PCT Terminology and WIPO Pearl
The PCT Translation Service, WIPO

- Translates titles, abstracts and patentability reports from PCT applications
- Source languages: 10 PCT publication languages
- Target languages: English, French
- 110+ million words of translation per year
- In-house translators + outsourcing

AND: Terminology work
PCT Terminology: Objectives

- Develop a database of scientific and technical terminology, to
  - optimize translation quality
  - promote terminological accuracy
- Share the database with global users
- Collaborate with subject field experts in external institutions
PCT Terminology: Key features

- High-quality
  - Human-built
  - Validated
- 10 languages
  - 45 language combinations
- Broad subject field coverage
- Science and technology, also PCT legal
- Concept-based
What is “concept-based”? The terminology triangle
The object

The concept

**Characteristics:**
- in a cabriolet
- in the headrest
- blows warm air
- for warming the neck

The term(s)

- airscarf (EN)
- Nackenheizung (DE)
- Nackenfoehn (DE)
- Luftschal (DE)
- buses d'aération intégrées dans les appuie-têtes permettant de diffuser de l'air chaud (FR), etc...
Lexicography (e.g. dictionary) vs. Terminology

**Lexicography**

- **Joint**
  - MEDI (grammar, etymology, usage) + equivalents
  - MECH (grammar, etymology, usage) + equivalents
  - PRNT (grammar, etymology, usage) + equivalents

**Terminology**

- Concept 1
  - MEDI EN (joint) FR (Term) ZH (Term) (...)
- Concept 2
  - MECH EN (joint) FR (Term) ZH (Term) (...)
- Concept 3
  - PRNT EN (joint) FR (Term) ZH (Term) (...)
- Concept 4
  - BLDG EN (joint) FR (Term) ZH (Term) (...)

**One word, one entry, multiple meanings**

**One concept, one record!**
# Mandatory fields in the PCT Termbase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject field</td>
<td>One Subject field + Subfield per record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Nouns and noun phrases, Proposed terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>Preferably defining, Gives evidence of term use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Must be reliable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Type</td>
<td>Head term / Synonym, Hierarchy of terms in a language block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usage Label</td>
<td>Indicates level of acceptance of a term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Reliability</td>
<td>Assigns a reliability rating to each term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Optional fields in the PCT Termbase

- Graphic
  - Visual information on the concept

- Related Concept; Related Concept Broader/Narrower
  - Links related concepts

- Transfer Comment
  - Degree of equivalence between languages

- Transcription; Gender; Number; Term Description
  - Adds linguistic information

- Term Note
  - Other relevant information
Examples of terms in the PCT Termbase

controlled flight into terrain (AERO), hydroseeding (AGRI), chroma subsampling (AUDV), fractional distillation (CHEM), managed bean (DATA), gate bias (ELEC), comminution (MANU), refuse derived fuel (ENGY), blastofiltration (ENVR), killer yeast levures (FOOD), barrel core (HORO), dependent claim (LEGL), sandwich type immunoassay (MEDI), slagging scorification (METL), biowarfare (MILI), progressive cavity pump (MINE), ink-receptive layer (PRNT), limp-home mode (ROAD), snow groomer (SPRT)
Some statistics

- 15,500 records/concepts (growing)
- 100,000+ terms (growing)
- Uneven language coverage
What is WIPO Pearl?

- The PCT Termbase online
- A termbase AND a knowledge base
  - Concepts and Terms
  - Information about these concepts and terms
  - Concept maps
  - In 10 languages
  - Links to other WIPO resources, e.g. PATENTSCOPE

- Integrate other WIPO terminology collections later
Who will use WIPO Pearl?

- Language professionals
  - Translators, interpreters, technical writers…

- IP professionals
  - Patent drafters, searchers, examiners, attorneys…

- Subject field specialists
  - Research & development engineers, scientists…