

**L2/11-081****ISO/TC 37/SC 2/N 593b**  
**February 17, 2011****PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date of presentation

2010-08-31

New subcommittee number

**ISO/TC 37/SC 5****Title of subcommittee** (the title shall be unambiguous and as concise as possible)**ISO/TC 37/SC 5 "Translation, interpreting, localisation, technical writing and related technology"****Scope** (the scope shall define precisely the limits of the proposed field of activity of the subcommittee within the defined scope of the parent technical committee and shall begin with "Standardization of ..." or "Standardization in the field of ...")**Standardization in the field of language industry including industry related technology.****Purpose and justification** (the justification shall explain why it is considered necessary to establish a subsidiary body within the parent technical committee, taking into account the additional resources that will be required to operate the subcommittee secretariat)

During the ISO/TC 37 meetings held in Dublin between 15 and 20 August, 2010 it turned out that the preparation of ISO standards for both the language services industry and the terminographical and lexicographical working methods in only one subcommittee, namely ISO/TC 37/SC 2 "Terminographical and lexicographical working methods", has not proved to be convenient and/or effective because the two subject fields differ widely from each other. Furthermore, the huge workload to be managed by WG 6 based on the wide range of topics covered by the language services industry shows that too many varying projects are being dealt with in this WG. In addition, the number of experts in WG 6 is rapidly increasing and exceeds the organisational framework as defined in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, 1.12. Moreover, the draft standards created in WG 6 address different groups of stakeholders. To better reflect the recent developments and to meet the requirements of the dynamic character of the language services industry the establishment of a new SC was offered as a possible solution during the meetings. This proposal was supported by various members of WG 6.

Standards to be created for the language services industry are intended to increase the visibility of this industry through a strong emphasis on quality and best practices for global business. A whole series of standards in the fields of translation, localisation, interpreting, technical writing, machine translation, and related domains would be necessary to achieve this purpose. Changing the structure to an SC of its own with WGs dealing with specific tasks including an easier-to-handle number of experts would enable and greatly facilitate efficient management of this work. Said series of standards go hand in hand with the scope of ISO/TC 37 addressing language and content resources.

**Programme of work** (list of principal questions which the parent technical committee wishes to be included within the limits given in the proposed subcommittee scope, indicating what aspects of the subject should be dealt with, e.g. terminology, test methods, dimensions and tolerances, performance requirements, technical specifications, etc.) (attach a separate page as annex, if necessary).

ISO/TC 37/SC 5 will prepare International Standards (e.g. process and product standards, whereas product in this context refers to the output of written or spoken content and to software applications) to implement best practices on a global scale to support the global economy.

World-wide use of ISO/TC 37/SC 5 standards will help to:

- facilitate equal access of all people to information or public services available which enables them to fully participate in society
- highlight intrinsic value of language services
- enhance quality of language services provided
- create an equal playing-field for clients and suppliers alike
- streamline processes in order to make them more effective

**Proposed structure:**

WG 1 Translation

Projects: WD 11669, WD 14080

NWIs based on existing and future regional or national standards

WG 2 Interpreting

Projects: WD 13611

NWIs for other types of interpreting based on existing or future regional or national standards

WG 3 Localisation

Projects: NWIs based on existing industry related documents

WG 4 Technical writing/authoring

Projects: NWIs based on existing and future industry related documents

WG 5 Industry related technology

Projects: NWIs based on the results of existing and future projects concerning industry related software applications

**Survey of similar work undertaken in other bodies** (relevant documents to be considered: national standards or other normative documents)

National and regional standards/normative documents such as

- EN 15038:2006 05
- ÖNORM D 1201:2009 01 01
- ÖNORM D 1202:2002 02 01
- ÖNORM D 1203:2002 02 01
- ÖNORM D 1210:2004 01 01
- GB/T 19363-1
- GB/T 19682
- CAN/CGSB-131.10
- ASTM 2575-06
- NTC 947-1

(This listing is not considered complete, and the proposer welcomes suggestions.)

Regional or supraregional associations such as LISA, tekomp, etc.

NGOs and NPOs

Public institutions and organizations

Standardization bodies

**Member bodies** (at least five P- or O-members of the parent technical committee, having expressed their intention to participate actively in the work of the subcommittee)

(To be completed after the result of voting on this proposal.)

**Secretariat** (member body — one of those listed above — having confirmed its readiness to undertake the secretariat of the subcommittee) (see 1.9 and annex E of part 1 of the ISO/IEC Directives)

The Austrian Standards Institute expresses its readiness to undertake the secretariat of the new SC 5.

**Liaison organizations** (list of organizations or external or internal bodies with which cooperation and liaison should be established)

LISA, Tekom, TAUS

ISO/TC 37/SC 4, JTC 1, ISO/TC 171, ISO/TC 215

(This listing is not considered complete, and the proposer welcomes suggestions.)

**Other comments** (if any)

We ask the secretariat to be so kind as to submit this proposal for a 30 day ballot in ISO/TC 37.

Information for all ISO/TC 37 members:

If any additional information is necessary on this proposal, you are welcome to contact us with any further questions you may have (e-mail: [bettina.seitl@as-institute.at](mailto:bettina.seitl@as-institute.at)). If it is considered necessary, we would be glad to organize a "meeting" via electronic means as well.

Signature of the TC secretary