



Terminology Theory— Who on earth is it for?

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BIK Terminology/NYU
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Questions

- What is a terminologist?
- Who is involved in terminology work?
- What tasks are part of terminology work?
- Who should we author for?



To begin with

1. ISO 704: complex material for a broad audience
2. Global trends:
 - Professional tasks more and more complex with many different professionals involved
 - But increasing specialization



Terminologist in ISO 704

- Current definition: None
- But... “those involved in terminology management”
- Subsequently referred to as terminologist

i-Term

Subject: 5 Translation and interpretation services



English: **language professional**

Noun

Reference for term: **ISO/WD2 18841-1 Interpreting - General requirements and recommendations** - : Part 1: Overview, terms and definitions - 2.3.9

General definition: qualified person who makes a living working with language

Reference for def.: **ISO/WD2 18841-1 Interpreting - General requirements and recommendations** - : Part 1: Overview, terms and definitions - 2.3.9

Diagram: **language professionals**; 1; professional (professionally qualified person)
makes a living
dealing w/ lgge

HAS SUBTYPE: [proofreader](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [post-editor](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [copywriter](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [translator](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [interpreter](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [terminologist](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [writer](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [lexicographer](#)

HAS SUBTYPE: [lexicologist](#)

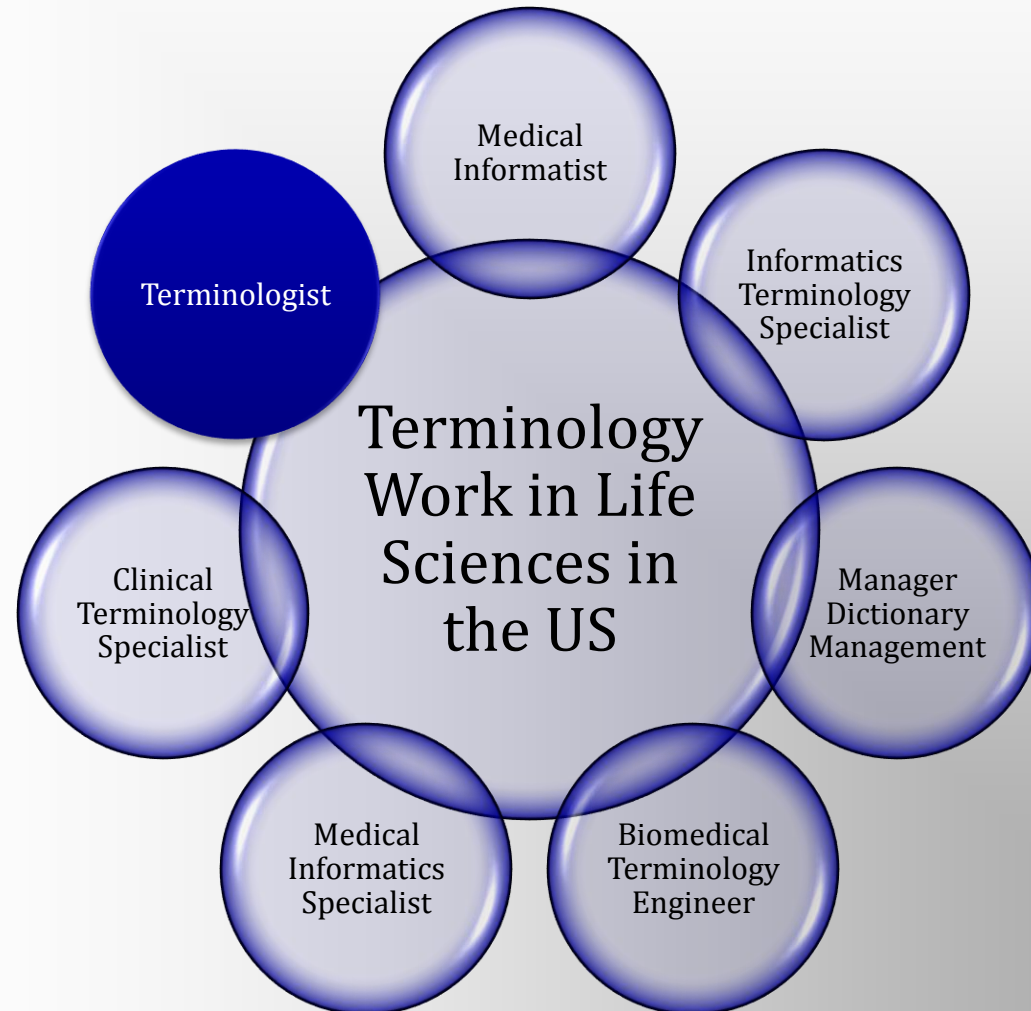
HAS SUBTYPE: [taxonomist](#)

Subject: 5 Translation and interpretation services

English: **terminologist**

Diagram: **language professionals**;
HAS SUPERTYPE: [language professional](#)

Job titles in US



Job description Colorado

CLINICAL TERMINOLOGY SPECIALIST GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

Thomson Reuters is the leading source of intelligent information for the world's businesses and professionals, providing customers with competitive advantage. Intelligent information is a unique synthesis of human intelligence, industry expertise and innovative technology that provides decision-makers with the knowledge to act, enabling them to make better decisions faster. Through its more than 50,000 people across 93 countries, Thomson Reuters delivers this must-have insight to the financial, legal, tax and accounting, scientific, healthcare and media markets, and is powered by the world's most trusted news organization. More information about Thomson Reuters and its financial performance can be found on www.ThomsonReuters.com. The Healthcare & Science business of Thomson Reuters provides intelligent information to better manage the cost and quality of healthcare and accelerate scientific research and innovation.

Develop and support Clinical Decision Support (CDS) day-to-day content-related operations and innovations by providing clinical and biomedical terminology expertise

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Support the development and delivery of Clinical Decision Support (CDS) solutions.
- Propose solutions that meet existing and new controlled terminology standards.
- Identify ways to leverage current content and processes.
- Research pharmacological and clinical substances, procedures, findings, and diseases for possible addition to the data repository (the lexicon). Maintain synonyms, relationships, and other product specific attributes related to individual concepts within the lexicon. Create and maintain logical mappings among multiple clinical terminology sets.
- Assist Knowledge Development editors as they use the lexicon to choose concepts during content creation and review. Establish and maintain protocols for data normalization as editors use the lexicon across multiple products to create clinically relevant linking among documents.
- Assist the clinical terminology manager in the coordination and implementation of clinical terminology-related projects to create deliverables and meet deadlines including content updates and software upgrades.
- Document procedures for Clinical Terminology content development and maintenance processes.

Other Duties and Responsibilities

- May provide support to other departments and business units as required.
- May need to travel on behalf of Thomson Reuters.
- Other duties as assigned.

POSITION INFORMATION

Company:

Thomson Reuters

Location:

Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Job Status

Full Time, Employee

Job Category:

Editorial/Writing

Career Level:

Experienced (Non-Manager)

CONTACT INFORMATION



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[Company profile](#)

- Tasks
 - Support CDS solutions
 - Work with controlled terminology
 - Research and document terms
- Skills and experience
 - Experience in health care
 - Knowledge in chemistry, pharmacology, human pathophysiology, biomedical informatics, etc.
 - MS Access and Oracle
 - Programming skills
 - Terminology management skills



Job description Switzerland

Terminologist

The Position

We are seeking a terminologist to transfer and merge existing glossaries and terminology repositories and create and establish a common terminology database for our business areas. You will establish a change management process and workflow for terminology including collection/gathering, review, approval and publication activities. As a member of the documentation team, you will establish and lead a cross-department terminology working group and work in close co-operation with all functions that have to be involved in this process at different Roche sites. In addition, you will provide harmonized terminology to all relevant departments (development, documentation, training, support, product management, marketing, etc.) and assure the terminology exchange with the partnering translation companies. Your responsibility is to ensure consistent use of terminology across our products and across all departments.

Who you are

You're someone who wants to influence your own development. You're looking for a company where you have the opportunity to pursue your interests across functions and geographies, and where a job title is not considered the final definition of who you are, but the starting point.

You have a diploma in linguistics, technical writing or as a translator. In addition, you have several years experience in a similar position. You have a profound knowledge of state-of-the-art terminology management workflows and tools and experience in establishing company-wide harmonized terminology. You are fluent in English, have a good knowledge of German and 1 - 2 other languages. Basic project management skills are a plus, strong communication skills and linguistic competence a must. You work systematically and independently and you are proactive, able to manage deadlines and available for business travel.

- Tasks
 - Merge terminologies
 - Create common database
 - Establish change management process and workflow
 - Harmonize terms
- Skills
 - Terminology management skills
 - Communication skills
 - Diploma in linguistics or applied linguistics
 - Multilingual



RaDT — Council for German-Language Terminology

- “Terminologists are specialists in compiling, describing, maintaining and propagation of monolingual and multilingual specialised vocabularies.”



Matrix of Terminology Work

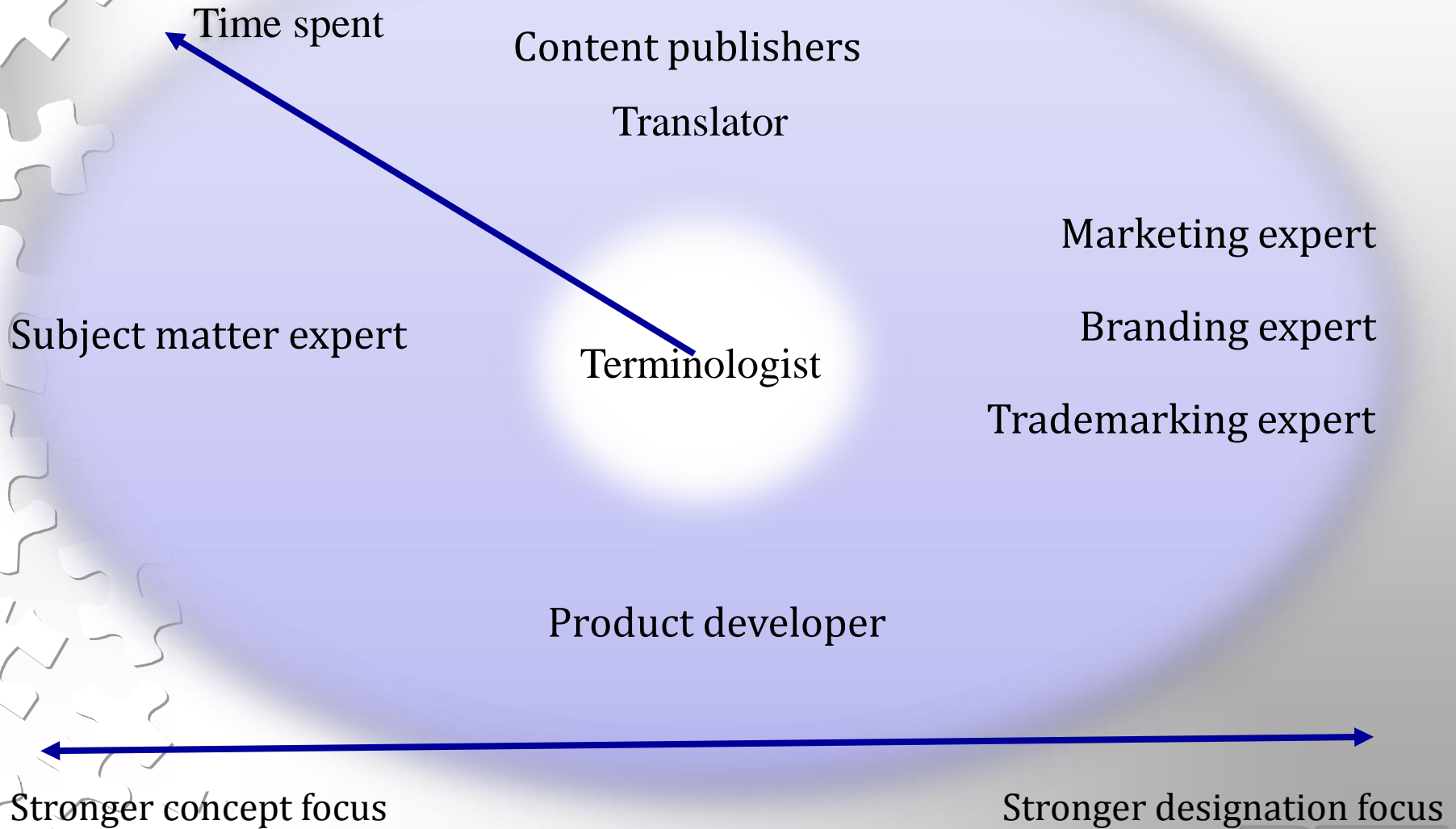
(inspired by BIK's "Document dimensions" and the draft Austrian standard ÖNORM A 2704)

First outline by Georg Löckinger, 7 December 2012

Type of terminology work	Ad-hoc terminology work	Ad-hoc/systematic terminology work	Systematic terminology work
Designation level	A single designation or several designations	Several designations	All designations of a domain or a sub-domain
Concept level	A single concept	Several concepts	All concepts of a domain or sub-domain
Object level	A single object or several objects	Several objects	All objects of a domain or a sub-domain
Concept relations	No concept relations represented	Concept relations indicated in textual form	Concept relations depicted in concept diagrams or concept models
Number of languages	One language only	Two languages	More than two languages
Terminology work product	Terminology list/glossary/a single terminological entry	Terminology list/glossary/several terminological entries	Fully-fledged terminological database/thesaurus/ontology



Who does terminology work?

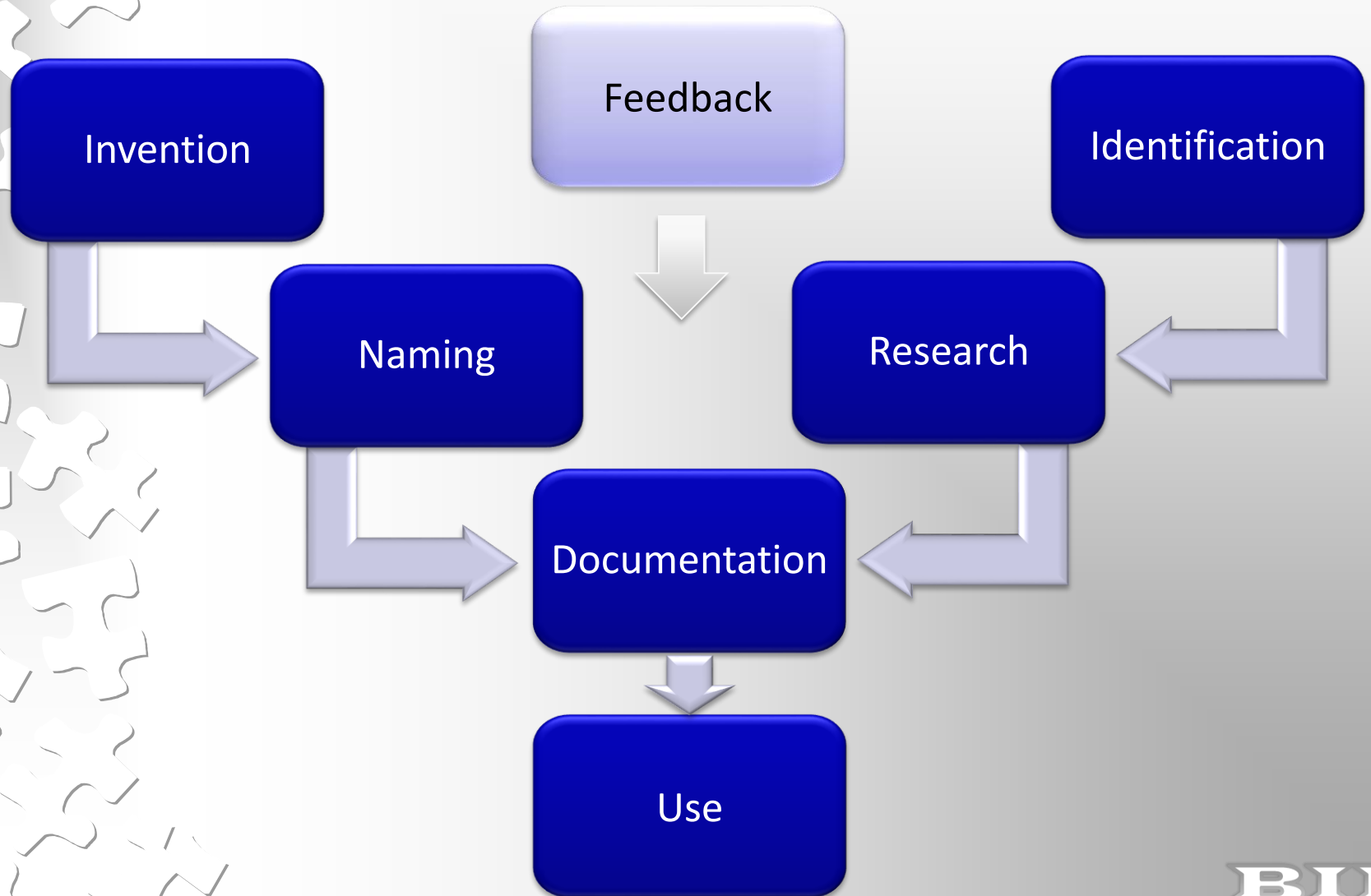




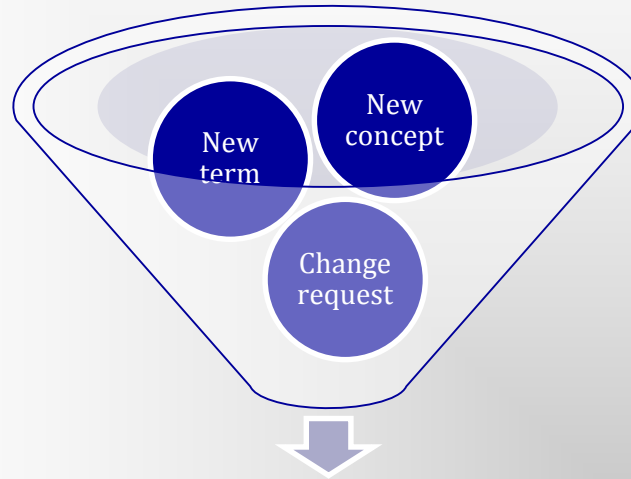
Consumers and contributors

- Partners
 - End clients
 - User interface designers
 - Product managers
 - Industry analysts
 - Translators
 - Localizers
 - Geopolitical experts
 - ...
- Research and development
 - Content publishing
 - Product development
 - Legal department
 - Training and education
 - Customer support
 - Marketing experts
 - Branding experts
 - ...

Workflow



Workflow



Terminologist



External and internal
community of users



Translators, editors,
writers, subject
matter experts,
lawyers, PMs...



What a terminologist does

- **Compiling monolingual or multilingual terminologies**
 - Documentation searches
 - Evaluation of documentation to determine nomenclature
 - Systematic and selective terminology searches
 - Arranging terms in logical groups and setting up concept systems
 - Classifying terminology stocks by subject matter
 - Drawing up definitions
 - Preparing terminology and validating the information processed into entries for data bases
 - Quality management of the data
 - Updating the data
- **Terminology planning activities**
 - Drawing up and implementing a suitable terminology-related language policy for the sector of activity involved (institution, organisation, company, language community, etc)
 - Homogenisation of terminologies
 - Creation and generation of new terms, product –names or descriptions of functions
 - Standardisation of terminologies
 - Verifying the current and the correct uses of terminologies
- **Making terminology collections available**
 - Cooperation in the planning and designing of terminology data bases
 - Evaluation of software products specific to terminology (benchmarking) and cooperation in the further development of these working aids
 - Compiling entry structures and specifying working methods and routines
 - Looking after the technical and content aspects of terminology data bases
- **Advisory and training activities**
 - Advising direct beneficiaries or terminology data bases (including colleagues and staff from the translation, technical writing, research, development, production and sales)
 - Advisory services in conjunction with setting up terminology services
 - Training and mentoring trainees and learners
 - Introduction, training, and continuing education of terminology personnel within the organisation, institution, etc.
 - Drawing up courses of terminology studies and integrating them into a specific overall study course
 - Preparation of research results for teaching, training and advisory purposes and the development of teaching and study materials
 - Providing support for terminology theses and dissertations



ISO 704
meaning of
terminologist



Conclusion

- Terminologist:
 - Define, based on RaDT definition
 - Additional distinction: time spent on terminology work
- Terminology worker
 - “role carried out by a language professional or other expert who performs terminology work as an ancillary function of other professional activities”



Conclusion

- Increased specialization
- Need to have lots of different specialists participate in terminology work
- So, anyone should really read and be familiar with ISO 704

➤ It ain't gonna happen!



Conclusion

- Focus ISO 704 on the now fairly clearly emerged PROFESSION of terminologist
- Encourage people in a terminology role to read it