

A photograph of a diverse group of business professionals in a meeting. A woman in a grey dress is handing a document to a man in a grey suit. Other people in business attire are visible in the background, engaged in conversation.

In the age of growing international trade, professional interpreters are becoming increasingly significant for effectuating cross-border transactions

Interpreting services at KERN Global Language Services

For forty years, KERN Global Language Services has provided interpreting services and has leased interpreting systems to Global Fortune 1000 companies, as well as to legal institutions and government agencies.

Types of interpreting

A basic distinction is made between liaison and escort interpreting and conference interpreting:

- A. Liaison interpreters** are required for meetings and negotiations and relay what is spoken among the various attendees present.
- B. Escort interpreters** are employed for guided tours, plant visits, trips and informal discussions.
- C. Conference interpreters** are usually used for symposia, conventions and conferences.

For rare language combinations, such as Swedish - Croatian, relay interpreting is used, i.e. interpreting via a second language, such as English. An interpreter renders the speech into a language common to the other interpreters, who in turn interpret the speech into the various target languages.

The same may be true at conferences where it is necessary to interpret into and out of numerous languages and direct interpreting is not possible for organisational reasons.

Interpreting techniques

Consecutive interpreting

For consecutive interpreting, the interpreting takes place consecutively, in other words, with a delay between individual segments of the speaker's message. During these delays, the interpreter renders the interpretation. Whilst the speaker delivers the next segment of his or her message, the interpreter notes down the ideas and thoughts of the speaker. As soon as the speaker has finished or pauses, the interpreter repeats what has been said in the target language. As the message or speech is given twice in such a case, it is necessary to bear in mind that an event or meeting can last significantly longer when consecutive interpreting is required.

Simultaneous interpreting

For simultaneous interpreting, the interpreter usually sits in a sound-proof booth and receives what is said via headphones while observing the speaker at the same time. He or she interprets simultaneously and continuously into the target language as the speaker gives his speech. Usually, the simultaneous interpreter speaks into a microphone and the interpretation is rendered to the listeners via headphones.

Simultaneous interpreting requires high levels of concentration. Simultaneous interpreters thus work in pairs and rotate every 15 to 20 minutes. In order to ensure an exact interpretation, simultaneous interpreters have to prepare carefully by reviewing the conference documents ahead of time.

Another form of simultaneous interpreting is whisper interpreting ("chuchotage"). The interpreter sits next to or behind the listener and whispers into the listener's ear.

Interpreting systems

The selection of a suitable interpreting system is dependent upon the parameters of the event and mode of interpreting desired.

A simultaneous interpreter may assist during guided tours, plant or factory visits where the attendees have to move freely. If the interpreting is for more than two listeners, the interpreter may use a whisper or tour guide system. This consists of a microphone into which the interpreter can speak and the necessary number of headphones required for the listener.

For conventions and conferences, KERN Global Language Services can provide you with state of the art simultaneous interpreting systems. These include the booths in which the interpreters work, microphones and receivers for the interpreters, portable or table microphones for the speakers, receivers and headphones for the listeners and the technology for transmission between speakers, interpreters and listeners.

Transport, assembly and dismantling, operation and maintenance of the systems are carried out by technicians who are present during the entire event. The installation of the simultaneous interpreting equipment generally takes place one day prior to the commencement of a conference. KERN Global Language Services also rents out the associated conference, audio and video technology.

KERN Global Language Services leases and installs the necessary state-of-the-art technology for interpreting

- **Wireless infrared simultaneous interpreting equipment**
- **Tour guide systems**
- **Sound systems**
(Amplifiers, loud speakers, tape recorders, etc.)
- **Video systems**
(Video recorders, video cameras, video screens, etc.)
- **Projection systems**
(Overhead projectors, screens, etc.)
- **Other audio-visual equipment**

Conference speeches or presentations are frequently recorded for later use. KERN Global Language Services also offers on-site recording and videography services (for the internet, television or radio) and can create multiple copies.

Regardless of the size or location of your next conference, KERN Global Language Services has the conference and interpreting equipment to meet your needs.