

ON-LINE ACCESS TO UNPUBLISHED SCIENTIFIC TRANSLATIONS

by
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In recent years, the translations of scientific and technical documents have been gaining importance as a source of information. Before 1980, only published translations, such as cover-to-cover, could be searched on-line because these were included in various national and international bibliographical data-bases along with other documents. Now unpublished translations can also be searched on-line. The International Translations Centre (ITC), Delft, Netherlands developed a data-base on translations (published and unpublished) known as WORLD TRANSINDEX DATA-BASE and made it available on-line since September 1980 as file-33 on ESA/IRS (European Space Agency Information Retrieval Service) Frascati, Italy. The manual INFORMASCIENCE for operating World Transindex Data-Base is published jointly by the ITC and Central Nationale de La Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). On-line information search on translations can be carried out by various approaches viz; target/source languages, source documents, year of publication, title, author, subject, etc.

World Transindex Data-base includes translations of serial and non-serial publications from East-European and Asian languages such as Russian, Japanese, Czech, Polish, Chinese, etc. into West European languages viz. English, German, French and Spanish. It also contains translations from Western languages into French, Spanish and Portuguese. In the field of science and technology alone, about 32,000 new translations are added to this data-base every year from all the source languages into all the target languages.

TRAINING COURSE ON COMPUTER APPLICATION

DESIDOC organised a training course on 'Application of Computer to Library and Information Work' under its Users' Education & Training Programme during 25-30 June 1984 at Delhi. The course was attended by officers and staff working in Technical Information Centres/Libraries of DRDO Establishments. Shri SS Murthy, Director, DESIDOC while inaugurating the course stressed the need of modernising the library & information systems by computerisation, especially when the costs of computer systems are coming down with the emergence of microprocessors.

The topics covered in the course were: computer basics, PRIME (computer) commands, DRDO-IRS, use of thesaurus, construction of user profile, preparation of input, data entry and data base searching. Special lectures were delivered on Computer Application in Library Operations' by Shri R Satyanarayana (INSDOC), 'Software Packages' by Dr DK Bandhyopadhyaya (INSDOC) and 'Access to On-line Data Bases' by Shri SS Murthy. The course laid stress on practical work, such as document analysis and selection of keywords, filling up of input sheets, data entry into computer and use of terminal for data-base searching, where the participants had the opportunity of applying the techniques learnt during the course.

The faculty of the Course included Dr JR Arora and Dr A Gupta of DRDO Computer Centre and S/ Shri Ambrish Kumar, RK Srivastava, VK Rangra and technical staff of DESIDOC. The participants were given objective type test on completion of the course. The feedback provided by the participants rated the course as very useful.

Prof M Krishnamurthi, CCR&D in his valedictory address, said that information knew no barriers of space and for mutual sharing of information, it is necessary that information processing and dissemination should be standardised which can be best achieved by use of the computer. He appreciated the importance of this course and hoped that in future such courses would be organised by DESIDOC for the benefit of Defence Information Scientists.

Shri Ambrish Kumar, Sci 'B' acted as the course Director.

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World Transindex Data-base is produced using PASCAL III system developed by the CNRS, Paris. This data-base includes bibliographic details of translations collected by the ITC and CNRS since January 1978. Its first by-product is the World Transindex, a monthly announcement bulletin. The project, to include data on translations processed by the ITC before January 1978, is under consideration. Extension of this data-base covering all translations, called INTERWESTERN translations, is also under study.

In India, however, there is no computerized data-base on translations but the activity of bibliographic control of unpublished translations is gaining momentum. Recently, many agencies such as BARC, NAL, BHEL, DESIDOC, CLRI, etc. have started publishing their indexes on unpublished translations, while INSDOC started publication of National Index of translations (NIT) since January 1981. NIT lists all the unpublished translations carried out within India. Under the international co-operation programme, INSDOC sends a copy of the NIT to ITC for including translations done in India in the World Transindex data-base. Thus, these translations can also be searched on-line in the World Transindex data-base. Besides this, BARC sends bibliographic information on translations (done at BARC) to various international organisations directly such as, Energy Research and Development Administration (USA), ITC, etc. NAL also sends bibliographic information on NAL-Translations to National Technical Information Service (USA), International Translation Centre, Commission of the European Economic Communities, Luxemburg; National Translations Centre (USA) and ASLIB, London under its liaison programme.

On-line networks are yet to be implemented in India and efforts are being made by NAL, DESIDOC, etc. to implement such systems. The delay in the development

or implementation is due to non-compatibility among the computers, non-availability of proper communication lines, manpower, resources, etc.

Efforts are also being made at DESIDOC to provide access to unpublished translations held by its Translation Bank. Preliminary trial run for computerizing information on these translations was carried out in 1981 on UNIVAC-1100 computer at BHEL, New Delhi, by using software package written in Cobol (ASCII). Then data on translations were processed by using same package on PRIME-750 system available at DRDO Computer Centre, Metcalfe House, Delhi. DESIDOC has developed software for creating data-base of scientific information and for on-line searching and information retrieval on PRIME-750 system. A terminal of this system has been installed in DESIDOC for searching information on-line.

GILA ELECTIONS

The following officers of DESIDOC have been elected office bearers of the Govt of India Librarians Association in a meeting held on 10 August 1984:

Shri VK Rangra, Sci 'D'	—	Vice President
Shri SN Mehta, Sci 'D'	—	Member of the Executive

Shri MK Jain of Planning Commission and Shri OS Sachdeva of Ministry of Home Affairs were elected President & Secretary of the Association respectively.

DESIDOC CONTRIBUTES TO SPACE FEAT

Vital support was provided by DESIDOC for the successful completion of the scientific projects relating to Indo-Soviet Flight, co-ordinated by the scientific Adviser to Chief of the Air Staff. Scientific literature covering various technical and medical aspects of space flight was translated at short notice from Russian language into English, and pertinent information on related topics was scanned from technical literature and supplied.

Scientific Adviser to Chief of the Air Staff, Shri SK Sahair writes to the Director, DESIDOC:

"On successful completion of the space flight by the first Indian as a member of the joint Indo-Soviet team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the help that has been rendered towards achieving this success"

SEMINAR

Shri SS Murthy, Director, DESIDOC and Shri PV Rao, Sci 'C' attended the seminar on 'Use of Microforms and Space Management in Libraries' held under the auspices of the University Grants Commission at Sri Venkataswara University Tirupati during 11-13 August 1984 and presented the following papers:

1. 'Microforms in Indian Libraries - Some Policy Considerations for Indian Universities' by SS Murthy and PV Rao.
2. 'Microform Publishing and Bibliographic Control' by PV Rao and Rita Shukla.

Shri SS Murthy chaired the Plenary Session of the Seminar.

CONSULTANCY/ADVISORY SERVICE

Shri VK Rangra, Scientist D attended a meeting of the Library Building Committee of DMSRDE at Kanpur on 21-22 August 1984 as an expert member.

COURSE ATTENDED

Shri Shiv Narayan, AO attended Administrative Management Course (AM-4) at Defence Institute of Works Studies from 14 August 84 to 4 September 1984.

TRANSLATION ACTIVITIES

The following translations were completed from different languages:--

FRENCH

- F-550 Detonability of gunpowder, Sc, et Tech. de L' Armament, 1981, 55(1), 39-55.
- F-552 Crushing and punching tests on solid explosives, Sc. et Tech. de L' Armament, 1981, 55(1), 89-146.
- F-560 Behaviour of the ablative phenolic materials, AGARD conference proceedings No. 259, 26 Oct 1979, 1-17.
- F-565 Report ARIAN-5 (CNES) 33rd Congress IAF-82 Paris, 27 Sept-2 Oct 1982.

- F-566 Master tool for the costing of space materials, CNES Pub. 33rd Congress IAF-82, 27 Sept-2 Oct 1982.
- F-567 Cosmos programme 1982 : A balance sheet, L' Aero et L' Astro, 1983-84, 101, 19-44.
- F-569 Coherent Telemetric detection with Co₂ Laser, Can. J. of Phys. 1981, 61, 318-331.
- F-572 800 bits/LPC terminology, Vocoder Rev. Tech. Thomson-CSF, 1983, 15(2), 495-516.
- F-573 A report and discussion on snow and avalanche control, Neige et Avalanche, 1983, 31.
- F-574 Prospective analysis of the characteristics of an automatic weapon.
- F-580 Summary of the report on 5th International Symposium on Ballistics by P Tavarner, Sc. et Tech. de L' Armament, 1983, 57(2), 185-220.

GERMAN

- G-1123 Principles of wire-strain gauges technique: Application of the wheatstone bridge circuit by Obering K Haffmann.
- G-1124 Mixtures of solid explosives with detonation velocities between 1000 and 9000 m/sec by W Kegler (Report).
- G-1125 Recycling of silver from photographic baths by H J Kogelnik (article).
- G-1126 Thin film devices to measure temperature and strain by H Gruner.
- G-1127 Thin film system to measure temperature and strain, by Heiko Gruner (paper).
- G-1128 Poly-crystalline silicon film as base material for sensors by Ernst Obermeier (paper).
- G-1129 Poly-silicon as a new material for temperature and pressure sensors by Ralph Weissel.
- G-1130 Rescue and recovery systems by P Hamel.
- G-1133 Adhesion of polyurethanionomeres on glass and thermoplasts, Kautschuk Gummi: Kunstoffs, 1981, 34(10), 827-835.
- G-1134 Thirty years of combat tank development 1950-1980; Part IV: Assessment of various development philosophies by Rolf Hilmes, Soldat & Technik, 1983, 4, 174-181.

DESIDOC REPRESENTATION IN ISI COMMITTEES

The following officers of DESIDOC have been nominated by Defence R&D HQs to represent Defence Research & Development Organisation in various Committees/Sub-committees/Panels of Indian Standards Institution:

- G-1135 Thirty years of combat tank development 1950-1980; Part V: Possibilities and limitations of future combat tank development by Rolf Hilmes, Soldat & Technik, 1983, 5, 236-241.
- G-1136 Hypothesis of failure and reserve factors in CFK-structures (paper).
- G-1143 Wehrtechnik-Seminar papers.

JAPANESE

- J-264 Pressure transducers, Toranjisuta Gijutsu, 1979, 16(2), 206-213.
- J-300 Image processing techniques for computed tomography by T Inovyu, Denshi Tsushin Gakkaishi, 1980, 63(6), 600-608.
- J-331 Effect of mean stress on the phenomena of cracking due to fatigue by T Nishinoya et al. Nippon Kikai Gakkai Koen Ronbunshu, 750-51
- J-333 Circuit diagram for automatic dynamic visco-elastometer rheovibron DDV-III-EA (Manual).
- J-334 National Aerospace Lab. Japanese Report-NAL-TR-532.

RUSSIAN

- R-519 Longitudinal vibrations of rocket body-CH III "Longitudinal vibrations of rocket with liquid propellant rocket engine" by Kolesnikov K S, 63-70.
- R-521 Determination of vapour pressure of some repellants, Zr Mosk Inst, Nar.Knoz, 1968, 46, 32-42.
- R-522 Calculation of some phase boundaries based on thermodynamic data by Kerzietsov VI and others, Metallurgy 1980, 1, 150-51.
- R-525 Classified documents.
- R-527 GOST 7222-75.

TRANSLATION BANK

- o Twelve new translations from French, German, Japanese and Russian were indexed.
- o Photo copies of three translations comprising 325 pages were supplied to ARDE, Pune.
- o Compiled "DESIDOC TRANSINDEX" - 1983 for publication.

1. Documentation Sectional Committee (EC:2)
Principal Member - Shri SS Murthy
Alternate Member - Shri VK Rangra
2. Reprography Sub-Committee (EC 2:2)
Principal Member - Shri PV Rao
Alternate Member - Shri Ambrish Kumar
3. Alphabetization and abbreviations for Titles Sub-Committee (EC 2:5)
Principal Member - Shri GS Sharma
Alternate Member - Shri RL Mukhi
4. Panel for Guidelines for Preparation of Thesaurus (EC 2:P 12)
Principal Member - Shri SS Murthy
Alternate Member - Shri RK Srivastava
5. Panel for Automated Information Handling Systems-Formats & Codes (EC 2: P 7)
Principal Member - Shri VK Rangra
Alternate Member - Shri Ambrish Kumar
6. Publication & Graphic Technology Sectional Committee (EC 10)
Principal Member - Shri SS Murthy
Alternate Member - Shri GS Sharma
7. Style Manual and Press Copy Preparation Sub-Committee (EC 10:1)
Principal Member - Shri SS Murthy
Alternate Member - Shri GS Sharma
8. Formate Layout Typography and Graphics Sub-Committee (EC 10:2)
Principal Member - Shri RL Mukhi
Alternate Member - Shri UR Sharma
9. Printing Machinery Sectional Committee (EC:86)
Principal Member - Shri SS Murthy
Alternate Member - Shri UR Shrama