Key steps to select your preferred translation company for chemical documentation

Due to the nature of the chemical industry and the close relationship with people's health and wellbeing, chemical companies and manufacturers require accurate and certified translations of their chemical documents. This is not only to comply with complex laws and regulations, but to safeguard their clients, who may be other businesses that handle these chemical products or consumers themselves who will use these chemicals. When you need professional chemical translations, how do you choose the best translation partner?

Here are some of our top tips

Tip#1 – Choose a chemical industry expert translation company

There are many outstanding and reputable translation companies around, but it does not mean they are the perfect choice for translating your chemical documents.

Always look for those specialising in the chemical sector, ideally with a team of linguists with qualifications in sciences and chemicals. This way you can be assured that your chemical documents are being translated by those with an in-depth knowledge of the terminology involved and can expertly translate from the source language into the target language.

Tip#2 – Choose an ISO 17100 accredited translation partner

You should always consider certifications and only choose a company with accreditation from organisations such as Association of Translation Companies in the UK and have ISO 17100 certification, the standard specific to the translation industry. These are two of the main criteria that you should consider when choosing your chemical translation partner.

Tip#3 – Ask for chemical industry experience

Translation companies that are confident and well-established will be able to provide details about their experience. You could also ask for specific feedback by chemical companies, as it will give you a deeper insight.

Tip#4 - Look for a Full-Service Provider

When browsing a potential translation company's website, it is easy to get lost in detail about the translation and pay little attention to how the process will work in practice.

A professional translation company will have a very well-defined process of handling your project along with a team of expert native linguists. You should always be assigned a competent project manager who will be the main point of contact for the duration of the project.

Another area to consider would be the ability of your selected provider to provide all the services you are looking for, these may not be limited to translations, but as the pandemic has shown, the need for over the phone or video interpreting may now be a key requirement for you.

Tip#5 – Search Quality Control

A professional, accredited company will have a very strict quality control process that incorporates rigorous principles that will be applied to the various phases of translation to eliminate errors and inefficiencies. During the initial translation, the qualified translators carefully translate the source content into the target language. They use translation memories and glossaries to efficiently translate the text with consistency, with a separate reviewer examining the translation finally to ensure it meets the quality standard.

Tip#6 - Do Not Compromise on Price

Even though sourcing a low cost may be high on your list of priorities, it should never be the factor that guides your selection of the best provider. This doesn't mean not seeking value for money, just remember not to let the translation costs play a major role in your final decision at the expense of quality.

Tip#7 – Turnaround

Always allow sufficient time for your translations. Often, they come towards the last stage in a complex process of producing documentation but should never be rushed!

TW Languages ticks all the boxes above by providing clients with accredited chemical translations from experienced and qualified linguists. Our translations are provided with a quality service to match and go through a rigorous proofing process to ensure your translation is of the highest order. To discuss your chemical translation requirements, speak to our friendly team today!

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