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Technical and Scientific Translator

Experienced

Independent technical and scientific translator since 1984, serving attorneys, intellectual property law firms, and corporate patent departments, as well as specialized translation agencies and public-relations professionals, in the United States and Western Europe.

Total output to date exceeds 15 million words.

Effective

Recognized as one of the most capable patent translators in the United States.

Over two thousand patent applications translated for submission to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, prepared in collaboration with demanding, detail-oriented IP professionals who have remained faithful customers for decades.

Recipient of the 2005 S. Edmund Berger Prize in Scientific and Technical Translation, awarded by the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation.

Two decades of experience creating persuasive and informative copy in support of technical marketing campaigns.

Described by one long-time client as “ein Künstler in seinem Fach [an artist in his field].”

Professionally engaged

Past President (2009-2011) of the American Translators Association (ATA), the largest association of translators and interpreters in the United States, with almost 11,000 members and global influence.

Active member of ATA since 1984 (awarded Honorary membership by the Board of Directors in 2012). More than twenty-five years of volunteer service: chair of numerous committees, administrator of the Science and Technology Division, member of the Board of Directors, Secretary, and President-elect (responsible for the educational program of ATA's 50th-anniversary Conference in 2009).

ATA-certified in German–English, French–English and Italian–English translation.

Extensive bibliography of professional articles and conference presentations.

Practical information

Principal language combinations

German into English
French into English

Certified by the American Translators Association for German–English, French–English, and Italian–English (certification no. 1814).

Subject areas

Materials science and engineering (polymers, synthetic fibers, ceramics, composites, metallurgy), chemistry, paints and coatings, printing technology, laboratory testing and analysis, optics and photography, electrical engineering, microelectronics, aviation (airframe, avionics, propulsion systems), automotive engineering, computer applications.

Document types

Patent applications, prior art, patent correspondence and judgments, office actions; manuals and handbooks, specifications, technical reports, scientific journal articles, textbooks; corporate image brochures, technical and industrial marketing texts, company newsletters, magazine and newspaper articles, press releases.

Annual translation volume

Approx. 960,000 words (2014).

Terms and conditions

Non-binding cost estimates are available free of charge.

Complex formatting or rush delivery may entail additional cost.

Invoices submitted for translation services are payable upon receipt.

I do not subcontract translation work, nor charge referral fees or commissions. If I cannot accept a translation assignment, I will make every effort to refer you to a qualified colleague or reputable translation agency.

Background

Citizenship

U.S.A. (born 1952 in New York City)

Education and training

FAA Private Pilot license, October 1991.

University of Pennsylvania, 1975-82 (PhD in Classical Archaeology).

Research Fellow and Research Associate, University Radiocarbon Laboratory and Museum Applied Science Center for Archaeology, University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, 1976-81 (staff photographer; research projects in obsidian tool microwear, Roman concrete, pre-Etruscan iron technology).

Excavator and photographer on University of Pennsylvania excavations at Cyrene (Libya), 1976, and Beqa'a Valley (Jordan), 1980; and Brown University excavations at Tufariello (Italy), 1972-73.

Brown University, 1969-73 (BA magna cum laude in Classics, MA in Classical Archaeology).

Secondary schools in New York City and London, England

Employment

Freelance technical and scientific translator, 1984-.

Translator and Indexer Supervisor, Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia PA, 1982-84.

American Translators Association (ATA) activities

President, American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation (AFTI) (2011-2013)

ATA President (2009-11)

President-elect and conference organizer (2007-09)

Governance and Communications Committee chair (2006-2009)

Business Practices Education Committee co-chair (2005-09)

Director (2004-07)

Science and Technology Information Committee chair (1999-2001)

Director (1993-96)

Science and Technology Division administrator (1993-95)

Secretary (1991-93)

ATA Chronicle Editorial Board member (1989-93)

Client Education Committee chair (1989-91)

Director (1988-91)

Active member since 1984

Conference and seminar presentations

The Turbine Engine: An Introduction to Modern Aircraft Propulsion Systems, illustrated presentation at American Translators Association conference, November 5, 2015.

An Introduction to Aviation and Air Travel, illustrated presentation at American Translators Association conference, October 26, 2012.

Real voices: What translators do and why we need to keep doing it, opening keynote address to the Ninth Conference of the Association for Machine Translation in the Americas, Denver, Colorado, October 31–November 4, 2010.

ATA at 50: Challenges and Opportunities, paper presented to International Conference of the Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer (BDÜ [German national association of interpreters and translators]), Berlin, September 11-13, 2009; published in W. Baur, S. Kalina, F. Mayer, J. Witzel (eds.), *Übersetzen in die Zukunft: Tagungsband der Internationalen Fachkonferenz des Bundesverbandes der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer* (Berlin, 2009) pp. 540-546.

Keynote speaker and panel participant, *Translation & Interpreting: A Global Profession*, Annual Symposium of MICATA (the Mid-America Chapter of the American Translators Association), March 13-14, 2009, Overland Park, KS.

Enhancing the Certification Program of the American Translators Association, paper presented at XVIII World Congress of FIT (International Federation of Translators), August 4-7, 2008, Shanghai, China.

Keynote speaker and panel participant, *Honing Your Skills: Working as a Translator / Interpreter*, Annual Symposium of MICATA (the Mid-America Chapter of the American Translators Association), March 28-29, 2008, Oklahoma City, OK.

The Beginning of Wisdom: Some practical aspects of technical translation, paper presented at American Translators Association conference, November 11, 2005; published (with minor adaptations) in *ATA Chronicle*, April 2006, pp. 23-27.

The Beginning of Wisdom: Some practical aspects of technical translation, lecture presented at a regular meeting of the Midwest Association of Translators and Interpreters (a chapter of the American Translators Association), Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana, February 26, 2005.

Guest lecturer to students in Graduate Certificate in Translation program, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1999-2012).

An Introduction to Patent Translation, lecture presented to the Midwest Association of Translators and Interpreters (a chapter of the American Translators Association), Oak Brook, IL, August 3, 2003.

Practicum in German Patent Translation, pre-conference seminar conducted at American Translators Association conference, November, 2002 (abstract available on the ATA Web site).

An Introduction to German Patent Translation, paper delivered at American Translators Association conference, November, 2001 (published in *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the American Translators Association, Los Angeles, California, October 31-November 3, 2001* [ATA, 2001] pp. 109-114. Reprinted in *interaktiv* December 2001, No. 4 (newsletter of the German Language Division of ATA), and *ATA Chronicle*, April 2002.

Translating German Patents, paper delivered at ATA Regional Conference (Madison, WI), April 2001.

Aircraft, Powerplant, and Airport Terminology, paper delivered at American Translators Association conference (Colorado Springs, CO), November 1996.

Patents in General, paper delivered at German Translators Forum workshop (Chicago, IL), March 1994.

Translating Technical Literature. Two-day seminar for professional German-English translators, presented in collaboration with itl - Institut für technische Literatur (Munich, Germany), December 1992.

Seminar on French-English Technical Translation, conducted at American Translators Association conference (Washington, DC), October 1989.

Technical Translation from French into English, seminar conducted at American Translators Association conference (Seattle, WA), October 1988.

Translating Romance Language Technical and Scientific Texts into English, seminar conducted at American Translators Association conference, October 1986 (abstract published in Karl Kummer, ed., *Proceedings of the 27th Annual Conference of the American Translators Association, Cleveland, Ohio, October 16-19, 1986* [Learned Information, Inc., 1986] pp. 265-266).

Special Language and Special Form in Technical Translation, paper delivered at American Translators Association conference, October 1985. (published in Patricia E. Newman, ed., *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Conference of the American Translators Association, Miami, Florida, October 16-20, 1985* [Learned Information, Inc., 1985] pp. 57-60).

Articles, reviews and other publications

“An Introduction to Patent Translation,” in *The Patent Translator's Handbook*, Alison Carroll, ed. (Alexandria, VA, 2007) pp. 11-18.

“Truth, Love, and Prehistory” [autobiographical profile], *Translation Journal* vol. 6, no. 1, January 2001.

Review of Z. Goffer, *Dictionary of Archaeological Materials and Archaeometry* (Elsevier), *ATA Chronicle*, February 1998.

Review of *German Technical Dictionary (Universal-Wörterbuch der Technik Englisch), Vol. 1 German-English* (Routledge), *ATA Chronicle*, June 1996.

“The Accidental Translator” [brief professional autobiography], *ATA Chronicle*, February 1995.

“Resources for Science and Technology Translators,” *ATA Chronicle*, January 1995.

“Demystifying the ATA Sci-Tech Division,” *ATA Chronicle*, February 1994.

(with Steven R. Sachs and Ben Teague) *A Consumer's Guide to Good Translation* (series of articles in *ATA Chronicle* [1989-90], compiled and issued as a brochure in 1993).

“Communicating Between IBM and Apple: A Connectivity Update,” *ATA Science and Technology Newsletter*, March 1989.

“Foreign-Language Software for the Apple Macintosh: A Product Survey,” *ATA Chronicle*, December 1988.

“Laser Printing for the Rest of Us,” *ATA Chronicle*, March 1988.

“Aviation Terminology and Acronyms,” *ATA Chronicle*, October 1987.

Review of K. Stölzel, *Dictionary of Metallurgy and Foundry Technology, German-English* (Elsevier), *ATA Chronicle*, April 1987.

“Apple Macintosh software for translators,” *ATA Science and Technology Division Newsletter*, November 1985.

Selected list of translations

Patent applications and prior art

Materials

Plastics welding equipment

Thermoplastic foamed polymer membranes

Papermaking methods

Glass-filled adhesives and sealants

Magnetic materials and sensors

Single-crystal pulling methods

Extruded aluminum profiles

Molded wood products

Chemistry

High-molecular-weight branched water-soluble acrylamide copolymers

Chromatographic column for purifying biological macromolecules

DNA hybridization methods

Polymers containing nitrile groups

Surfactant-containing washing and cleaning agents

Organopolysiloxanes containing curable epoxy groups

Molecular interaction detection system

Method for preparing biodegradable plastics

Difluoromethane production and synthesis

Vinyl chloride polymerization procedures

Automotive engineering

Fuel injection valves

Control devices for occupant restraint systems

Engine control sensors and equipment

Truck and trailer stabilization equipment

Shifting devices for automatic and manual transmissions

Navigation devices and methods

Vehicle stability and braking systems

Turbocharger systems

Data transfer buses and procedures

Vehicle seat anchoring systems

Patent applications and prior art (continued)

Electrical engineering and microelectronics

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|---|--|
| SIM chip card production methods | Electronically commutated motors |
| Signal modulation and demodulation methods | Microwave radar systems |
| Semiconductor device manufacturing and inspection | Data memory interfaces and configuration devices |
| Audio signal reproduction systems | Data transfer systems |
| Heat transfer devices for electronic components | MEMS-based accelerometer system |

Mechanical engineering

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| Bicycle gear-shifting mechanisms | Papermaking belts and accessories |
| Temperature-sensitive switches | Handheld power tools |
| Metal pipe flaring and joining devices | Dust filtration devices |
| Machine-tool clamping devices | Inkjet printing head control method |

Optics and photography

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| Electron microscope lenses | Laser scanning microscopes |
| Interference microscopy methods | Microscope stands |
| Microscope illumination systems | Microscope specimen preparation and handling systems |
| Electronic image processing methods and apparatus | Digital image projection systems |

Technical and industrial marketing texts

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| Logistics and management software (company profile) | Professional electronic flash equipment (manuals, brochures, press releases) |
| Industrial and construction adhesives (brochures) | Laminated packaging films (customer newsletter) |
| Waste incineration plants and systems (brochures, press releases, company newsletters) | Printing inks and other auxiliaries (brochures, company newsletters) |
| Aircraft engine test facility (brochure) | Machine-tool accessories (brochure) |
| Thermoplastics compounders for injection molding (brochures) | Capsules for pharmaceuticals and dietary supplements (brochure) |
| Garden tillers (brochures and press releases) | Hand-made wooden powerboats (brochure) |

Operating and instruction manuals

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Avionics maintenance | Aircraft component testing and support equipment |
| Text-to-speech software | Fatty-acid analysis (laboratory procedures) |
| Shared-library database software | Automobile dealer sales training materials |
| Computer-based color analysis system | Ultrasonic immersion inspection of steel bars and billets (testing specification) |

Scientific articles and reports

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|---|--|
| Examination of epitaxial GaAs layers using Schottky contacts | Deuterium NMR spectroscopy for authenticity testing of natural substances |
| Resistance-heated capillary columns for gas chromatography | Qualitative and quantitative determination of flavor and fragrance compounds |
| Acoustic decoding and linguistic analysis in speech recognition systems | Use of natural vegetable oils in printing inks |
| Development and utilization of fiber-ceramic composites | Wear analysis of vane cell pumps |

Book translations

- Christophe Donnet, *Hunter Fascination* (Schück Verlag, Adliswil, Switzerland, 1995)
Photograph captions for a 350-page large-format book documenting the Swiss Air Force's principal combat aircraft.
- V. and F. Motta, eds., *World Geographical Encyclopedia* (McGraw-Hill 1995)
Vols. 1 (Africa), 2 (The Americas), and 4 (Europe); in collaboration with Henry Fischbach and The Language Service.
- Robert Kandel, *Our Changing Climate* (McGraw-Hill, 1992)
- Haroun Tazieff, *Earthquake Prediction* (McGraw-Hill, 1992)
- Françoise Balibar, *The Science of Crystals* (McGraw-Hill, 1993)
- Raymond Daudel, *The Realm of Molecules* (McGraw-Hill, 1993)
- Pascal Tassy, *The Message of Fossils* (McGraw-Hill, 1993)
Five of the "Horizons of Science" series of popular-science paperbacks (originally published by Hachette); in collaboration with The Language Service.
- Katsuyoshi Ishihara, *Implementing Quality on the Shop Floor: A Practical Guide* (1992)
Translated from the French translation of the Japanese original; in collaboration with Accurapid Translation Services.

Miscellaneous

Historical (1921) publicity material for a German pharmaceutical company

Italian genealogical documents and correspondence

Architectural analysis of a Roman market basilica

Transcripts of a government commission investigating Banca Nazionale del Lavoro

Documents describing a project to reconfigure rail transportation in and around Stuttgart

Brochure promoting custom station-wagon conversions of Aston Martin and Lagonda sports cars

Steven Hancoff, *Bach, Casals & the Six Suites for 'Cello Solo* (German source materials and secondary publications)