

EQUIPMENT TRANSLATION AND ITS CHALLENGES IN THE TRANSLATION PROCESS

G‘olib Toshniyozov Shaxriddin o‘g‘li

Student of TSUULL

E-mail: toshniyozovgolib620@gmail.com,

+99895-777-13-15

Abstract: *This article is devoted to the main challenges encountered in the field of equipment translation, their analysis, and the development of effective solutions. At a time when the importance of translation activities in technical fields is steadily increasing, the translation of equipment-related texts has become a pressing issue. The article addresses issues such as technical terms, terminological consistency, cultural differences, syntactic structure, and accurate understanding of context. In addition, the translator’s professional training and level of technical expertise are also analyzed.*

Keywords: *technical translation, equipment, terminology, context, cultural adaptation, equivalence, localization, strategy, technical texts.*

In today’s era of rapid development and industrial advancement, international cooperation is expanding increasingly. As a result, technical devices, machinery, and equipment manufactured in different countries are being used worldwide. Under such circumstances, the accurate translation of technical documentation, user manuals, technological guidelines, and software interfaces becomes particularly important.

Technical or equipment translation differs fundamentally from ordinary literary translation. In this field, the translator must convey not merely the lexical meaning of words, but their technical essence and functional content accurately. An incorrect translation can not only distort the meaning of a document but also pose serious risks to production safety. Therefore, equipment translation is a complex process that requires deep knowledge, a high sense of responsibility, and precision.

Equipment translation is considered one of the most complex types of technical translation. Translators working in this field must be familiar with the operating mechanisms, structure, components, and technical terminology of various types of equipment. Technical documents are often written in a precise, concise, and formal style. Therefore, the translator should render the text as accurately as possible, without unnecessary explanations.

For example, the English phrase “Control valve malfunction” is translated into Uzbek as “Boshqaruv klapanining nosozligi.” If this phrase is freely translated as “The valve is not working properly,” technical precision is lost. Therefore, in technical translation, every term and concept must have its exact equivalent.

Technical fields consist of a large number of terms, and their accurate translation directly depends on the translator’s competence. In some cases, when no suitable equivalent exists in Uzbek, terms need to be translated with explanations or adapted accordingly. For example, terms such as “relay,” “bearing,” “sensor,” and “drive unit” may have different meanings depending on the context.

Maintaining terminological consistency is one of the most important requirements of technical translation. A single term must be used in the same form throughout the entire document; otherwise, the coherence of the text is compromised. For this purpose, modern translators make use of terminological databases (glossaries) and CAT tools (Computer-Assisted Translation).

Technical terms may convey different meanings depending on the situation. For example, the term “block” means a mechanical block in a mechanical system, whereas in programming it refers to a code segment. Therefore, the translator must correctly understand the contextual meaning of words and analyze the technical situation.

Each country has differences in technical standards, measurement units, and safety symbols. The translator must adapt these elements to the target language. For example, in the United States, units such as “inch,” “Fahrenheit,” and “psi” are used, while in Uzbekistan, “millimeter,” “Celsius,” and “bar” are applied. This process is called localization and involves not only linguistic adaptation but also cultural and technical adjustments.

Technical texts are often written in the form of instructions or recommendations. The English sentence “Check the power connection before operation” is translated into Uzbek as “Uskunani ishga tushurishdan oldin elektr ulagichini tekshiring.” It is grammatically adapted to the Uzbek language while preserving the original meaning. Such adaptations are among the most important practical skills for a translator.

As technologies rapidly advance, new terms emerge every year. For example, expressions such as “smart sensor,” “IoT device,” and “AI module” did not exist previously. Translators must continuously keep up with innovations and accurately adapt new terms into their language.

Literal translation. This approach is suitable for technical documents, contracts, technical drawings, and software interfaces. It preserves accuracy but can sometimes lack naturalness. Therefore, literal translation is usually used in combination with semantic translation.

Semantic (meaning-based) translation. In this approach, the translator conveys the content of the text while expressing it naturally and fluently in the target language. This method is particularly important for user manuals, safety instructions, and marketing texts.

Adaptation and localization. Cultural and technical adaptation is an integral part of the translation process. The translator adjusts the text not only to the language but also to the culture. For example, adapting the phrase “Plug the device into a 110V outlet” as “Uskunani 220V elektr tarmog‘iga ulang” is an example of localization.

Collaboration with Specialists. When translating complex technical documents, the translator should always consult and work together with engineers, technologists, or field experts. This ensures accuracy and helps prevent technical errors.

Equipment translation is a complex process that requires a high level of accuracy, attention, and technical knowledge. The translator must have a thorough understanding not only of the language but also of the internal mechanisms of the field. Properly executed technical translation promotes international cooperation, enhances production efficiency, and ensures safety. Therefore, specialists engaged in technical translation must continuously develop their skills and keep up with new technologies, terminology, and translation strategies.

Foydalanilgan adabiyotlar

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