
Welcome to the first edition of the Burravoe newsletter for 2012. The first two months of the year have been busy and the team have been working on a number of interesting new projects and language combinations, which we hope you will enjoy reading about.

Sometimes you only get one chance with translations, so get it right!

There have been a number of cases recently where we have had to re-translate documents that have been translated badly by other individuals, in particular insurance terms and conditions. If the mistakes hadn't been spotted, the client could have been signing themselves up to something without realising. Luckily this wasn't the case as Burravoe provided the correct translation, but a number of companies haven't been so lucky, as these images show:



Have you seen any funny examples of bad translations? If so, we would love to see them. Please visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages and share your 'bad translation' images with us.

International Fraud – The Role of the Interpreter

Dealing with sensitive and difficult issues in any business requires careful handling. However, when faced with the prospect of managing an internal fraud investigation which could end up in court and which spanned a number of countries, it was critical that the US corporation involved ensured that all aspects of the investigation were conducted in the language of those involved in the process. Collecting evidence and witness statements is inevitably a critical aspect of any investigation.

Burravoe Translations provided interpreters in various European languages to assist The Inkerman Group in this high-profile, complex, and cross-jurisdictional investigation, which required a significant number of witness statements to be taken. Interpreters worked with The Inkerman Group's team of investigators over several months as the case, which had initially been uncovered by the client's Head Office operation's security department, developed and all interviews were conducted, with witness statements and evidence being obtained to the required evidential standard.

The Inkerman Group works with a significant number of businesses, corporations, legal practices and high-net-worth individuals conducting all kinds of investigations, including fraud, product contamination, due diligence, money laundering, IP, reputation and digital forensics. It delivers these services throughout the world, so working with [Burravoe Translations](#) ensures that this can be achieved in all language combinations.

Recent Work

We always enjoy receiving unusual language requests and already this year we have translated criminal enquiry and fraud documents, marriage certificates and technical engineering documents from Mauritian Creole, Maltese and Ibibio (from south-eastern Nigeria), into English for our clients. Please keep the quirky language requests coming, and don't forget, Burravoe translates all languages combinations.

Did you know? 473 languages spoken in the world are nearly extinct due to the fact that only a few elderly speakers are still living. Figures show that Romano-Greek or Hellenoromani, a secret language used in public, which is structured on Greek with heavy Romani Lexicon, is now only spoken by around 30 people in Greece today.

Meet the Translator

Having received a great response from our readers who enjoyed last edition's new 'Meet the Translator' feature, and with so many interesting people working for Burravoe, we decided to feature another of our translators, Antoine Beguin.



Antoine is of Swiss origin and is a regular translator of English to French for Burravoe. Having moved to London at a young age, he now lives in Mexico with his wife and family.

How did you come to work in translation?

After spending eight years working at Reuters in London on the French desk, I decided to relocate in Paris where I took a sabbatical year. When I decided to return to work, by chance I met a translator who told me all about his work and put me in touch with his agency. The timing couldn't have been better as they were really busy and were able to give me lots of translation work; for the last thirty-two years I have continued working as a translator and have never looked back.

What are your specialist translation areas?

I find it difficult to call myself a "specialist" in any particular subject, but I am able to translate documents in a wide range of subject areas. Having studied Physics at the University of Zurich, I would definitely say that I am experienced in a lot of technical matters such as automotive, aerospace, transport and electrical machines. The experience I gained as a subeditor on the French Desk at Reuters in London has made translating official reports for the European Commission and UN, a lot easier.

What do you like about being a freelance translator? Personally I quite like working on my own and not working to set office hours. Sometimes the job is very demanding and busy but there are also quiet periods, which means that the job of a translator isn't for everyone. When you look beyond the mere translation of words and sentences, translating has many enriching facets too. You help your clients to communicate better and are able to participate in many different aspects of clients' business. Translating is a craft and it's most satisfying to do a good job and produce copy that reads properly in the target language.

What is the most challenging aspect of your job? Besides often having to meet tight deadlines, a challenging aspect in translating is to first take the time to understand the document properly and establish its terminology. You cannot rush into a job, but rather strive to "get it right first time." Proof-reading is an essential part of what I do and I am extremely meticulous about this for every document I translate, however big or small.

You might think that, with Antoine living and working in Mexico, it could make co-ordinating working hours with Burravoe rather difficult, given the six-hour time lag between Mexico and the UK. However, it often works in our favour as jobs that clients need to be completed on a tight timescale can often be completed by Antoine whilst the UK is asleep.

Spring Sale Starts Now!

Receive a 10% discount on all translations over 1000 words, when confirmation to proceed is received before the end of April 2012.

Please quote BUR66/0412

Are you ready for the Olympics? If you are a Hotel, Restaurant, Transport Company, Tour Guide or any other company wishing to offer a service to international guests visiting the UK for the Olympics, you may not have considered translating your brochures or website into alternative languages. However big or small the document, Burravoe Translation Services can help.