

ABSTRACT

Title: “Translation specifics of oil supply contracts”.

Author: Elina M. Mustafaeva, Specialist’s program student, Institute of Translatology, Russian Studies and Multilingualism.

Field of Education: 45.05.01 Translation and Translatology

Specialization: Specialized Translation (Oil and Gas Translation)

Research Supervisor: E. V. Vinogradova, Associate Professor of the Chair of Theory and Practice of Translation and Interpretation.

Research Initiator: Pyatigorsk State University; 9 Kalinin St., Pyatigorsk, Stavropol Krai.

This work analyzes the characteristic features of the official functional style, which includes legal texts and contracts. It defined the purpose of communication within the official business style, which is to reach an agreement between the parties. Based on the work of domestic and foreign researchers, the present research has identified such features of this style determined by the purpose, as the system of clichés, terms, expressions, the use of abbreviations, literal word meanings rather than contextual/emotional ones and etc.. The syntactic features include compositional schemes, clearly organized statements and so on.

As a part of the work with contracts the stylistic features of legal English at all levels were considered. At the graphological level, such features as the system of capitalization, style and font size, which are often established by the respective public authorities, were highlighted. Among the lexical features an abundance of archaisms, borrowings from Latin and French, and technical terms stand out the most. At the syntactic level, the predominant use of narrative sentences and the complex composition are noted. In addition, four main types of contracts were identified and characterized, which are concession, production sharing, service contracts and joint ventures.

These characteristics of the official business style are illustrated by a fragment of the “General Terms & Conditions. BMS United”. A pre-translation analysis of the original text made it possible to detect features specific to the

English-language official style specified above and presenting a certain difficulty in translation, since they do not correspond to the characteristic features of the Russian scientific style.

One of the translation challenges in scientific and technical texts, and oil and gas texts in particular, is the abundance of terminology and professionalisms. Problems may also arise due to the differences in the phonetic, lexical and grammatical composition of both languages.

The translation strategies used in the translation of such texts imply the pursuit of the highest possible level of equivalence while maintaining the characteristic features of the style. To achieve this goal and to cope with the problems of translation, various transformations can be used.

As our analysis of the translated text showed, the most frequently used transformations were modulation, explication, and various types of grammatical transformations, such as part of speech or part of sentence replacement, rearrangement, sentence integration and division and etc..