Curriculum Vitae

Helena Koutna

Translations, interpreting and voice-overs – law, computer hardware and software, EU matters, films

Personal details

Name Helena Koutna, MA, MITI

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Working languages

Czech (mother tongue), English (active), Slovak (passive), Russian (passive)

Education and training

1987-1992 Charles University, Faculty of Arts, Prague, Czech Republic

MA programme (MA degree, 1992)

English and Russian Translation and Interpreting (Department of Translation

and Interpreting)

2008 University of Leeds, UK

English Retour Interpreting Training Summer School

Professional membership and accreditation

- Member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting, UK
- Accredited auxiliary conference interpreter of the European Council, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice

Professional experience

Translation

Translations of legal documents

- translations of legal texts for the leading international law firm, CMS Cameron McKenna, as well as other clients (agreements, articles of association, legal opinions, laws and regulations, PPP documentation) regular translations from 1993 to date
- tender and legal documentation in relation to the privatisation of the gas industry in the Czech Republic
- legal documentation in relation to the privatisation of the largest bank in the Czech Republic and, subsequently, in the Slovak Republic
- translations in connection with arbitration proceedings involving a major Czech bank
- translations in connection with arbitration proceedings concerning an investment protection claim against the Czech Republic

- regular translations for notaries
- translations of laws and regulations during the screening processing prior to the accession of the Czech Republic to the EU
- documentation for child abduction cases

Computer hardware and software, printers and photocopiers

- software localisation (AutoCAD, FoxBASE+, TomTom)
- user interface strings, user guides and tutorials for a number of printer/photocopier manufacturers, including Xerox, Star and Brother
- mobile phone software
- user guides and safety instructions for Motorola radios
- regular translations for Microsoft and Lenovo

Translation and proof-reading/editing of film subtitles

- DVD subtitles for over 400 feature films (including The Birds, Courage under Fire, Diamonds Are Forever, Die Another Day, Fargo, Four Weddings and a Funeral, French Connection, Full Monty, Garfield, Hitchcock, Chariots of Fire, Cheaper by the Dozen, Ice Age, Indecent Proposal, Kung Fu Panda, Madagascar 2, Magnificent Seven, Master and Commander, Monsters v Aliens, Rainman, Shallow Hal, Shrek 2, Thelma and Louise, There's Something About Mary, Trouble with Harry, Wimbledon, and Windtalkers) and TV film series (24, The Sopranos, The X Files)
- DVD subtitles for film bonuses and audio commentaries
- subtitles and webtexts for EurparlTV programmes (regular translations, average of 100 programme minutes per week at peak times)
- subtitles for corporate and training videos
- subtitles for film festivals

Websites

- www pages for a leading data warehousing company
- dealer website for a major car manufacturer
- 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Festival of Iranian Films in Prague
- regular translations of updates for a leading camera manufacturer
- voice-over texts (instructions, advertisements)

Advertising and promotions

• product sheets and labels, promotional videos, press releases, advertising campaigns

Corporate documents

- internal rules and regulations of major international companies
- newsletters for a major packaging manufacturer
- bi-monthly bulletin of a major worldwide production company

Insurance

agreements and terms and conditions for a number of insurance companies

Newspaper and magazine texts

- regular translations of articles from The Economist for publication by Respekt and Ekonom, two Czech weekly magazines
- regular translations of Final Word, a daily e-mail bulletin of the Fleet Sheet, Prague's leading daily English-language news bulletin
- regular translations of articles for the Czech edition of Bloomberg Business Week

Interpreting (simultaneous and consecutive)

EU institutions

• since 1998, regular interpreting at the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council and the European Court of Justice

Law

- meetings (routine legal matters, company acquisitions, privatisation, etc.)
- negotiations concerning the privatisation of the largest bank in the Czech Republic
- meetings concerning litigation between the Czech Savings Bank and Unisys
- arbitration hearings concerning disputes between the Slovak state and the Czech state and a major Czech bank, most recently in May 2011
- negotiations of a pilot PPP project in the Czech Republic
- hearings at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague

Trade unions

- European Works Council meetings of major European companies
- 2009 EPSU Congress

Official visits and round tables

- panel debate between Václav Havel, Lech Walesa and Gyula Horn
- meeting between Nelson Mandela and Alexander Dubček
- official visits of the President of the Central Tibetan Administration, Lobsang Sangay

Training sessions

• trade unions, banking, project finance, IT

Film, media, festivals, cultural events

- regular interpreting at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival (simultaneous interpreting of films, screening introductions and Q&As, interviews and press conferences)
- One World, international human rights documentary film festival in Prague
- Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival
- Festival of Iranian Films in Prague
- live broadcasts of the Academy Awards (Oscars) ceremonies
- Prague Pride
- Roma Spirits Awards
- Czech National Trust anniversary conference
- exhibition pre-views at the National Gallery in Prague
- live news broadcasts

Voice-overs

• training videos, tutorials, short films

Publications

- pocket English-Czech-English dictionary (English-Czech part)
- Berlitz Czech phrase book and dictionary (translations, phonetic transcriptions and notes)

Software tools

- MS Office
- SDL Trados Studio
- SDL Multiterm
- Wincaps O4
- electronic dictionaries