IT TRANSLATION

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Abstract - The given article is about the IT translation and its role of technological development. Since special terms and abbreviations are one of the most challenging issues in translating IT texts, a translator should use special dictionaries and translating technics to create an adequate text in a target language.

Key words - IT translation, terms, terminology, abbreviation, IT text, IT slang.

It is difficult to imagine 21st century without technology as it is the era of rapid technological progress, which is available throughout the world thanks to translation. An intense international exchange of technological information is the key to technological development and scientific-technical translation is one of the main factors of such exchange process. Thus the role of scientific-technical translation is increasing and it is becoming more and more demanded recently.

Nowadays technology exists in every field our lives. In this article we would like to focus on informational technology (IT), which is an integral part of our everyday activities. Informational technologies changed the way of communication, which is reflected in language as well: more and more new IT terms are emerging regularly, especially in English language, which have to be translated in many other languages in order to keep up with the technological progress.

An English scientist David Crystal in his book "Language and The Internet" cites several famous people saying that "the Internet is one of the most remarkable things human beings have ever made" and he notes himself, the language has a central place in the development of technology and "if the Internet is a revolution, therefore, it is likely to be a linguistic revolution" (Crystal 2004:8). Against this background, the formation of unified national terminologists is relevant, in which a great role is played by scientific-technical translation.

IT translation is a part of scientific-technical translation, which provides translation in a field of information technology. At present, information technologies have penetrated almost all branches of human life, and any modern equipment, with rare exceptions, is either equipped with built-in computers, or can be combined into a computer-controlled system.

There is a variety of IT documents. These include hardware and software manuals, technical descriptions, articles, press releases, comparative reviews, etc.

The following types of documents are the most popular in the field of IT translation:

Operating manuals – these are hardware and software operating manuals. The difficulty in translation is that these manuals contain not only IT terms, but also specific concepts related to the scope of the equipment.

Articles on information technology - articles for IT professionals often contain examples of program code or command scripts, and sometimes at least partial knowledge of programming languages or the described command syntax is required to understand and adequately translate such articles.

Comparative reviews - It is quite common for translators to deal with the translation of comparative reviews of hardware and software for computer magazines and information technology sites. Comparative reviews usually focus on the latest advances in computer technology. The presence of a large number of pivot tables and charts in comparative reviews requires to pay attention to numerical data and to work with images.

Press releases - press releases, as a rule, are dedicated to the latest innovations in the field of IT, which requires to focus on development of the computer market, knowledge of the history of innovations of a particular hardware or software manufacturer, attention to detail and correct translation of a message about products not yet presented on the local market.

Main characteristic of the scientific-technical style is terminology, the use of simple affirmative sentences, abbreviations, acronyms, graphs, illustrations and other means of visual representation of information; absence or minimum number of complex sentences. But one of the most

notable features that make translation complicated is an abundance of terms.

The basic unit of any terminology is the term. A conditional definition of a concept is as follows: A term is a word or word acombination that refers to a specific subject or concept and is used by specialists in a particular field of science or technology.

IT progress and the computerization results in formation of new specific vocabulary in different languages. There are constant changes both in professional and spoken languages, including formation of new specific terms in different fields of science and technology. IT texts, as well as scientific and technical literature in general, as a rule, reflect the latest achievements of technology and, accordingly, are characterized by a large number of neologisms. As a result, a very important feature of the translation of such texts is that often the translator himself has to create equivalents in target language to express new concepts, which creates additional difficulty in translation, since it is not always possible to guess the meaning of an unknown term and for a successful translation it is necessary to conduct a special analysis of the context and term.

Adequate translation of IT terminology is one of the most important prerequisites for successful communication in the field of multilingual IT community. For their peculiarity is not only the differences between different languages, but also the differences of the register.

The term should have a precise definition for all cases of its use. The accuracy of the term is very important, which implies the absence of homonymy and polysemy in terminology. In addition, the term should not have a synonymous version. An important part of the terms are given in special dictionaries. Replacing them with words with close meanings is not allowed. Therefore, based on the topics and tasks of scientific and technical literature, it can be concluded that the terms have a number of specific features such as accuracy, brevity, unambiguity, etc.

"The professional sociolect of computer scientists has a three-part structure, which includes scientific vocabulary (terms), daily business vocabulary (professional vocabulary) and everyday spoken vocabulary (jargon)" (Borchkhadze 2016:80). English language has an impact on formation of IT vocabulary in local languages. Most of the terms are translated my means of transcription/transliteration.

One more peculiarity of scientific-technical terms is a way of formation, including IT terminology, which has been rapidly developing as a result of the constant improvement of computer systems, the emergence of the Internet, distance learning programs, etc. It terms are often international, like Installation. Some terms have elements of Latin-Greek origin, such as:

One of the difficulties in translating IT texts are abbreviations, since they may have different meanings depending on the filed they are used. For instance, the most common English IT abbreviation PC means personal computer, but it also has other meanings too. The Collins Dictionary gives following definitions: *personal computer, police constable, Past Commander, printed circuit, percent, politically correct, polycarbonate,   etc. (https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/pc).*

Here are some of the most commonly used IT abbreviations: *ADP-automatic data processing; HDMI-High-Definition Multimedia Interface; HTTP -Hypertext Transfer Protocol; IE-Internet Explorer; RAM -random-access memory; DRAM -Dynamic Random Access Memory; IC -Integrated circuit; DNS-Domain name system; GIF-Graphic interchange format; LAN-local area network, etc.*

Abbreviations do not always have a clear interpretation. Fortunately, there are special dictionaries that include the most common and frequently used abbreviations, although there are some that are not found in such dictionaries, which makes the IT translation even more challenging. However, in addition to dictionaries, there are official electronic sources where similar abbreviations can be found.

In IT terminology, apart from special terms and abbreviations, there are IT slang and jargon, which create a specific spoken environment and is a special sociolect of IT specialists and a society of computer lovers and which may cause additional difficulties in translation. Nowadays we can face The Internet slang abbreviation in the world of massages and chatrooms since the Internet communication is mostly informal. These slang abbreviations are universal for all English speaking countries. Below is the list of most popular Internet slang abbreviations:

LOL- Laughing out loud; ASAP- As soon as possible;
FYI- For your information; G2G- Got to go;
FB – Facebook;

MSG – Message;
TTYL-Talk to you later;
IMO- In my opinion;
PAW - Parents are watching;
PITR - Parent in the room;
PBB -Parent behind back;
POMS - Parent over my shoulder;
KPC - Keeping parents clueless;
PAH - Parent at home, etc.

Since special terms and abbreviations are one of the most challenging issues in translating IT texts, a translator should use special dictionaries and translating technics to create an adequate text in a target language.

As computer programs are crated in English language, the problem of their adequate translation into Georgian is quite relevant. This is because they are mostly translated by nonprofessionals without appropriate knowledge and relevant skills. Lots of programs face the problem of inadequate translation, among them an earlier Georgian version of Windows XP 2003-2005, which was not officially translated and the translation was done by nonprofessionals.

We can find mainly two Georgian versions of Windows: First - translated directly from original English; Second – translated from Russian. Due to this there are inadequate translation of some terms and some mistakes can be found.

In this article we would like to show some examples of Windows XP translations, which are represented in three languages and in two versions: official and unofficial:

Windows XP English off.	Windows XP Georgian	Windows XP Russian inoff.	Windows XP Russian off.	Windows 10 English off.
Desktop	სამუშაო დაფა	-	Рабочий стол	Desktop
Stand by	მზაობა	-	Ждущий режим	Sleep
Welcome	მოგესალმებით	Приветствие,	Welcome	მოგესალმებ ით
CD Drive	კომპაქტ დისკწამყვანი	-	CD Привод	CD Drive

As it is seen from the table, there are differences between terms used doe to the fact that it was translated mostly by nonprofessionals and amateurs.

Thus, with the development of science and technology, technical vocabulary is developed rapidly. It makes the translation of scientific and technical texts complicated, because the translators' generalization of this or that word in the text reduces the inaccuracy of the translation. In addition to translation professionalism, an IT translator should have a background knowledge in IT areas, as well as a genuine interest in innovation and a constant willingness to improve their skills and share experiences with colleagues - only in this case the impeccable quality of the translation is guaranteed.

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