

**Certification Scheme P61**

**Machine Translation Editor  
according to ISO 18587**

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**Medieninhaber und Hersteller**

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## 1 Scope

This certification scheme specifies the criteria and the procedure to certify the competence of a person with regards to her/his knowledge and skills in the area of machine translation (MT) post-editing.

Certification is carried out in accordance with the International Standard ISO/IEC 17024<sup>1</sup>.

## 2 Competence requirements

### 2.1 Competence profile

Persons certified according to this scheme are competent to assess the quality and to edit machine translation output in accordance with ISO 18587:2017<sup>2</sup>. Persons certified are able to improve texts and to produce a proper target language content from existing machine translation output.

### 2.2 Requirements for knowledge and skills

Persons certified in accordance to this scheme shall have the following knowledge and skills:

#### 2.2.1 Translation competencies

Persons certified are capable to

- recognise and deal with problems of language content comprehension and language content production
- render target language content in accordance with the client-translation service provider (TSP) agreement and the TSP-post-editor agreement

#### 2.2.2 Linguistic and textual competencies

Persons certified shall

- be fluent in both, source- and target language
- have at least general knowledge of text-type conventions and in accordance to this,
- be able to produce texts and other target language content.

#### 2.2.3 Research competencies

Persons certified shall

- be able to acquire additional linguistic and specialised knowledge to understand source language content and produce target language content,
- have experience in the use of research tools and
- be able to develop strategies for the efficient use of information sources available.

#### 2.2.4 Domain and cultural competencies

Persons certified shall

- be able to understand and master the domain content produced in both, the source- and target language.
- have the knowledge of and the ability to make use of information on behavioural standards, value systems and to
- be able to localise and deal with both as well in the source as in the target language.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO/IEC 17024:2012-07 Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons

<sup>2</sup> ISO 18587:2017 Translation services – Post-editing of machine translation output - Requirements

### **2.2.5 Technical competencies**

Persons certified shall

- be able to perform the technical tasks in translation processes,
- employ technical resources including tools and IT systems to support translation processes,
- have at least general knowledge of MT technology,
- have a basic understanding of common errors produced by MT systems,
- have at least general knowledge of computer-aided translation tools,
- be able to follow instructions received and to focus on specific issues to make corrections as given,
- be able to provide structured feedback on frequently recurring errors in MT output,
- have at least a general understanding of the interaction between terminology management systems and MT systems.

## **3 Prerequisites for admission to the exam**

In order to qualify for participation in the exam one of the following options shall be met by the candidate:

- either accomplishment of a course concerning the topics of MT post-editing based on the content of section 2 (2.5 ECTS, workload: 60hrs)
- or hands-on experience in the field of MT post-editing of at least 3 years.

**In addition**, one of the following prerequisites shall be met:

- proof of professional experience in the field of translating,
- a higher education degree in translation, linguistics or language studies (or equivalent) including significant translation training or
- a higher education degree in any other field plus proof of professional experience in the field of translating or post-editing for at least two years.

## **4 Exam**

### **4.1 Theory exam**

The single-choice exam will consist of 45 questions relating to the five subject areas as described in section 2.2 (9 questions per section).

The maximum duration of this part of the examination shall be 45 minutes.

### **4.2 Oral exam**

The oral exam will consist of a presentation of a project or case-study of MT output post-editing.

The maximum duration of this part of the examination shall be 20 minutes.

## **5 Examination criteria**

For the overall positive assessment and thus for the proof of competence on the above-mentioned contents the following criteria shall be fulfilled.

## **5.1 Theory exam**

The requirement for passing this part of the examination is minimum quorum of 60% of the maximum number of points possible (which equals 27 points out of a maximum of 45 points).

Hereby, a minimum quorum of 50% of the maximum number of points possible (which equals 4,5 of a maximum number of 9 points) per section shall be reached.

## **5.2 Oral exam**

The requirement for passing this part of the examination is minimum quorum of 60% of the maximum number of points possible (which equals 27 points out of a maximum of 45 points).

## **5.3 Overall result and repetition of the exam**

Requirement for passing the exam is to have reached at least 60% of the maximum number of points possible (which equals 54 of a maximum number of 90 points).

If a single section is assessed as negative, the appropriate section can be repeated.

If both sections are assessed as negative, the examination shall be repeated in its entirety.

## **6 Issue of certificates**

For the issue of certificates, the provisions of the terms and conditions of the certification body of Austrian Standards plus shall apply.

The certificates are valid for a period of 3 years.

## **7 Recertification**

### **7.1 Criteria**

For certificate renewal following criteria shall be met:

7.1.1 Evidence of at least 32 hours of continuous professional development shall be provided.

7.1.2 Evidence of ongoing professional activity in the field of MT post-editing shall be provided.

### **7.2 Issue of certificates**

For renewal of the certification for another period of 3 years, fulfilment of criteria as described in sections 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 is required.

### **7.3 Deadlines**

Recertification shall be completed before expiry of the certificate. Hereby, the following conditions shall apply:

7.3.1 Renewal of the certificate shall latest be accomplished 6 months after expiry.

7.3.2 The date of renewal and expiration is determined by the date of initial issue.