

Bulletin

Winter 2012 Volume 7 - Issue 4 - abletranslations.com



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President's Message



Wilson Teixeira
President

This year has truly been exciting for Able Translations. We have made advancements in many areas, all with the ultimate goal of serving you better. Over the next year, we will continue to move forward while fostering the ideals of multiculturalism and diversity, ideals that form the foundation of everything we do.

Vicki™, Able Translations' video remote interpreting (VRI) solution, continues to be an example of the success that can

be achieved when companies are technologically innovative. Our VRI platform attracted the attention of some very influential groups, including the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA). In October, the OHA hosted a webcast focused on vicki™ and the benefits it can provide to the healthcare industry. The ability to communicate face-to-face, on demand, makes a meaningful difference for patients and health care professionals alike. It can even save a life.

Able Translations forged many new partnerships in the US and Europe over this past year with organizations looking to expand their service capabilities using our VRI platform.

Our partners share our passion for language, commitment to customer service and ingenuity. We look forward to working alongside them over the coming year.

On behalf of the Able Translations family, I want to thank you for your continued support. We look forward to meeting your language service needs during 2013 and the many years that follow. My family and I, as well as the entire team at Able Translations, wish you health and happiness over the Holiday Season and throughout 2013.

Pictures Speak Louder than Words

As 2012 comes to an end, we find ourselves reflecting on the accomplishments of the past year. Some of our biggest successes have come from vicki™, Able Translations' video remote interpreting platform. Since entering the market, vicki™ has generated waves of enthusiasm from our clients, garnered attention from the press, and encouraged our pursuit of unrelenting innovation.

This past year has solidified vicki™ as a leading video remote interpreting solution for the healthcare market. Our system was featured in The Toronto Star during Nursing Week, Hospital News and the Canadian Healthcare Technology magazine. The articles tout vicki™ as a breakthrough in patient care, citing its use in Newmarket's Southlake Regional Health Centre where it has assisted in relieving patient anxiety through open, face-to-face communication. Vicki™ even made an appearance in the Community Report Video as part of Southlake's Annual Report.

Able Translations is celebrating the release of vicki™ on Apple's tablet, the iPad. This leap forward in versatility gives rise to many new possibilities for our service in novel settings and situations. We look forward to hearing stories about how this boost in portability has changed the way you use vicki™.



The December Season from Region to Region 📄

Able Translations was founded on the spirit of multiculturalism. It's part of who we are as a company. With the holiday season upon us, we thought it would be exciting to do an exposé on some December festivities that are less publicized in North American media.

We'll start our tour in East Asia with the Dōngzhi Festival, one of the most important observances in that region. Dōngzhi is a winter solstice celebration based on the principle of Yin and Yang; the balancing of the cosmos. This festival is held on the day in December that has the weakest sunlight and shortest day. Celebrators rejoice because the days that follow will be marked with more positive energy radiating from the sun.



Tangyuan is a popular dish during the Dōngzhi Festival. These glutenous rice balls symbolize reunion.

Moving forward in time and space, a modern humanist holiday observance named HumanLight is celebrated around the world on December 23. Invented in 2001 by a group of secular humanists, HumanLight is a celebration of a "positive approach to the coming year" through human achievement, advancements in science and technology, as well as a personal drive to make changes in ourselves and our communities.

Dates to remember 📅 **31**

Finally, we come to Zamenhof Day, the most widely celebrated Esperanto holiday. For those who don't know (and a refresher for those that do), Esperanto is a constructed language with no ethnic genealogy. It was invented as a politically neutral, easy to learn, universal language.



Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof was a Polish doctor, linguist, and the creator of Esperanto, the most successful constructed language.

Currently, there are anywhere from ten thousand to two million speakers worldwide. Zamenhof Day is celebrated on December 15, the birthday of the language's creator, Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof. He presented the first draft of the new international language on his 19th birthday in 1878.

Of course, these are only three of the hundreds of events held in December.

Translation Bloopers in the News 📄

The BBC comedy "Episodes" has become famous for its disastrous use of freebie online translation. One of the show's storylines included a lead character attending the funeral of his father. The gravestone, as per Jewish tradition, is bilingual – English along with Hebrew in this case. Upon reading the text, you discover that the man commemorated has been "pickled at great expense", which is what you get if you use free internet translation sites to render "dearly missed" into Hebrew. The blooper went viral in Israel.

<p>January</p> <p>Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 New Year's Day - International 1 Gantan-sai (New Year) - Shinto 6 Epiphany - Christian 7 Christmas - Coptic and Russian Orthodox 14 Makara Sankranti - Hindu 	<p>February</p> <p>Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Groundhog Day - Canada, USA 10 Chinese New Year 6 Waitangi Day - New Zealand 8 Parinirvana Day - Buddhist 14 Valentine's Day - International 15 Partinirvana Day (alternate) - Buddhist 18 Heritage Day - Canada 18 Family Day - Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario 22 Ash Wednesday - Christian 	<p>March</p> <p>Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-20 Nineteen Day Fast - Baha'i 8 International Women's day 17 Saint Patrick's Day - Christian (Irish) 20 Vernal Equinox - Northern Hemisphere 20 Nowrūz - Persian New Year
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