

Newsletter

Welcome to the September edition of the Burravoe Newsletter

Bringing you the latest client wins, translation industry-related news and advice on how to avoid translation pitfalls.

SPECIAL 'LEGAL' EDITION OF MEET THE TRANSLATOR

Jakub was born in England, into a family of refugees unable to return to Poland after World War II due to communism, so from childhood he lived in a bilingual world. He studied economics, going on to take another degree in sociology. Whilst living in Poland in the 70's and 80's he saw the system there visibly decay, and also held a student internship at Radio Free Europe. His first job was with the BBC Monitoring Service, then a large in-house employer of linguists, focusing on gathering so-called open source intelligence from foreign media. We asked Jakub about life as a translator for Burravoe and what he enjoys most about working specifically with legal documents.

1. How did you get into legal translation work?

An information explosion after the fall of communism kept me employed for many years. When official interest in the Polish media ran down as Poland became a more straightforward country and then joined the EU, I started freelancing – my first jobs were interpreting for mining managers invited by British Coal to come and see how to rationalise mines.

2. Do you specialise in any particular areas of legal work?

Legal work has dominated since I quit the BBC to go fully freelance. My background was suitably broad and relevant and, through contacts, I got work from a leading Warsaw law firm, dealing with company registration, intellectual property, real estate, employment cases and other contractual disputes. Since working with Burravoe, I have had a lot of UK-originated work in family law, which is quite different in nature, and some inheritance matters arising from post-war communist expropriations.

3. What do you enjoy most about translating legal documents?

A lot of people seem to think "legal = boring." Not at all, the complexity and precision of legal documents and argument demand concentration.

4. What is the most challenging aspect of your job?

The most challenging thing, of course, is that the categories of the Polish legal system necessarily have to be conveyed using words and terms which otherwise exist and have specific meanings in the English (or Scottish) system – and vice-versa. The clients know this, but the effort is always to minimise potential confusion and choose terms appropriately.

5. What makes a good legal translator?

It helps to have a wide-ranging background or interests (in one month I had documents in disputes involving packaging and containers for paints, cement specifications and jewellery designs) and the proverbial eye for detail. I think precision, precision and again precision is the mantra and a temperament that even prefers work when it is intense and on short deadlines.



Jakub Pawlik

Document Vs. Translator; there's more to matching a job to a translator than just knowing which languages they can speak...

A recent survey of accuracy and efficiency in the commercial insurance sector has found that [the number of errors found in insurance policies has risen by an alarming 14% this year](#). The Sixth Annual Insurance Standards survey by The Insurance Manager, found that errors range from typing errors to significant errors which, if not corrected, could result in a claim being rejected. This year's survey found an error rate of 38%, up from 24% last year.

Incorrect insurance policies could cost individuals thousands and these particular statistics only relate to English insurance policies, before there has even been any translation work involved - imagine how many critical errors could be made if you do not use a bona fide translation company like Burravoe when translating insurance and legal documents!

Over the past few months, Burravoe Translation Services has been working with a large number of solicitors, lawyers and individual clients who have needed a variety of legal documents translated. With in excess of 1000 translators to choose from, Burravoe carefully selects the right translator for each job according to their mother tongue, personal specialisms, qualifications and experience to ensure that they are the most qualified person for the job. Due to his legal expertise, our featured 'Meet the Translator' for this quarter, Jakub Pawlik, along with other similarly qualified translators, have been carefully matched to work on a number of legal documents, including pharmaceutical and electrical patents, property disputes relating to inheritance and selling property abroad, employment contracts, passports, marriage certificates, insurance documents following accidents abroad, fraud cases, investigations, compensation claims and personal injury documentation.

[Burravoe Translation Services covers all subject areas and language combinations and has particular expertise in a number of specialist areas such as legal translations.](#)

Contact us today for further information or visit www.burravoe.com

DO YOU NEED A CRB CHECK?

BBC News has reported that interpreters from a private company have been working in courts in England and Wales without the required criminal record checks. Interpreters, particularly those working on sensitive issues or in the court system need to ensure that they have the appropriate checks in place. The Inkerman Group, sister company of Burravoe Translations, conduct and translate CRB checks for students and employees coming into the UK - providing an easy and fast service. CRB checks are available via The Inkerman Group at a special reduced price for a limited time only. For further information or to order your CRB now, send an e-mail to vetting@inkerman.com or telephone the vetting team on +44 (0) 1233 646940 quoting reference **Burr309**.

The power of Social Media

Having recently discovered Burravoe on social networking site, LinkedIn, a number of different translators have been used to create documents for local print company, Cascade.

Director at Cascade, David Williams, kindly took some time out to tell us a little bit about why he chose Burravoe for his translation work.

How did you hear about Burravoe Translation Services?

Originally we discovered Burravoe on the social networking site 'LinkedIn.' We had been using a translation company in the Midlands and noticed that Burravoe were in Ashford like ourselves, so it seemed an obvious move.

What made you decide to use Burravoe?

Location firstly, as Burravoe are literally two miles door to door from us. It meant that if necessary, we could get to them easily and they could get to us! Also, the service we received was exceptional. They understood our requirements perfectly and we received the documents back very quickly, which was superb!

Which services did Burravoe provide for Cascade?

As a major print broker, we receive many requests from our clients. On this occasion, one of our larger customers required a Drivers on Site Manual to be translated into several languages. It was time to call Burravoe!!

Which language combinations were required?

Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian, Russian, German, French and Bulgarian.

Would you recommend Burravoe to others? Definitely. Annette and the team were great to work with and made everything very easy for us.



Did you see...

The 'unreadable' Olympics security poster produced by First Capital Connect, which reads as "gibberish" in Arabic?

Train company, First Capital Connect, faced ridicule recently when their security posters warning people not to leave items unattended, intended for display in stations across London, were "unreadable" and complete "gibberish."

The posters were printed in English and seven other languages, including Arabic, but unfortunately the correct translation, which was originally created by a professional translator, became completely illegible when the designer "substituted one font for another so that the wrong alphabet was used for the Arabic message, rendering it meaningless." The Council for Arab-British Understanding called the Arabic lettering "ridiculous" and unreadable since the characters are not joined up and are back to front. Had the final proofs of the posters been checked before they went to print and were installed at the stations, the error could have avoided.

Burravoe Proof-Reading Services Available

Not only does Burravoe Translation Services provide accurate translations but we also offer an additional proof-reading service to ensure that these types of mistakes do not happen to our clients.

Simply send your final document back to us once it has been set by your designer, whether it is a poster, website, advertisement, business card, and we will arrange for it to be checked before you send it to be printed.

This service has proved invaluable to Burravoe's sister company, The Inkerman Group, who have been part of a big new joint venture in Libya, where a new specialist security company, Aldir-ii, has been set up servicing the region. As part of the venture a new website, business cards, advertisements and marketing literature have been required in both English and Arabic. Burravoe had provided English to Arabic translations for all of the company literature and has also been able to proof-read the documentation once

it has been set by the designer to ensure that it has been created correctly and that none of the key messages have been lost.

Too early to talk about Christmas?

The children have barely gone back to school after the summer holidays and we haven't even had Halloween or Bonfire Night yet but already the shops are gearing up for Christmas. Tesco stores across the country started as early as August, with entire aisles dedicated to Christmas stock, M&S are now selling mince pies and most of us are dreading the start of the cheesy Christmas music being played in the shops.



However, for some, Christmas has been on the agenda since, well New Year probably as hotels and restaurants started planning their festive packages and menus ready to take bookings for this Christmas and logistics and export companies will have been planning their orders and deliveries for months.

If you are a hotel or restaurant and need your Christmas brochures, menus, website, welcome letters etc. translated into alternative languages for your international guests then contact us today for a no obligation quotation.

***At Burravoe we translate all documents
and all language combinations***

To discuss your next translation project with a member of our team, or for a no obligation quotation, please contact Burravoe Translation Services.

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