An Industry-led
Collaborative Mechanism
for Development of
Legal Translators and Interpreters:
Case of Tianjin

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- My presentation today covers the following:
- Overview of Tianjin
- Legal translation and interpreting (LTI) in China: overview
- LTI in Tianjin: opportunities & challenges
- Development strategies for LTI human resources

Overview of Tianjin (1)



Overview of Tianjin (2)

28 minute inter-city express to Beijing







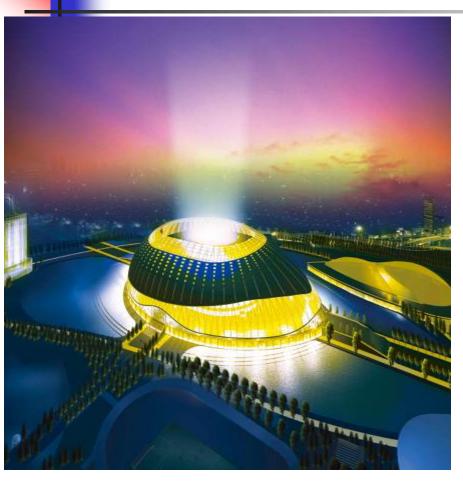
Overview of Tianjin (3)

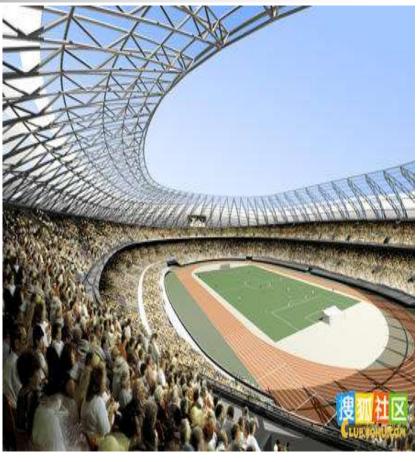
- Nankai University, mother school of ex-premier ZHOU Enlai;
- Tianjin, hometown of WEN Jiabao, our premier





Overview of Tianjin (4)





Overview of Tianjin (5)

 Tianjin University, a.k.s Beiyang University (1895), the first university in Chinese history of modern education Dynasty.

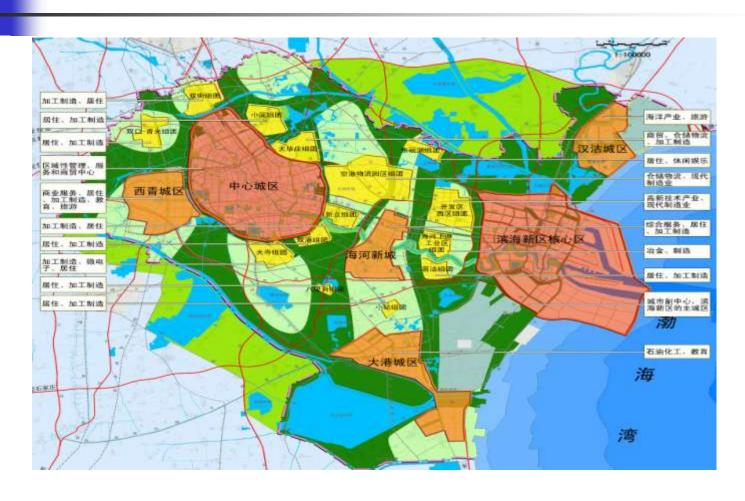








Overview of Tianjin (6)



Overview of Tianjin (6)



One of 4 municipalities under jurisdiction of the central government

Overview of Tianjin (7)



Strengths of Binhai New Area

- Up to 2008, 130 Top world 500 have their operations in Tianjin;
- CNY1.500 trillion investment to be completed by 2010.
 Comparison of GDP per capita (USD)

 Year
 2006
 2007
 2008

 China
 1970
 2460
 3313

 Tianjin
 5177
 6022
 6065



Positioning of Tianjin

To be developed into:

- An international port city
- An economic center in North China
- An eco city
- A famous cultural city



Binhai New Area, as 3rd economic growth pole in China, 3 times as large as Pudong Development Area, opening Gateway in North China, a high-level modern manufacturing and R&D transformation base, north international shipping center and international logistic center, to be developed into a prosperous, harmonious and environmentally friendly eco-city



LTI objects: LTI sources & resour

In public sectors:

Legislative: laws by NPC Legislative Affairs Committee, provisions and detailed implementation rules at provincial and district/county levels, laws and provisions at NPC and provincial levels to be more likely translated into other languages

 Legal interpreting required in investigation into foreign criminal suspects, trial of foreign criminals, hearing of foreign-related cases in litigation and arbitration, in legal aids, notarization and legal conferences.

Executive:

Regulations and measures by the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council and provincial, district/county and internal government departments, regulations and measures by the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council and provinces to be more likely translated, distributed and uploaded

Demand by legislative planners and implementers to refer to foreign legislations to be translated into Chinese.

Judiciary:

Chinese legal instruments of courts of law, arbitration courts, procuratorates, police, public notary to be translated by themselves or outsourcing into foreign languages and foreign into Chinese as deemed necessary

Contents of official websites and legal database to be translated by themselves or outsourcing multilingually

In private sectors:

C-F and F-C translation of legal essays, legal books and journals

C-F and F-C translation of legal instruments by clients

Interpreting on legal consulting, investment, cooperation, trade, exhibition, conference, lectures, and other academic and business scenarios.

 C-F and F-C translation of websites, software and documents of legal publishers, law firms, other law practitioners, chamber of commerce, industrial associations, businesses and individuals soliciting or render legal services

LTI subjects: LTI practitioners, managers and the like Translation associations:

National levels:

TAC (Translators Association of China), FIT member STTACAS (Science and Technology Translators Association, China Academy of Sciences), FIT member

Provincial and city levels 46 (incomplete statistics)

No professional association is found to be specially engaged in LTI

LSP: TSP + localization & globalization service providers: approx. 3000 as reported, inclusive of 126 TAC members (incomplete)

Legal publishers:

China Legal Publishing House, under the legislative Affairs Office of the State Council Law Press, under Ministry of Justice

TAC members: 8 Journals and 4 publishers

LTI educators & trainers:

MTI programs 15+25 accredited, inclusive of 13 TAC members

Tertiary LTI education: preliminary stage

Professional LTI trainers: NA, in collaboration with tertiary LTI educators, very costly

In-house legal translators and interpreters, NA

Freelance legal translators and interpreters, NA

Challenges for Tianjin LTI

Investigation reveals that:

No version of any foreign language with official websites of Tianjin People's Congress, Legislative Affairs Office, Tianjin Judicial Bureau, higher, intermediate and district courts, most local law firms, chamber of commerce, a long way to go for multilingual versions

English version for laws, local regulations, provisions, rules and legal database not available on related official websites

 No standard English version of booklets available at Administrative Permit Center at municipal and district levels

No mechanism for admission and certification of LTI professionals

No LTI team organized or certified by courts, local bar association, local public notary association, local translators association or any other entity



No educator or trainer available in Tianjin specially engaged in LTI education or training LTI human resources deadly needed by local LSPs

No quality assurance standards for LTI industry, education and training available



No CAT-related curricula nor translation tools being provided or applied in LTI education and training program

TPM process and legal terminology to be developed

No systematic training programs administered on LTI professionals and teachers

- No effective collaboration between Tianjin Bar Association, Tianjin Translators Association, Tianjin Public Notary Association and T&I educators
- In professional LTI instructor
- In curricula design
- In internship base
- In joint R&D

 Students in law and translation lack of knowledge and awareness of low-carbon economy, cycled economy, service outsourcing, financial renovation, Binhai International Equity Exchange, Dongjiang Port Free Trade Zone, first carbon trading deal by TCX



- No translation educators CUITI or other criteria certified
- Professional ethics, translation TPM software, translation standards not provided for local students in law or translation who find it difficult to be employed and provided internship opportunity

- LTI projects outsourced by public sectors and private sectors not solicited in integrated force;
- No local organization dealing with LTI services
- No arbitration panel for LTI deliveries

Case of Tianjin: Opportunities

Resources available

- Binhai New Area: the 3rd pole for economic growth in China
- China International Private Equity Forum
- Davos New Championship Forum
- Dongjiang Port Free Trade Zone
- Binhai International Equity Exchange
- Dongjiang Cruise Home Port
- TCX
- Binhai International Equity Exchange
- Binhai Service Outsourcing Center



- Initiatives by TBA Committee for International Economy and Trade to collaborate with TTA, LSP and local tertiary LTI educators and trainers
- My networked resources with higher court, maritime court, two intermediate courts, district/county courts, CIETAC Tianjin International Economic and Financial Arbitration Center, Tianjin Arbitration Center, law firms, public notaries, law professors and other law practitioners;



- Positive relationship with LSPs, educators, publishers.
- MTI program with Nankai University
- Recognition on necessity collaboration of MTI education with T&I industry achieved at First National Forum for MTI Education and Industrial Collaboration



 Urgent demand by public and private sector for LTI professionals in industry and academia

Case of Tianjin: Opportunities









- Joint development by resources in public and private sectors:
- Proposed TAC Committee for LTI, other related associations, LSP, LTI individuals, tertiary LTI educators and professional trainers, congress, governments, courts, arbitration institutions, publishers and other related elements

1. Public sector commitments

Legislation shall be adopted that competent government authorities, congresses, courts, arbitration courts, public notary offices shall commit to outsource LTI projects only to accredited/certified LTI service providers, instead of seeking to have the same outsourced to LTI services providers not yet accredited/certified by proposed AC Committee for LTI, and that TSP having completed training programs may be exempted from education surcharge taxed.

2. Incorporation of a national LTI organization

2.1 A national legal translation organization shall be incorporated to attract participation by freelance and in-house LTI practitioners, LSP specializing in LTI, legal publishers, law-related localization and globalization service providers, lawyers, public notaries, CPAs, government employees and NGO employees involving legal services, tertiary LTI educators, professional LTI trainers, post & doctor LTI students, CATTI passers, to protect and maintain their common interests, coordinate members with shared interests, standardize business operations, seek intro-industrial, inter-industrial and international cooperation.

2.2 Realistically, this industrial organization is proposed to be affiliated to TAC, named, say, "TAC Committee for Legal Translation and Interpreting" ("proposed TAC Committee for LTI"), which, as a national professional organization, in parallel with and in collaboration with the Bar Association of China, the Public Notary Association of China, China Judge Association, China Law Society and other related professional associations, will work side-by-side with TAC, establish and maintain collaborative relationship with FIT Committee for Legal Translation and Court Interpreting, EULITA, and other national and regional legal translation associations worldwide.

- 2.3 Proposed TAC Committee for LTI shall collaborate with judge associations, procurator associations, bar associations, public notary associations, law societies, translators associations at national and local levels by providing them with a name list of qualified legal translators and interpreters for CPD training and related purposes and soliciting professional training by their outstanding law-related members.
- Such collaboration shall involve international organizations.

2.4 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will collaborate closely with tertiary LTI educators and professional trainers by recommending a name list of law experts and LTI expert professionals, introducing to them internship facilities by choiced LSPs and projects for joint R&D, and seeking collaborative opportunity for training of LTI human resources.



2.5 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will recommend to public and private entities experienced LTI professors, localization and globalization professionals and LTI software and technology to facilitate their on-the-job training programs.

2.6 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will make good use of the optimal LTI resources to be pooled from inside China and abroad to design and administer tailored training programs targeted at professional's CPD, LTI tertiary teachers and trainers, undergraduates and postgraduate majoring in law, translation and interpreting and related specialties on content-based legal projects, terminology management, TPM, DTP, LTI standards, LTI translation technologies, LTI software application, mock conference and court interpreting, and professional ethics.

2.7 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will initiate standardized LTI services by developing an industrial standards for LTI with reference to our national standards, EN15038, ASTM and other significant standards, publicizing and implementing the same. For this purpose, experts and professionals from bar, judge, procurator, PN and translation associations, LSP, academia, arbitration courts, publishers government authorities and related entities shall be invited.

2.8 Propose TAC Committee for LTI shall, from time to time, lecture on the newly promulgated and revised laws, regulations, judicial interpretation and ordinances by experienced members practicing law to keep members in pace with the progress of local, national and regional and international legislation, in particular for Tianjin LTI practitioners on legal knowledge and practice in PE, IPO, M&A, carbon trading, financial renovation related businesses.



2.9 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will work closely with government authorities and other national and international organizations to bid for LTI projects of much significance and obtain procured LTI services to be rendered by its competent members.

2.10 Proposed TAC Committee for LTI will launch an official website in which name, specialization, language combination, contact number of individual legal translators and interpreters, particulars of LSP, publishers, students and other members will be accessible and latest domestic and international industrial and academic information for exchange and cooperation will be available.

2.11 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will organize members for national, regional and international conferences, exhibitions, expos, bridge for them any opportunity for business, cooperation and exchange from inside China and abroad.



- 2.12 Propose TAC Committee for LTI will set up an arbitration panel to settle LTI-related disputes with clients.
- 2.13 Propose TAC Committee for LTI may endeavor to run a journal manifesting achievements in LTI academia and industry.



2.14 Propose TAC Committee for LTI shall work with necessary and available resources for a national LTI qualification exam for those who have passed CATTI, as a reference for admission to LTI practice and further study of related field.



2.15 Operating funds shall be raised via membership fee, donation and paid consulting, training and journal publishing to ensure benefits available to members.



- 3. LSP and tertiary LTI educators collaboration
- 3.1 LSP specializing in LTI shall be encouraged to be admitted to TAC Committee for LTI, which will facilitate collaboration with members of tertiary LTI educators from such committee
- 3.2 LSP standardizing and outstanding in LTI and tertiary LTI programs shall be encouraged for collaboration in the following forms:

- 3.2.1 Experienced LTI professionals to be retained in steering panel for curriculum design and in tutorial and lecturing position with tertiary LTI educators, particularly MTI educators, in CAT, such as TMP, TM, and project-based LTI training, LTI skills, and professional ethics
- 3.2.2 LSP products to be sold and paid professional services to be rendered to tertiary LTI educators
- 3.2.3 paid visit and internship to be provided to LTI undergraduates by recommended LSP



- 3.2.4 translation standards and terminology to be trained with consideration by tertiary LTI educators to LSP upon request
- 3.2.5 feedback to be obtained by LSP from tertiary LTI educators on performance of LSP products used in class for upgrading
- 3.2.6 minor languages and multilingual LTI to be imparted by tertiary LTI educators to LSP



- 3.2.7 simulated translation workshop to be instructed by LSP professionals
- 3.2.8 LTI technologies and serviced to be purchased by tertiary LTI educators from LSP
- 3.2.9 Joint R&D



- 3.2.10 LTI qualification certificate program for LSP to be trained by tertiary LTI educators
- 3.2.11 MTI internship base
- 3.2.12 Latest legal knowledge to be imparted by law professionals to LTI students and trainees
- 3.2.13 collaboration with Binhai New Area Service

LTI Educators

 Development and provision of industryled content-based, project-based curriculum and workshop for unique human resources in legal translation, court interpreting, proofreading, reviewing, editing, project management, quality control, marketing and LTI operations by employing LSP's LTI officers and professionals

- Simulated LTI company created steered by LTI professionals
- Professional teachers with rich industrial experiences
- Membership of internationally academic and industrial organization
- Accreditation of internationally recognized standards
- Minor to minor language combination
- Moot court interpreting directed by court interpreters



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Comments and questions?

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