

# Translation Journal & Translation Journal Blog: an on-line publication for translators, by translators, about translators and translation

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**Abstract:** The *Translation Journal* is the oldest continuously published translation-oriented on-line journal in the U.S. Appearing on a quarterly basis, each issue contains 10 - 15 feature articles on different aspects of translation. The *TJ* is fully searchable by author or keyword. Its companion publication, the *Translation Journal Blog*, launched in 2004, deals with topical issues of the translation industry.

**Key words:** translation, translators, languages, on-line, Web, *blog*.

## Translation Journal y Translation Journal Blog: una publicación en línea para traductores, hecha por traductores y sobre traductores y traducción

**Resumen:** *Translation Journal* es la más antigua de las revistas electrónicas sobre traducción publicadas ininterrumpidamente en los Estados Unidos. Cada número, de periodicidad trimestral, contiene entre diez y quince artículos sobre diversos aspectos de la traducción. La revista permite las búsquedas por autores o palabras clave. Su publicación hermana, la bitácora *Translation Journal Blog*, nacida en 2004, aborda temas relacionados con el sector de la traducción.

**Palabras clave:** traducción, traductores, idiomas, publicación electrónica, web, *blog*.

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The July 2010 issue marks the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Translation Journal* (<<http://translationjournal.net>>), an independent on-line publication for professional translators. Thirteen years is an eternity on the Internet, where sites are born and die every day. During this time, the *Translation Journal* has not only survived, but has grown in size, readership, and prestige.

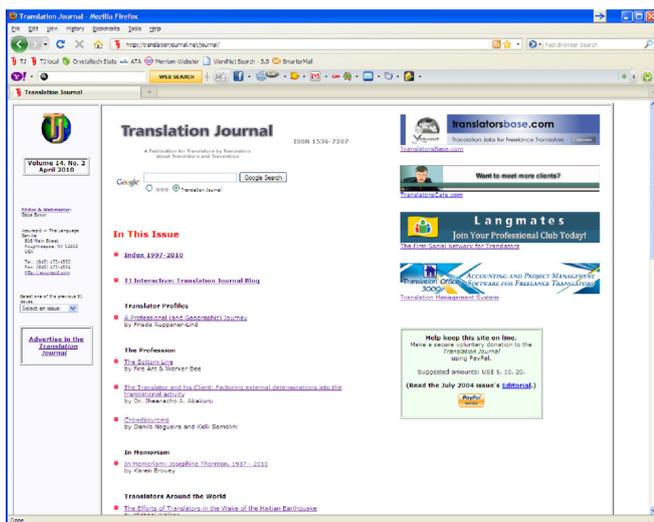
each and every one of its 54 issues was published on time before the first day of January, April, July, and October.

The basic purpose of the *Translation Journal* has remained the same since its very first issue: to provide useful information to working translators. Access to the current issue and to all previous issues is free of charge, and no personal information is requested or captured. It is open to authors regardless of race, country, of political orientation. Articles from Arab, Irani, and Israeli authors once appeared in the same issue; authors from the People's Republic of China and from Taiwan coexist peacefully on its pages.

Most of the *TJ*'s articles are written in, or were translated from their original language into, English. Although the *TJ* is not a peer-reviewed journal, its articles, especially those written by non-native speakers of English, are edited for language. The editor has been generously helped by colleagues in proofreading/editing articles containing text in languages with which he is not familiar.

The *TJ* is listed in most on-line catalogs, websites of translators, linguists, and universities. As of this writing (June 2010), it appears on the top of page 5 among the 171 million hits for the Google search word "translation." Some universities accept articles published in the *TJ* for academic credit.

Some of the authors of the *TJ* have contributed to it from the very beginning: Cathy Flick, with her *Web Surfing for Fun and Profit*, and Fire Ant & Worker Bee (Chris Durban) with their *The Bottom Line* column (advice in response to specific



The *Translation Journal* (or *TJ*) is a quarterly publication and, unlike many other on-line, and even printed publications,

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questions by translators) have been popular features for many years. Jost Zetsche's column on technology, Danilo Nogueira's witty and topical articles on different subjects, Dr. Rafael Rivera's informative articles on medical translation, and the *Translator Profile* in each issue alternate with other articles in 49 different subject matter categories, which include Localization, Translators' Tools, Interpreting, Legal, Medical,<sup>1</sup> Literary, Sports, Advertising, Religious, Diplomatic, Genealogical translation, and others.

The *TJ* is fully searchable by author or subject from the Google search box on the first page.

The *Translation Journal Blog* (<<http://translationjournal.blogspot.com/>>), a sister publication of *TJ*, was launched in 2004 and deals with specific translator issues. Unlike the *TJ*, each blog is open for on-line comments by readers. Some of its articles, such as *The Internet and the Translation Profession* and *Native Language*, have engendered lively discussions with dozens of participants from all corners of the world.

An on-line publication is a medium that is different from printed magazines and offers many advantages and a few challenges.

To the publisher: Not only graphics, but also movies and sound tracks can be easily incorporated in the publication. Links to other sites are instantly accessed by the reader via a click of the mouse. The editor/webmaster is freed from the preoccupation with pagination and can easily make corrections even after the journal is published. Printing and mailing costs are saved.

To the environment: No trees need to be felled, no chemicals are used, and no waste needs to be disposed of.

To the reader: The publication is permanently available on the Web and can be accessed from a computer located anywhere in the world. It can be searched electronically by author, keyword, publication date, or any other criteria.

To the authors: Authors are given world-wide exposure and can be reached by their readers via e-mail for comments, explanations, praise, or criticism. The blog offers the additional advantage of instant comments and possibility of discussion with the blogger or with other readers.

However, the webmaster must keep in mind that the publication may appear differently when viewed with different browsers and loading times of large files may be a problem for readers with slow Internet connections.

People who prefer reading hard copies rather than text on the computer screen can print out any article(s) of their interest, but they need a color printer to duplicate the appearance of the on-line publication.

The *TJ* and the *TJ Blog* are published by Gabe Bokor ([gbokor@accurapid.com](mailto:gbokor@accurapid.com)).

The only revenue of the *TJ* and the *TJ Blog* is from a limited number of banner ads and the voluntary donations of their readers.

#### Note

1. <<http://translationjournal.net/journal/00toc.htm#medical>>.

