

INTERPRETIME BANK: an online practice community for professional interpreters

Lia Giralt Paradell and Aline Casanova Ochoa, InterpretimeBank, Spain

This paper is aimed at presenting a new life-long learning tool for interpreters: InterpretimeBank. InterpretimeBank is an online community for professional interpreters and interpreting students, who want to improve their skills, add new active or passive languages or keep up with the interpreting techniques during the less busy periods. The aim of the community is to create a network of professional interpreters working worldwide, foster knowledge exchange and interconnect different interpreting disciplines.

It was created by a group of professional interpreters and former classmates, who noticed that it was difficult to practice and get feedback from other qualified interpreters due to the unaffordability of some workshops, the lack of practice groups in their city or town or the lack of time. They came up with the idea of creating an online community in which all the members could exchange and benefit from the knowledge of other interpreters and which could work as a lifelong learning tool.

The community works as an online time bank, where time is the currency. It is based on mutual support and all the members who volunteer listening to others' interpretations and giving feedback to them can gain time credit that they can spend in having other members of the community listen to them and giving feedback to them.