

e news 46 - March 2011-

This newsletter is published under the responsibility of the Board of the International Federation for Information Processing - Intersteno - and sent to all e-mail addresses of persons participating in the work of the members of Intersteno known to the Board. Contributions to the newsletter can be sent using the form on the web site www.intersteno.org. Publication will take place at the discretion of the Board.

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From 15th January it has been possible to register for the Congress and Competitions on www.intersteno.org.

The registration form is available in English, French, German and Czech at the website www.intersteno.org, and in Italian on www.intersteno.it. French-speaking participants can also register via the new website www.intersteno.fr.

Competitors can register up to 31st May and by the same day the participation fees must be sent to the account indicated by French Group.

As at 20th February 106 persons had registered, 49 of whom will compete. Registrations also came from very far countries as far away as Australia and Honduras. Jorge Bravo announced participation of stenographers from Argentina, while the Hungarian Group is arranging the trip for about 30 persons.

CHINESE REGISTRATIONS - Very important!

All Chinese registrations must be sent via Beijing Stenographic Association, so please contact this organization - TEL : +86(10)51298100 - ADD:15C1 T2 NO.1 XIHUAN PLAZA XIZHIMENWAI STREET XICHENG DISTRICT BEIJING 100044 P.R.CHINA - Mr. Liao Qing (sinosteno@yahoo.com.cn).

感谢您关注于 2011 年巴黎国际速联大会及比赛的注册。根据有关规定，所有中国公民必须向北京市速记协会（中国中文信息学会速记专业委员会）提交申请，并经过有关部门的审核。请直接与中国中文信息学会速记专业委员会联系相关事宜，恕不接受来访。地址：北京市西城区西环广场 T2 座 15C1 邮编：100044 电话：51298100 联系人：廖清
电子邮件：sinosteno@yahoo.com.cn

Visiting Paris

When planning your stay in Paris we are sure that you would like to make the most of the opportunities available during your visit. We suggest that you download this guide (Paris se visite - Visiting Paris) which is available for reading, downloading or printing at this link <http://asp.zone-secure.net/v2/index.jsp?id=1203/1515/8010&lng=en>. Here you will find accurate and interesting tips and advice. Texts are available in French and English.

At this link <http://en.parisinfo.com/our-online-publications-to-browse-through-and-download/> you can download up to 11 versions of different guides (about 20 pages each) according to your specific wishes. There are also English and French texts available.



Conferences

As previously announced, the deadline for submission of papers is 15th April next but already many interesting proposals have been submitted. The Scientific Committee will make a final evaluation and the list of the reports will be published on our website and in our next e-news which will be released at the beginning of May.

Exhibitions at the congress

Full information and registration form about exhibition at the Congress venues is available at www.intersteno.org (Paris 2011). For any additional request please contact Mr Jean-Charles Le Masson at lemasson@aol.com

Competitions

Rules for the competitions have been released since December last, as already indicated in our e-news 45.

We draw the attention of country representatives and competitors to the following rule added at the end of art. 2 - Participation

The Jury may restrict the number of participants from some countries or participants competing in some language if the national groups cannot provide a credible number of assistants to manage correcting the works within a timeframe defined by the Jury. In this case, the Jury defines after consulting the national groups, the criteria concerning who may attend the competition.

Registration fees are not refundable even if the competitor withdraws from the competitions, unless the withdrawal is due to the restriction of number of participants.

The Jury President has already released detailed information to all countries in order to have a list of the persons involved in the Jury, and the coordinators for the various competition formulas have already started their activities in preparing the texts.

Summary reporting competition

Mr. Jan den Holder prepared a PowerPoint presentation on the summary reporting competition, of which he is the coordinator.



This presentation is available at our website, menu Competitions. It is in .MPV format, therefore QuickTime is needed to see it with the sounds and short demo of dictations.

You can alternatively see it at the following link:

<http://www.slideshare.net/GianTrivulzio/summary-reporting-competition>

In this case the dictation is not audible.

New layout of Intersteno France website



The website of the French Group (www.intersteno.fr) now has a new look.

In this site all the information is in the French language including details of the next Congress, so that the Francophone community will be able easily to navigate the site and be encouraged to take part in this event.

Intersteno leaflet - French version



The Intersteno leaflet is available at our website, home page in .PDF format to be downloaded for printing. It contains much useful information when presenting details of our Federation.

A French version of this leaflet has now been prepared by the French Group and is also available for download at the same site.

We thank our French colleagues for this work, as well as all persons who contributed in its preparation, and hope that other countries will follow this lead in order to strengthen our image with new associates.

Intersteno board meeting in Milano - 28-30th January 2011



This photo is taken in the evening in front of the Duomo: from left Maria Luisa Corti, Boris Neubauer, Jaroslav Zaviačič, Danny Devriendt, Rian van Poppel, Mark Golden, Gian Paolo Trivulzio, Georgette Sante.

Just before the meeting,

The New York Times

mentioned Milano as one of 21 cities which are worth visiting in 2011, but the decision to be in this town was made before that announcement, and I very much thank my colleagues for choosing this destination and helping me to be with them on this occasion.

Every member of the Board was present and as usual the agenda of the matters to be evaluated was lengthy. It had been released a month before the meeting date, together with the President's report and the report about the activities following the Council meeting in Budapest.

A brainstorming session produced several topics about events and activities which will take place at the end of the mandate period of this Board, which will terminate at the Paris Congress. The intention was mainly to begin evaluating the challenges to be encountered in organizing the next Intersteno Congress and competitions.

Several questions were put on the table and gave occasion for a useful exchange of ideas, for example about the possibility (or the need) to split

the basic Congress activities (Council and Assembly meetings, Conferences and Exhibitions) from those of the Competitions - for example, to have Congress in one year and Competitions in the following year. Of course there are pros and cons and no decision was taken since it is mainly linked to where the next Congresses might take place and whether the relevant organization is available.

In any case, it is certain that the next Congress will be in Europe, while for 2015 the suggestion that we go to the States in combination with NCRA convention in New York was evaluated. Mark Golden said that the matter had been considered by the Board of NCRA and they were prepared to add an international track to their convention so as to integrate the Intersteno Congress. It has to be mentioned that at the NCRA conventions, conferences and exhibitions are already taking place, so that this will simplify the management of these important parts of our meetings.

On the other hand, Mark advised that hotel prices in New York are not cheap and it is not simple to find alternative solutions. In any case, NCRA strongly discourages the holding of competitions on that occasion due to the lack of adequate rooms and sufficient support on this aspect from NCRA.

Organizing the Congress in USA and competitions in Europe leads to many problems, so the idea of going to the States must be more closely investigated in the near future. As a result, no decision was taken.

It seems more feasible to have an IPRS meeting in Washington, for which Mark Golden promised that NCRA would support in order to motivate the American reporters to attend.

The activity of IPRS in 2010 was very important, since Intersteno was present at the NVRA and NCRA convention, as well as at a Workshop at the Parliament in Bruxelles. Further, the joint meeting with the Council in Budapest in October last was greatly appreciated.

Ms. Rian Schwarz-van Poppel will submit a plan for improving what has been done and will also work out in what way Intersteno can give support to Parliaments which are facing the task of educating new reporters as well as changes in their organizations. An exchange programme among parliaments for helping less developed countries in their reporting tasks will also be set up.

A website-driven database will be made available within this year, to better manage all communications with interested persons and bodies.

The relevant costs of these activities, as well as the marketing support to countries that the Board plans to contact in 2011, are included in a Financial Budget which will be presented at the next Council meeting. In the meantime Intersteno is part-sponsoring participation in the Internet competition by Poland, Slovakia, USA, Brazil and Switzerland.

Georgette Sante has provided information about the activities that have begun for the organization of the competitions in Paris: the rules have been published in the three traditional languages, and the country representatives have to send in the name of the persons who will be forming the Jury and task force taking into account the need to have reliable and competent persons for the many tasks to be fulfilled. The coordinators of the Jury have already sent out information, or are preparing the texts for the competitions.

In order to avoid misunderstanding and quarrels the Board has interpreted as follows the competition rules regard voice writers using speech recognition:

"Voice writers using speech recognition software may listen only to the recording of their own voice redictation in preparing their final transcript. The final transcript cannot go further than the draft transcript".

It is important to note that competitors using stenotype or speech recognition MUST immediately produce a draft of their transcript, before starting the revision of their work. This was already foreseen in art. 16.1 of our rules i.e.

"In order to check the validity of the transcription, the competitors must turn in their stenogram together with the transcription. Users of machine shorthand and of voice writing must deliver their stenonotes in electronic format, saved prior to beginning the transcription work, directly after the end of the dictation."

As requested during the Council meeting in Budapest and by subsequent messages sent by the President and the Secretary, 10 countries have submitted nominations for the new Board. The nominations will be better evaluated with the persons who have been mentioned and additional information will be released in good time.

Following the shorter procedure approved by the Council in Budapest, the Board approved the following requests of New Associated Members:

- Marten Walsh Cherere Ltd. (Ms. Diana Tennyson), Alton (UK)
- Conny McKarty Kuhl, San Rafael (USA)
- Krista Burgeson, Chicago (USA)
- Kimberli Turnage, Benbestorf (DE)
- Neeson & Associates Court Reporting and Captgioning Inc., Toronto, Canada
- Patalya Roh, Hansard Department, Colombo (Sri Lanka)

The application of Grandjean (France) is still postponed due to the need for additional information from the French group.

The problems surrounding an additional investigation Into a comparison of language in speech-capturing competitions as well as the use of non-alphabetic keyboard are to be newly and better evaluated.

For this reason, as already decided in Budapest, a commission will be set up. In the meantime the financial plan foresees an amount for financing the translations into English of the main documents of Mr. Milos Matula which were the basis for the decisions taken about 70 years on this matter.

The Gallery of Shorthand - New York

In the previous issue of our e-news we gave information about the opening of the Gallery of Shorthand in New York.

This event received media attention, thanks to the robust activity of its founder: Mr. Dominick Tursi. Below is an image of a report by the Newsday journal of New York. You can reach it also at newsday.com.

Mr Tursi has promised to be in Paris for our Congress, and we will be glad to congratulate him again on this prestigious and very attractive initiative.



gpt

150th issue of Vaardige Vingers (Belgium)

Vaardige Vingers - literally translated as *Skilled fingers* - is the magazine of the Akademie voor Bureauwetenschappen vzw (www.abw.be), the association for teachers in keyboarding, word processing/ICT in the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium. In the French-speaking part the Association des Professeurs de Secrétariat-Bureautique (www.apsb.be) is active.

Mr. Jos Jossart, former honorary president of INTERSTENO and for many years President of the Intersteno worldwide typewriting competitions, started the magazine in December 1968. He passed away in 2004.



In its best years more than 300 teachers were members. Now we have about 150 members: the interest in keyboarding and word processing in the curricula of the schools has significantly changed and consequently we have rearranged the contents of our magazine.

For the membership fee of € 17,00 yearly, members receive the magazine 4 times a year.. Once a year a teachers' seminar with workshops is organized.

Some years ago because the print run became so low we had to cease publishing in magazine format and instead go for simple loose-leaf copies placed in a folder.

On the occasion of our number 150, in March 2011, our Board decided to investigate the possibilities of publishing in magazine form through a

digital **print-on-demand** firm that works with lower printing runs.

After a long search we found a firm that gave us acceptable prices for what we want. On www.belgaprint.eu you can calculate the cost of an A4 or A5 magazine (folded and stapled in the middle), starting with minimum 8 pages and a minimum print run of 50 copies.

Finally our magazine no. 150 costs € 1,116/ (150 magazines, 24 A4-pages in total), inclusive of full color cover. With black/white cover the price would have been € 0,826/magazine. Prices are inclusive of 21 % VAT. This is about the same price as we paid for the loose-leaf copies and folder.

The option for cutting the edges (10 % extra) and transport costs was not calculated. Delivery was within 5 days.

Our magazine is made in Word and then converted into PDF-format. We had to upload the PDF file page by page to the website. I don't know why. The final printing result is, bearing in mind the price, very good, although some photographs could have been sharper. We will work on it for the next number.

As a first cover we used a photo taken by Mr. Uwe Brüdigam (DE) in Beijing of Ms. Annemarie Mersch at work.

Besides this paper publication we also publish the magazine online, using the free possibilities of <http://issuu.com>. Only members have access to this online publication. In addition to the digital publication most of our members want a hard copy of the magazine. Maybe this will change in the future?

If you want to have an idea you can browse in our number 150 through <http://issuu.com/danny.devriendt/docs/enewsvv?viewMode=magazine>. Unfortunately, the content is Dutch, but you will certainly recognize some parts.

I hope this contribution will give some ideas to those associations that want to publish information online or in low quantity hard copy. I'm sure you will also find in your country interesting possibilities for print-on-demand.

Danny Devriendt

Many thanks to Danny Devriendt for this interesting contribution. I have found the layout of this 150th issue very attractive and its content very interesting.

We congratulate this Association, which is an important member of the Intersteno Group in Belgium, on having managed so well in these long years and we are sure that this magazine helped a great deal in supporting teachers in their daily duties as well as keeping them in line with the technical evolutions of typewriting and shorthand up to the advanced word processing and media processing of our era.

Best wishes also for a brilliant future!

gpt

Geert Bonte - Verzamelde typeverslagen 1981-1989

The English translation of the title of this book '**Collection of typewriting reports**' gives the idea of its contents, which tells of the experiences of the Belgian group in taking part in competitions and events, such as the Intersteno Congresses over the course of 10 years in Mannheim, Luzern, Sofia, Firenze and Dresden. At the end of each event, a report was prepared dealing the training involved. These are now collected here .

It is therefore an important source of historical information, which permits us to 'catch' the scenario of what was happening at that time and the adventures met in arranging and attending these trips.

But this book is important for other reasons:

- 1 it is available in printed format and can be purchased on line at <http://bit.ly/gbvthc>
The printed version looks very nice, with a good layout. The basic price is 11 euro, and you can have it with a hard cover for 15 euro.
- 2 you can (at the same address) have a look at the content of the book.
- 3 it is also available as e-book, i.e. it can be downloaded to be read with an e-book reader or from a computer with specific software for this purpose. The link for getting it, free of charge, is <http://bit.ly/gbvtepub>. The software for reading e-book can be Acrobat Digital Editions available free of charge at the Adobe website.



We can easily say that **this is the first e-book** in our disciplines (at least as far as we know), and this gives us the opportunity to take advantage of many important features such as, for example, the online translation which permits a better understanding of its contents. A person with some knowledge of English and a bit of German can understand it.

Congratulation to the author, who is also well known among our international family.

gpt

Schnell - Schneller - Steno in Switzerland

NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG is the most important newspaper published in Switzerland. On 26th February it released a whole page with the above title (Quick - Quicker - Steno) in which there is much important information and many thoughts about shorthand. The article was written by Mr Flavian Cajacob and includes a long interview with Ms Rosmarie Koller (and her students) who was second in the multi-language competitions at the Congress in Wien in 2005. Ms Rosmarie Koller is very active and is motivating young people and teachers to arrange a new system of education training in steno. She has recently begun a new course with 5 young people in St. Gallen.



According to the information given in the article, about 5000 people are still using shorthand in Switzerland and the speed of 80 syllables per minute can easily be reached with a 8-10 months g, thanks to advanced methods and with the help of Cd-rom.

Congratulations to our Swiss friends on this interesting marketing activity, and best success for the future.

You can download the .pdf version of the whole page in German language at <http://www.steno.ch/hm/260.htm>.

Your news on our e-news website or on this letter

For 5 years we have welcomed your suggestions and texts of general interest for publication. We remind you that you can easily send material by mail or by using the form available at the menu Submit your news by clicking on the E-news button, available in every page of our website.

Use this form to send in news about your organization, national events, etc. which could be interesting for the Intersteno community. You can write your message in English, French or German. Your message is submitted to a member of the Board and will appear on this site within 48 hours of your sending, or will be included in our Intersteno e-news letter.

You can also download nearly every past issue of our e-news from the same E-news button available in every page of our website.

What's new?

The info herewith is based upon reliable information gathered from various sources, but it is not intended as an advertising of products, services or producers.

ATMac - A true experience of a person with disabilities, in using Dragon Dictate on Mac

We had the opportunity to contact the ATMac web site (<http://atmac.org>) which is full of information that is in line with the basic guidelines of our next Congress in Paris. So we take the liberty of presenting it here with the words used by its founder, as well as the experience of a disabled person, using the Dragon speech recognition software we mentioned in the last issue of our letter

G'day, and welcome to ATMac!

This website covers all Apple products with a slant towards disability. This website is about users with a disability, adaptive and assistive technology, and making accessible programs and content. I aim to cover all Apple products including all Mac OS X computers - the iMac, MacBook, Mac Mini, Mac Pro, and older models; the iPod range; the iPhone and iPod Touch/iTouch; the iPad range; and other products such as the Apple TV and Apple's remote controls, mice and keyboards.

As well as people with a disability and assistive and adaptive technology users, ATMac's audience includes teachers and educators, supporters such as parents and families of AT users, content producers, and application developers.

....

ATMac was started by me, Ricky Buchanan - I write most of the articles. Joe Barnick and Paul Nasch are regular contributors, and several other people write less frequent guest articles. I am actively looking for other regular contributors as well as people interested in submitting occasional

articles or guest posts.

I started ATMac because I use a bunch of assistive technology to access my own Mac, and couldn't find any sites that dealt with all types of assistive technology for OS X - this was before the iPod had any accessibility features and before the iPhone/iTouch/iPad had been announced. It seems important to have a central place where people can investigate all kinds of assistive and adaptive technology for all Apple products - both what's provided by Apple and what's provided by third party developers.

Ricky B

The experience of Ms Lisa Connor

Dragon Dictate is much more stable than MacSpeech Dictate. I can now use websites that involve Flash, such as YouTube, with Dragon Dictate running. It is still a good idea to save your profile regularly but crashes seem more infrequent.

The Available Commands Window has had some changes. More choices are now listed. Some of the commands seem shorter. This makes it easier for someone like me whose disability affects their voice and breathing. Most of the commands work beautifully. The only one I've had trouble with is "reply to this message" in Mail.

One thing that has not been fixed is that I'm still experiencing small words like "the" and "A" being recognized when I am not speaking. Admittedly, part of this may be caused by my use of a Plantronics 995 headset, which is not approved. Clearing those words with "scratch that" can cause glitches with what I'm doing. Oddly, muting the microphone with the headset doesn't always stop this problem so I strongly recommend putting Dragon Dictate to sleep when you won't be using it for a few minutes.

Overall, I would recommend Dragon Dictate 2.0. The increased stability alone makes dictation easier. Plus, with the increased number of available commands and Mouse Grid I think that Dragon Dictate will be more useful for those who have trouble using their hands rather than just preferring to speak.

Lisa Connor



Didacta2011 in Stuttgart (Deutschland)

Around 95,000 visitors came from 22 to 26 February at the Stuttgart Fair to Didacta, the world's largest event about lifelong learning and education. Thus, the symposium in Stuttgart set another record, after the previous record of 864 exhibitors. Altogether about 2,000 high-profile events of the training program for educators and leaders of all sectors of education were



produced. The world's most important event on education impressively confirmed its importance and set new standards.

The issue of e-learning was its own special area and a separate forum for the first time was a particular focus of the education fair and was very well received.

The next Didacta will take place from 14 to 18 February 2012 in Hannover. It will be back again in Stuttgart from 25 to 29 March 2014.

Many reports and video about this event are available at <http://www.didacta-verband.de/>

iPAD 2 released by Steve Job

Over 15 million iPads have been sold since its release in April 2010.

On March 2nd a new version was presented by Steve Job and will be available on the market at the end of this month.

Though the iPad 2 has the same 9.7-inch touch screen, not smaller as earlier reports speculated, it was touted by Jobs to be a completely new design.

The new version is faster, thinner and lighter than the previous iPad while having the same 10-hour battery life.

It features a new dual-core A5 chip. At a thickness of 8.8 mm and weight of about half kilo less, it is 33 percent thinner and up to 15 percent lighter than the original iPad.

The iPad 2 is equipped with both front and rear cameras, meaning users can use the device for video talking.

The iPad 2's front camera is capable of recording VGA-resolution (640-by-480) video at 30 frames per second with audio. The front camera can also take still photos at 640-by-480. The back camera can record HD video at 720p at 30 frames per second with audio. When in still camera mode, the back camera has a 5X digital zoom.

It also comes with iOS 4.3, latest version of Apple's mobile operating system, with new features including faster mobile browsing performance.

There are three Wi-Fi only models with 16, 32 and 64GB of flash storage and three 3G-equipped models.

The iPad 2 is scheduled to be sold in USA from March 11, followed by other countries at March 25. The price of 499 US dollars, (converted in 499 Euro) is the same as the one of the first generation.

Many thanks to Peter Walker for the revision of these texts.

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THE ADDRESS NEWSINTERSTENO@INTERSTENO.ORG otherwise your message will be lost. Please use news@intersteno.org for any additional comments as well as names of persons and entities interested in receiving this message. If you do not want to receive this letter, please send an email stating only UNSUBSCRIBE in the object of the message.



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