
individual hardware workstation containing physical controls for listening and speaking that facilitates *simultaneous interpreting* (3.4)

[SOURCE: ISO 20109:2016, 3.2, modified – the words "hardware" and "physical" have been added and the word "enables" has been changed to "facilitates".]

3.8
soft console
type of *interpreter interface* (3.6) which runs on an ordinary IT device and has onscreen controls

Note 1 to entry: Soft consoles can run on mobile phones, computers or tablets.

3.9
microphone
transducer that converts sound into an electrical signal

[SOURCE: ISO 22259:2019, 3.14]

3.10
headphone
transducer that converts an electrical signal into sound, designed to be worn close to the ear

[SOURCE: ISO 22259:2019, 3.17]

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3.11
headset
headphones (3.10) combined with a *microphone* (3.9)

[SOURCE: ISO 20109:2016, 3.5]

3.12
relay interpreting
interpreting (3.3) that occurs when an *interpreter's* (3.2) input comes from another interpreter's rendition and not directly from the *speaker* (3.17) or *signer* (3.18)

[SOURCE: ISO 20109:2016, 3.7, modified – the words "or signer" have been added.]

3.13
distance interpreting
remote interpreting
interpreting (3.3) of a *speaker* (3.17) or *signer* (3.18) in a different location from that of the *interpreter* (3.2), enabled by information and communications technology

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.10, modified – the words "or signer" have been added.]

3.14
communicative event
encounter between two or more parties during which information is transmitted

[SOURCE: ISO 20228:2019, 3.1.22, modified – the "Note 1 to entry" has been deleted.]

3.15
participant
person who takes an active part in an event

[SOURCE: ISO 22259:2019, 3.25]

3.16
audience
group of listeners or spectators at an event

[SOURCE: ISO 22259:2019, 3.28]

3.17
speaker
person addressing others using spoken language

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.1.7, modified – the comma and the words "either" and "or sign language" have been removed.]

3.18
signer
person addressing others using signed language

3.19
moderator
person responsible for facilitating interaction between people at an event

3.20
latency
<communications> time delay between the sending of a signal from one device and its reception by another device

[SOURCE: ISO/TS 27790:2009, 3.40]

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