

# Steunpunt Nederlandstalige Terminologie

*Dutch Terminology Service Centre*

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# Steunpunt Nederlandstalige Terminologie

## the team

- Cross Language, Gent  
Nathalie de Sutter, Rian van der Borgt, Anke Cosijns
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
Hennie van der Vliet, Attila Görög
- In total 1.0 full time equivalent

# outline of the presentation

- Terminology and language policy for Dutch
- What to do
- How to do
- Present state of affairs (after 3 years)
- Future plans

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# Terminology for Dutch

language policies for  
Dutch terminology:

## **The Dutch Language Union**

- CoTerm: advisory body
- NL-Term: association of users
- Steunpunt voor Nlstalige Terminologie

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## some answers to Willy Martins questions

**Core business?** Serving the user: motivating,  
infrastructure, know-how

**Priorities:** practical needs

**Main problem:** unknown, unloved, time consuming

**How to meet the demands of the user?**

asking, listening, thinking

making terminology management possible

**Who gets better?** Users and the language community

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Who gets better? Users and the language community

## some answers to Willy's questions

### How to meet the demands of the user?

asking, listening, thinking

making terminology management possible

⇒ surveys at workshops for translators

⇒ A survey of teachers from academic courses Dutch at foreign universities

⇒ experiences with knowledge rich companies

(Dutch Aerospace Lab, Dutch tax service, WWF)

⇒ Investigation of Vincent Evers

## some answers to Willy's questions

Vincent Evers: *Terminologie et traduction*

Univ Utrecht, dep. French 2010

Do you maintain a database for terminology?

Yes: 75%. No: 25% (N=51)

If you do, in what form? (N=40)

Word: 25 (63%)

Excel: 14 (35%)

Multiterm: 4 (10%)

Wordfast: 3 (8%)

Paper: 2 (5%)

## some answers to Willy's questions

Did you have any educational instruction in terminology?

Yes: 12 (25%), No 36 (75%) N=48

If you did, was scientific theory one of the topics?

Yes: 2 (12%), No 15 (88%) N=17

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Yes: 12 (25%), No 36 (75%) N=48

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Yes: 2 (12%), No 15 (88%) N=17

*hoofdpijn verwekkend en excessief academisch*

# The Dutch TSC mission statement

There is a gap between theoretical terminology and the possibilities, skills and needs of workers in the field.

Our aim is bridging the gap and making terminology management possible, to help the users to help themselves.

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## plan of action

- promoting terminology
- Advising DLU on infrastructure and tools
- Supporting workers in the field
- Not so much emphasis on collecting data

plan of action: promoting terminology

promoting terminology: the website

[www.nedterm.nl](http://www.nedterm.nl)

website NedTerm:

news, agenda

practical info on tools, courses, resources etc.

webcourse

interactive

up-to-date

## plan of action: promoting terminology

promoting terminology:  
supporting NL-Term and CoTerm

- think along with NL-Term, Coterm and DLU
- symposia, workshops etc.
- publications
- mutual interest: how to reach the users of terminology

plan of action: tools and infrastructure

## TermTreffer-project on term extraction

Language specific tools to be developed by the DLU

- term extractor (TermTreffer)
- implemented in a work bench

Presupposes corpus based terminology

- know-how, general tools

Produces input for terminology management

- know-how, general tools

## plan of action: supporting workers

### **Know-how by the Steunpunt:**

- Developed a blueprint for a practical working method, corpus based, using the tools
- Webcourses (ad-hoc and systematic)
- Advice on tools and their use integrated in the webcourses
- Overview of a.o. tools and term lists on the website

plan of action: collecting data

**Collecting terminological data (term bases)  
is not a priority**

- not much available
- hard to collect
- Not always very reliable
- variation in formats, data structures, etc.
- but: collecting on-line term lists on [www.NedTerm.org](http://www.NedTerm.org)

plan of action: collecting data

**An alternative:  
collecting text corpora**

- supporting corpus-based terminology

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## state of affairs

### activities: promoting terminology

- not enough hits on website [www.nedterm.org](http://www.nedterm.org),
- Visitors are interested in: resources, term lists, overview of courses and the ad-hoc webcourse
- A lot of interest in symposia and workshops, participants are positive
- In general: target group is hard to reach

## state of affairs

### activities: promoting terminology

- not enough hits on website [www.nedterm.org](http://www.nedterm.org),
- Visitors are interested in: resources, term lists, overview of courses and the ad-hoc webcourse
- Newsletter is well read
- In general: target group is hard to reach

## state of affairs

### activities: supporting workers

- A lot of interest in symposia and workshops, participants are positive
- Webcourses are being used, esp. ad-hoc course, also in higher education  
consensus on working method at educational sector
- Nieuwsbrief (newsletter) is succesfull and well read

state of affairs

**activities: terminological data**

- collect and maintain textual data from governmental institutions and others  
(in collaboration with CoTerm)
- Collecting LSP-texts in existing corpora for Dutch  
(Dutch HLT Agency, *TST-centrale*)

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## future plans

active stimulating and coordinating practical terminology

- stimulate the production and collection of terminology methodology, web courses, TermTreffer, workshops
- coordinate terminology management  
For instance: Bologna terms in higher education
- Collecting text both from TST-corpora and from institutions

## European perspective

**What should an international symposium for TSC's  
bring about?**

**Is there a European perspective?**

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bring about?**

**Is there a European perspective?**

Stimulating and coordinating initiatives like the Bologna  
term wiki on a European scale

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**Thank you for your attention!**

Dutch TSC,

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