Standardization of terminology and terminology in standardization

The role of Standards Norway

Håvard Hjulstad, Standards Norway
Standardization

- National
- Regional
- International

A network of expertise
First a brief “digression”: Standardization of terminology and language resources

- ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources”
  - The committee is older than ISO itself (established under ISO’s predecessor ISA)
  - Structure:
    - ISO/TC 37/SC 1  Principles and methods
    - ISO/TC 37/SC 2  Terminographical and lexicographical working methods
    - ISO/TC 37/SC 3  Systems to manage terminology, knowledge and content
    - ISO/TC 37/SC 4  Language resource management
    - ISO/TC 37/SC 5  Translation, interpreting and related technology
  - Currently 46 standards have been published, and 42 projects are being developed or revised
  - Including ➔
Some ISO/TC 37 standards and projects

- ISO 639, *Codes for the representation of names of languages*
- ISO 704, *Terminology work — Principles and methods*
- ISO 860, *Terminology work — Harmonization of concepts and terms*
- ISO 1087, *Terminology work — Vocabulary*
- ISO 10241, *Terminological entries in standards*
- ISO 11669, *Translation projects — General guidance*
- ISO 12616, *Translation-oriented terminography*
- ISO 12620, *Computer applications in terminology - Data categories*
- ISO 14080, *Assessment of translations*
- ISO 15188, *Project management guidelines for terminology standardization*
- ISO 17100, *Translation services — Requirements for translation services*
- ISO 22128, *Terminology products and services — Overview and guidance*
- ISO 23185, *Assessment and benchmarking of terminological resources — General concepts, principles and requirements*
- ISO 24618, *Terminology and language resources assessment of public language use*
- ISO 26162, *Systems to manage terminology, knowledge and content — Terminology databases*
- ISO 29383, *Terminology policies — Development and implementation*
But more importantly …

• ISO has 771 published standards with the word “terminology” or “vocabulary” in the title, and practically all standards contain a terms and definitions clause

• The word “terminology” returns 13 300 hits on ISO web pages

• Every committee
  − from ISO/TC 1 “Screw threads”
  − to ISO/TC 309 “Organizational governance”
  deal with terminology issues, and most of them have terminology sub-committees or working groups

• There are more than 200 000 defined terms in ISO standards

• and
Standards Norway

• being one of the small siblings in the European family of standards organizations
• has several hundred “terminology standards”
• and more than 50 000 entries in our terminology database
• (which, by the way, is publicly available, free of charge)

http://www.termbasen.no/
Terminology is important for standardization

• The “bible” (“quran”, “veda”, “talmud” …) of standardization requires standards writers to follow standards based on “Wüsterian” terminology principles

• This applies to international, regional and national “formal” standardization

• At Standards Norway we put much emphasis on quality of terminology

• We have in-house terminology training for all project editors
This is how a standard may look like

Foreword
Introduction
1 Scope
2 Normative references
3 Terms and definitions
   3.1 Terms related to organization and leadership
   3.2 Terms related to planning
   3.3 Terms related to support and operation
   3.4 Terms related to performance evaluation and improvement
4 Context of the organization
5 Leadership
6 Planning
7 Support
8 Operation
9 Performance evaluation
10 Improvement
Annexes
Bibliography

In this particular standard clause 3 contains 33 defined concepts

This standard is published by ISO in English, French, and Spanish, and by national standardization bodies in a large number of additional languages
and the result is internationally coordinated terminology
One of the strengths of standardization

• is the enormous network of technical experts
• which is made available for the development of terminology
Making terminology available (1)

- ISO Online Browsing Platform
  - [https://www.iso.org/obp/](https://www.iso.org/obp/)

**Terms & Definitions**

**organization**

person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities and relationships to achieve its objectives (3.2.5)

ISO 14004:2016(en), 3.1.4 Q

Available in: en fr es
Making terminology available (2)

- Electropedia

Electropedia (also known as the "IEV Online") is the world's most comprehensive online electrical and electronic terminology database containing more than 20,000 terms and definitions in English and French organized by subject area, with equivalent terms in various other languages: Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Finnish, German, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian (Bokmål and Nynorsk), Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish (coverage varies by subject area).

Electropedia is produced by the IEC, the world’s leading organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies – collectively known as "electrotechnology". Electropedia contains all the terms and definitions in the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary or IEC which is published also as a set of publications in the IEC 60050 series that can be ordered separately from the IEC webstore.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Standardization / Bodies responsible for standards and regulations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEV ref</td>
<td>901-03-02</td>
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<tr>
<td>en</td>
<td>organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>body that is based on the membership of other bodies or individuals and has an established constitution and its own administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>fr</td>
<td>organisation, f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>organisme qui est fondé sur la participation ou l'adhésion d'autres organismes ou de particuliers et qui est doté de statuts bien établis et de sa propre administration</td>
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</table>
Making terminology available (3)

- **SNORRE**
  - [http://www.termbasen.no/](http://www.termbasen.no/)

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Avgrens søket
Kilde:
  Gemet 2001
  NS-EN ISO 14050:2010
  NS-ISO 5127:2001
  NS-EN ISO 9000:2005
  NS-ISO 25600:2010

Språk:
  Engelsk (465)
  Bokmål (3)
  Nynorsk (2)

Typer:
  Definisjoner (458)
  Termer (467)

Fritekst søk i resultatet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>organization</th>
<th>group of people and facilities with an arranged relationships</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Språk</td>
<td>Engelsk</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>organization</th>
<th>person or group of people that has its own functional relationships to achieve its objectives (3.5)</th>
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<td>Kilde(r)</td>
<td>NS-ISO 20121:2012: Ledelsessystemer for bærekraft (ISO 20121:2012)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Språk</td>
<td>Engelsk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>organization</th>
<th>company, corporation, firm, enterprise, author thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private, that has its own functional relationships to achieve its objectives (3.5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Språk</td>
<td>Engelsk</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>organization</th>
<th>entity or group of people and facilities with arranged functional relationships and identifiable objectives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Språk</td>
<td>Engelsk</td>
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What we are doing

• Terms and definitions in Norwegian, English, German, and French
  – The software can handle additional languages
• Terms are added as national standards are finalized, or as international or European standards are translated into Norwegian
• There are currently about 52,000 entries
What we will be doing

• A number of international and European standards are made into Norwegian standards without being translated
• Increasingly, the terms (sometimes also definitions) of these standards are given Norwegian equivalents
  – Norwegian terms and definitions are sometimes published as “national annex”
  – Norwegian terms and definitions are always included in SNORRE
What we want to do

• We hope to be able to work with the terminology of a domain before actual standardization begins

• The SNORRE software could also be used outside of its current scope
  − International standardization committees
  − International terminology committees
Takk

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