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"With FrameMaker 12, Adobe has developed a standalone, XML-focused editor with strong support for the DITA standard. XML Author is available as a separate choice in your FrameMaker program."

JoAnn Hackos, President – Comtech Services Inc.

Read Full Review

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InfoPlus+

March 15

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The ISTC is the United Kingdom's professional association for scientific and technical communicators, which includes authors, illustrators and information designers.

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Web: www.istc.org.uk

This monthly Newsletter is emailed to about 1500 people. As well as ISTC news, *InfoPlus*+ aims to cover anything of interest to the profession. To subscribe, contact the office.

Advertising: Felicity Davie
Editorial: Newsletter Editor
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Events: Events Editor
Blogs: Blogs Editor

If you're reading a printed copy of this newsletter, go to www.istc.org.uk/our-publications/infoplus-newsletter/ and open it online to explore the links mentioned.

ISTC news

TCUK 2015 – Call for proposals

We are pleased to announce that Call for Proposals for the Technical Communication UK 2015 conference (TCUK 2015) is now open. The conference takes place at The Beardmore, Glasgow, 29 September to 1 October 2015.

This year's special focus is *Breaking the Boundaries of Technical Communication*. One of the exciting aspects of technical communication is its changing nature. Assumptions are being challenged, and boundaries are being broken, as technical communicators meet the needs of users today.

For example:

- What is, and isn't, seen as technical communication?
- Is there life beyond writing manuals?
- What new innovations are emerging in technical communication?
- Can we move beyond instructions?
- What talents and skills can a technical communicator bring to other fields?

- Is a hybrid career possible, and if so, what does it look like?
- How can we change the way in which we work when we create content?
- What benefit is there in straddling two fields?
- What happens to those who keep to the traditional path?

We'd like to hear about your experience with and your thoughts on moving beyond the technical communication that we know today. Have you moved beyond technical communication life as we know it today? What boundaries are you breaking? Which departments are you 'disrupting'? Submit a proposal for telling your story in TCUK 2015's special focus track: *Breaking the Boundaries of Technical Communication*.

As in previous years, we also welcome proposals on any topic that you feel will be of interest to technical

communication professionals. Delegates at previous conferences have expressed interest in presentations on a wide variety of topics.

To help you get started with your proposal for TCUK 2015 there are a series of articles on the TCUK website, written by Andrew Lightheart, author of *The Three-Hour Presentation Plan* (Pearson 2015), who gave a workshop on presentation planning at TCUK 2014. The first of these articles is: How to create your proposal for TCUK (http://technicalcommunicationuk.com/index.php/archives/3453).

For more details and to submit your proposal, please see: http://bit.ly/tcuk15proposals.

The Call for Proposals closes on Friday 3rd April 2015.

Careers event

On 11 February, the University of Cambridge Careers Service held an event highlighting Careers in the Creative Industries. The ISTC has taken part in this event several times in the past and this year we were represented by members Zsuzsa Nagy and Derek Cooper, both of whom live and work in the local area, who volunteered their time and to whom we are very grateful.

Zsuzsa Nagy at the ISTC stand

Cambridge careers event

Zsuzsa and Derek reported that they found the event very interesting and that they were able to enlighten several students about technical communication about the role of the ISTC and shared some ideas about careers they might wish to consider in technical communication. The students seemed relieved that the options were wide enough to offer many routes of interest to them when they graduate or when they want to change jobs to a more intellectually rewarding career.

The ISTC would like to be represented at similar events in the future, but this

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depends on two things: finding out about the event, and finding volunteers to attend. So please, if you hear of a similar event at a university or college near you, or if you'd be interested in representing the ISTC at a careers event, please contact David Farbey, the ISTC Council member for Professional Development and Recognition, by email at education@istc.org.uk.

Attention ISTC members!

Membership subscriptions are now due. If you haven't yet renewed, please do so as soon as possible and continue to receive the benefits reserved for members. Use the online facility www.istc.org.uk/onlineshop/membership/ – but don't forget to log in first!

It is also still possible to sign up for monthly direct debits. Go to https://www.securecollections.com/dd/istc/details.asp – again you must log in first.

Get involved with ISTC projects

We're still looking for volunteers. It's a good way for you to develop new skills, build your network and extend your professional development portfolio. Below are a couple of opportunities available now. If you're interested in volunteering for any of the tasks, please contact marketing@istc.org.uk.

Day in the life of a technical communicator videos

The ISTC wants to encourage technical communicators to tell their own story. We've created a 'day in the life' playlist on YouTube for this purpose, and we now need some videos to add to it. These videos will be embedded into the ISTC's website, as well as being on YouTube.

You can help by sharing with others what it's like for you to be a technical communicator.

The videos don't need to be highly polished - recordings from a smartphone would be fine – and we can help with editing and final production if you wish.

They don't need to be very long either. It could be three or four minutes on what your company does, what your role is within the company, what you enjoy about the work, and, (if that's the case) why you are an ISTC member.

The more videos we have, the more representative the playlist will be.

If you can create a video clip, you just need to send it (or a link to it) to the ISTC's main email address, and we'll do the rest. If you want to upload it to your own YouTube account, that's fine, as we can still add it to the playlist.

Introductory primer articles on technical communication

We're looking for volunteers to write some introductory primer articles for the ISTC website that will help explain different aspects of technical communication.

The topics are:

- What is technical communication?
- What do technical communicators do?
- What is localisation?
- What is technical illustration?
- What's the difference between technical communication and copywriting?
- Where do technical communicators work?

The intended audience would be managers, students, journalists, and anyone else who is curious about technical communication. Each article should be around 500-800 words.

The ISTC can help in finding subject matter experts you could talk to.

Discover the five benefits of being an ISTC member:

What the istc offers.

© ISTC March 2015

ISTC local area and special interest groups

MadSIG meeting report

From Marjorie Jones

MadSIG met in Ripley, Surrey, in January to eat cake and watch a MadCap webinar. We chose Mike Hamilton's excellent session on responsive design and generating content for mobile devices. We all agreed that, although we could download and watch webinars on our own, it was a far better experience watching as a group. We all learned something and as always, had an animated chat about some of the issues raised, and problems we've faced and solutions we've found in our own working environments.

Next MadSIG meeting

If you use Flare, or are interested in learning more about it, and are within travelling distance of Ripley, we're planning to meet again on Wednesday 18 March (date to be confirmed). Watch the ISTC forums or the MadCap UK and Europe Users Group on LinkedIn for the announcement. We're planning to watch another webinar, this time one of the excellent CSS series, so bring your CSS queries and nifty tricks for another interesting and educational session (with cake!).

If anyone elsewhere in the UK or Europe is interested in watching the same webinar on or around the same date, perhaps in another small group, and then participating in an online discussion over the following days about some of the issues raised, get in touch with me at MadSIG@istc.org.uk and I'll see what I can set up to facilitate this. You will need to provide your own cake though.

Thames Valley area group meeting report

From Darren Mitcham

We dedicated the meeting to informally discuss other spoken and written languages. As writers it was good to learn that many languages (including Japanese, Thai, and Mandarin) have no concept of verb tenses. In addition, in English, a sentence is a complete unit, but the equivalent in Japanese is a paragraph. In Thai the gender of words depends on the speakers' gender. One of our members brought in prints of Belgian, French, Cyrillic and Arabic keyboards. Always design GUIs for Cyrillic, as most words and phrases are two to three times longer. Even Ikea drawings are not multinational as many languages read from right to left. When we were drifting towards the end of the evening we discovered British sign language is very different to American sign language. It was an evening with many thought provoking revelations and gave some insight on how non-English speakers may perceive our English documentation.

Thames Valley area group next meeting

On Tuesday 3 March we are communicating with pictures. The old adage says a picture says 1,000 words. Create a picture that depicts your favourite nursery rhyme, fairytale, film, book, or pop song. It'll be charades without the miming.

© ISTC March 2015

Southern area group meeting report

From Claire Wood

Due to extenuating circumstances, the planned presentation from Marjorie Jones was postponed until a later date, which is currently being agreed. Instead we discussed a range of things including how members became technical authors.

I gave a brief outline of the Hacks/Hackers London group and how it seems to overlap with ISTC (see my article on this under the Industry news section of InfoPlus). This was for new and existing members whose interests lie both in software development and writing. We also covered legal issues around copyright notices and licensing, plus copyright in code and Windows versus Linux.

Everyone had a pleasant time and we had an opportunity to have a bit of a social catch-up, so it wasn't all shop talk!

Hyperlinks disclaimer

The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the ISTC of the linked websites, or the information, products or services contained on those sites. All external hyperlinks were accurate and working at the time of writing. However, the ISTC does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations, so the ISTC cannot be responsible for changes to content found at these locations or any material on those sites that may be inaccurate, misleading or offensive to you. All links are provided with the intent of meeting the mission of the ISTC and its Newsletter, and the ISTC disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness and availability of any linked site. Please let us know about existing external links which you believe are inappropriate or inaccurate and about specific additional external links which you believe ought to be included.

Current ISTC local area groups

Contact your nearest area or special interest group on the email shown below. If you're interested in setting up either an area group or a special interest group, please contact our area groups manager Tom Dumic at: areagroupsmanager@istc.org.uk.

Area groups:

Name	Leader	Email Contact Details
Cambridge	Derek Cooper or Jeff Bronks	cambridge_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Central South	Co-ordinator wanted	areagroupsmanager@istc.org.uk
East of Scotland	George Lewis	eastscotland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Irish Technical Writers	Patrice Fanning Yvonne Cleary, Bridget Walsh	irishtechnicalwriters@istc.org.uk
ISTC Irish Group	Adrian Rush	irishgroup@istc.org.uk
London	David Farbey	london_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Midlands	John Burns	midlands_areagroup@istc.org.uk
North East England	Janine Weightman	northeastengland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
North West England	David Jones	northwestengland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Southern	Claire Wood	southernengland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
South Wales	John Espirian	southwales_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Thames Valley	Darren Mitcham	thamesvalley_areagroup@istc.org.uk
West of Scotland	Charles Addison	westscotland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
Yorkshire	Nick Tonge	yorkshire_areagroup@istc.org.uk

Special interest groups:

Name	Leader	Email Contact Details
MadSIG	Marjorie Jones, Tom Bridley Kai Weber	MadSIG@istc.org.uk
Oil & Gas	Chris Knowles	oilandgas@istc.org.uk

ISTC groups on LinkedIn

The ISTC has a number of LinkedIn groups for its members. Have you joined the relevant groups?

ISTC group: www.linkedin.com/groups/Institute-Scientific-Technical-Communicators-1858546/about.

This group has a number of sub groups for:

- ISTC NW Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups/ISTC-NW-Area-Group-2445779/about
- Southern Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4795279
- Thames Valley Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4805266
- ISTC Midlands Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups/ISTC-West-Midlands-Area-Group-4835591/about
- South Wales Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5161265
- West of Scotland Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5081412
- ISTC Oil and Gas
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5023918

Using Eventbrite to register attendance at area group meetings

Some area group meetings are posted on Eventbrite and where this is the case, we asked anyone expecting to attend to register online using this event management service. You can see a list of ISTC related events by visiting: www.eventbrite.com/org/495786380.

A plea: if you know you're not going to be able to attend a meeting that you've registered for, could you please contact the organiser, even if it is at short notice.

There are other area groups which aren't sub groups of the ISTC one:

- Cambridge Technical Communicators
  www.linkedin.com/groups/Cambridge-Technical-Communicators-1805651/about
- Irish Technical Writers – An ISTC Area Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups/Irish-Technical-Writers-ISTC-Area-3369559/about
- MadCap UK and Europe Users Group
  www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5081593

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Business affiliate news

MadCap Software acquires Doc-To-Help

On 7 January 2015, MadCap Software officially announced the acquisition of Doc-To-Help. Complementing MadCap Flare, the addition of Doc-To-Help brings together under one roof two of the industry's most popular content authoring and publishing solutions.

Anthony Olivier, MadCap founder and CEO, and John Ayers, general manager of GrapeCity Developer Tools US, formerly ComponentOne, where interviewed recently about the acquisition. ComponentOne was acquired by GrapeCity in 2012. Together they discussed what the acquisition means for customers of Doc-To-Help and MadCap Flare, as well as the future of the products.

You can read the interview here: www.madcapsoftware.com/articles/IntercomArticle2015D2H.aspx.

Industry news

Hacks & Hackers, London

Review of the January meeting by: Claire Wood (Technical Author at Fotech Solutions Limited)

With Silicon Roundabout and the major tech companies having bases in London, it was no surprise to read in late December 2014, in the Guardian, the increase in demand for such groups as Hacks Hacker. In my new role I'm somewhere between Product Marketing and Engineering, so I went along to see what the group could offer me.

Originating in the USA, 'Hacks/Hackers is a rapidly expanding international grassroots journalism organisation with dozens of chapters … and thousands of members across four continents … [Their] mission is to create a network of journalists ("hacks") and technologists ("hackers") who rethink the future of news and information…… Based on demand, [they] are strategically trying to expand into offering courses such as coding for beginners, Google Fusion Tables and .js'.

The London chapter was started back in 2011 by Joanna Geary, and called *Ruby in the Pub*. It has now grown to over 3,000 members. It was started with the intention to bridge the skills gap between technology, including coding, and journalism.

Isn't this just the same as the ISTC but on a grander scale?

If the January meeting is anything to go by, possibly. I found it interesting that small tech companies could stand up and showcase their product(s) to a room; that there were some well-known journalists there, willing to share their knowledge and experience of technology, and there was some discussion about tools that could be used to help hacks and hackers, on the job. Presentations included:

- Jamie Bartlett, journalist and author of *The Dark Net: Inside the Digital Underworld*, talking about TOR and how

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customer service and competition is thriving on the black market area of the internet. (TOR for those of you who don't know, is the browser that journalists and activists use to keep in touch and share information. It's use has been controversial ever since the Edward Snowdon whistle-blowing event and the rise of ISIS).

- Andrew Fogg, Founder of import.io, who gave a presentation about his company collaborate with big companies and journalists alike to analyse and strip out information from websites into APIs and spreadsheets.
- There were a couple of smaller presentations from companies showcasing their product e.g. interests.me, and recruiting for software engineers.

When I made further enquiries of what else was on offer, I was asked 'What do you want to get out of it?' Hacks/Hackers isn't somewhere you will learn the latest writing technique. It's given that you are already a qualified writer and it's geared towards media and journalism. However, it is built on the ethos of learning and preserving freedom of speech. As such, it is something I would go to again, and I'm in discussions about where it can fill the gap in my career development. It was interesting to learn how more organisations and people will migrate to using encryption heavy tools and indeed, may set up sites on TOR. Now Facebook have a TOR site, who knows what the future will bring!

Associated Links

http://hackshackers.com/.

www.meetup.com/HacksHackersLondon/.

www.independent.co.uk/news/media/opinion/ian-burrell-hacks-hackers-is-the-place-smart-young-wouldbe-recruits-looking-for-the-right-job-head-to-these-days-9924260.html.

www.amazon.co.uk/The-Dark-Net-Jamie-Bartlett/dp/0434023159.

Simplified Technical English term checker

www.simplified-english.co.uk

Techscribe

Blog news

By Ginny Critcher

Hello everyone. Here is this month's blog round up for you.

Ijad Madisch of ResearchGate argues why it's time to ditch the PDF:

http://tinyurl.com/mtxfkdj.

At Scriptorium DITA is the common theme. Jake Campbell gives an overview of DITA 1.3, Sarah O'Keefe looks at conditional content in DITA and Carlo Evia shares some lessons learned from his experiences with the DITA troubleshooting topic:

www.scriptorium.com/blog/.

Earlier this month Sarah Maddox presented an introduction to API technical writing, if you missed this webinar you can find a link to the slides in this post:

https://ffeathers.wordpress.com/tag/api-documentation/.

At Every Page is Page One Mark Baker defends FAQs:

http://everypageispageone.com/2015/01/19/faqs-are-still-useful/.

Over on the Firehead blog as part of their continuing job Q and A series they look at what exactly is involved in being an enterprise content strategist:

http://firehead.net/2015/02/interview-with-an-enterprise-content-strategist/.

Madcap look at issues and give some recommendations when translating your content in Madcap Flare:

https://www.madcapsoftware.com/blog/2015/02/03/six-potential-issues-flare-translation-recommendations/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter.

Marcia Riefer Johnston analyses what puts the intelligent in intelligent content:

www.intelligentcontentconference.com/puts-intelligent-intelligent-content/.

Cherryleaf's Ellis Pratt discusses the challenges of creating relationships with customers that will lead onto them providing customer references and case studies:

www.cherryleaf.com/blog/2015/02/customers-as-advocates/.

Do you have a blog? Let Ginny know so she can include it in her monthly review. Simply email ginny@cherryleaf.com.

Ginny has a background as a skilled trainer and information designer, and is responsible for the development of Cherryleaf's training courses. In addition to her skills in information design, she has over twenty years experience in teaching and training throughout the world. She is Cherryleaf's representative to the Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators (ISTC).

Training courses

If you know of a training course that will be of interest to readers, please let us know. You can send details by email to newsletter.editor@istc.org.uk. Please try to give us plenty of notice. The deadline for receiving information for *InfoPlus*+ is 24th of the month preceding publication.

MadCap training

For details of the latest MadCap Software Training Schedule: Web-based and On-site Training, visit: www.madcapsoftware.com/services/training/.

Listings are restricted to scheduled courses that are low cost or are in some way unusual. Listings are a service to members. A listing does not imply ISTC endorsement.
If you hear of any training courses that you think might be of interest to ***InfoPlus***+ readers, please contact the Newsletter copyeditor at newsletter.editor@istc.org.uk.
If you would like to promote your course or event to ISTC members, why not consider giving ISTC members a discount for courses and events listed in our newsletter. For more information, please email istc@istc.org.uk.

March

2-6 **Technical Authoring Training Programme**
ISTC-accredited programme comprising: Introduction to technical authoring (1 day); Intermediate technical authoring (2 days); Advanced technical authoring (2 days). Attend the complete programme, or just the modules relevant to your experience.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Milton Keynes.

www.armada.co.uk/technical-author-training-course.

...March

2-3 **Introduction to Adobe Photoshop**
Learn how to use the de facto standard in the graphics industry. Techniques covered include colour correction, working with layers, compositing images and preparing images for use on the Web.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/photoshop-training-course.

3-4 **DITA Open Toolkit Course**
Our two-day DITA Open Toolkit training course guides participants through customisation techniques and tools for developing DITA Open Toolkit plugins. It is a commonly used method of obtaining output from DITA content in a variety of formats, including PDF and a range of XHTML based formats such as help systems.

This course has been designed for developers who need to customise publishing systems for DITA content using the DITA Open Toolkit, assuming that the attendees are already familiar with; DITA Maps & Topics, XSLT (& XSL-FO) and general programming techniques. This course enables participants to develop their own DITA Open Toolkit customisations for PDF and HTML related outputs, and know how to package and distribute these customisations as plugins.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.mekon.com/index.php/pages/services/dita-open-toolkit-customisation-training/services.

4-5 **Introduction to Adobe Illustrator**
Provides you with the essential knowledge you need to create shapes, work with type and layers and apply effects and styles, giving you the basics to build on.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/illustrator-training-course.

5-6 **Simplified Technical English Course**
This two-day course is a practical introduction to Simplified Technical English. The course introduces Simplified Technical English, explains the underlying grammatical principles and gives delegates opportunities to use Simplified Technical English on their company's documentation.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.aerospace-defence.com/index.php/pages/training/asd-simplified-technical-english-specification/t-standards.

11-13 **<oXygen/> Author for DITA**
This course is designed to help technical communicators become productive using <oXygen/> Author. The <oXygen/> Author for DITA Course is a bundle of two separate courses: DITA/XML Introduction Course (1 day) and <oXygen/> Author Basic Course (2 days).

10% discount to ISTC members.

www.mekon.com/index.php/pages/services/oXygen-XML-for-DITA-authors/training.

...March

16-17 Introduction to Adobe Photoshop
Learn how to create and edit images using the de facto standard in the graphics industry. Techniques covered include colour correction, working with layers, compositing images and preparing images for use on the Web.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Milton Keynes.

www.armada.co.uk/photoshop-training-course.

18-19 Introduction to Adobe Illustrator
Provides you with the essential knowledge you need to create shapes, work with type and layers and apply effects and styles, giving you the basics to build on.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Milton Keynes.

www.armada.co.uk/illustrator-training-course.

19-20 Website creation essentials with Adobe Dreamweaver
Course for new or novice website designers, and anyone who is responsible for creating or updating web pages. Teaches how to design, develop and maintain a professional website using Dreamweaver. During the course, delegates create a fully functioning website, and receive a copy of their files to take away.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/dreamweaver-training-course.

26-27 Introduction to Adobe InDesign
Provides a comprehensive introduction to the powerful capabilities of InDesign, including setting up new documents, shapes, frames and using InDesign's most popular features.

10% discount for ISTC members

Armada, Milton Keynes.

www.armada.co.uk/indesign-training-course.

26-27 Introduction to Adobe Captivate
Learn how to develop web enabled e-learning modules and interactive software simulations.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/captivate-training-course.

30-31 Introduction to Adobe InDesign
Provides a comprehensive introduction to the powerful capabilities of InDesign, including setting up new documents, shapes, frames and using InDesign's most popular features.

10% discount for ISTC members

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/indesign-training-course.

April

1-2 DITA Open Toolkit Course

Our DITA Open Toolkit training course guides participants through customisation techniques and tools for developing DITA Open Toolkit plugins. It is a commonly used method of obtaining output from DITA content in a variety of formats, including PDF and a range of XHTML based formats such as help systems.

This course has been designed for developers who need to customise publishing systems for DITA content using the DITA Open Toolkit, assuming that the attendees are already familiar with; DITA Maps & Topics, XSLT (& XSL-FO) and general programming techniques.

10% discount to ISTC members

Full course outlines available on request.

www.mekon-creatives.com.

9-10 Introduction to Adobe InDesign

Provides a comprehensive introduction to the powerful capabilities of InDesign, including setting up new documents, shapes, frames and using InDesign's most popular features.

10% discount for ISTC members

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/indesign-training-course.

13-14 Simplified Technical English Course

This course is a practical introduction for those who will use Simplified Technical English. The course introduces Simplified Technical English, explains the underlying grammatical principles and gives delegates opportunities to use Simplified Technical English in practical exercises. These exercises can be based on your company's documentation.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.aerospace-defence.com/index.php/pages/training/asd-simplified-technical-english-specification/t-standards.

13-17 Technical Authoring Training Programme

ISTC-accredited programme comprising:

- Introduction to technical authoring (1 day)
- Intermediate technical authoring (2 days)
- Advanced technical authoring (2 days)

Training in core technical authoring skills for new and experienced technical authors.

Attend the complete programme, or just the module(s) relevant to your experience.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/technical-author-training-course.

...April

16-17 Adobe InDesign Introduction Course
You will learn how to produce documentation from design concept right through to output. Practical projects will range from creating single sided literature to longer publications incorporating text and graphic elements to achieve appropriate layouts. The Adobe InDesign course includes topics and theory sessions listed in the course outline which will give you a comprehensive understanding of features and processes involved in producing effective documentation.

10% discount to ISTC members

http://tinyurl.com/o45ypg5.

20-21 Introduction to Adobe Premiere Pro
Provides a thorough grounding in the key tools Premiere Pro provides for film editing and video post-production. It then goes on to explore further useful techniques including adding video effects, exporting frames, clips and sequences, and managing your projects.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/premiere-pro-training-course.

20-21 Introduction to Adobe Photoshop
Learn how to create and edit images using the de facto standard in the graphics industry. Techniques covered include colour correction, working with layers, compositing images and preparing images for use on the Web.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/photoshop-training-course.

22-23 Introduction to Adobe Illustrator
Provides you with the essential knowledge you need to create shapes, work with type and layers and apply effects and styles, giving you the basics to build on.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/illustrator-training-course.

22-23 Introduction to Adobe After Effects
Entry-level course providing a thorough grounding in the tools and techniques used to carry out the most common tasks in After Effects, and introducing some of the more sophisticated features available including tracking, keying, 3D space and shape layers.

10% discount for ISTC members

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

www.armada.co.uk/after-effects-training-course.

23-24 Introduction to Adobe Captivate
Learn how to develop web enabled e-learning modules and interactive software simulations.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Milton Keynes.

www.armada.co.uk/captivate-training-course.

Events listings

If you know of an event that will be of interest to readers, please let us know. You can send details by email to events@istc.org.uk. Please try to give us plenty of notice. The deadline for receiving information for *InfoPlus*+ is 24th of the month preceding publication.

This section introduces new events and reminders of the most relevant events in the coming months. ISTC events are highlighted. You can view previous events listings on the ISTC website's Newsletter archive at www.istc.org.uk/Publications/Newsletter/newsletter.htm.

March

5 **The ISTC London Group Gamification: The New Black!**
In this presentation Galyna will talk about what gamification is and why this idea is so popular right now. She'll explain why technical communicators should be interested in gamifcation.

See http://istclondongroup-march2015-gamification.eventbrite.co.uk for details and to reserve your place.

10 **West of Scotland area group meeting**
Our next meeting will be at Waxy O'Connors pub (Library area). The event is free and open to all. For details and to register your attendance, visit: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/istc-west-of-scotland-meeting-tickets-15893507910.

12-13 **tcworld India 2015**
India's only international conference for technical communicators and language professionals.

Bangalore, India

http://conferences.tekom.de/tcworld-india-2015/home.

17 **tcworld China 2015**
For technical communicators and language professionals in China. The conference will focus on Technical Communication in China and Europe, Product Safety, and Skills and Competence.

Shanghai, China

http://conferences.tekom.de/tcworld-china-2015.

23-25 **Intelligent Content Conference**
Intelligent content is 'content which is not limited to one purpose, technology or output.' In it's 7th year, ICC covers Content Strategy, Content Marketing, Adaptive Content, and more.

San Francisco, USA

www.intelligentcontentconference.com/.

25-27 **Learning Solutions Conference and Expo**
eLearning conference exploring new technologies to extend and enhance the learning experience. Aimed at learning professionals focused on the design, development, management, and distribution of technology-based learning.

Orlando, Florida

www.learningsolutionsmag.com/lscon/content/3600/learning-solutions-2015-conference--expo--home.

April

12-14 MadWorld 2015
MadWorld 2015 is the premier technical communication and content strategy conference for technical writers, documentation managers and content strategists.

San Diego, California

Conference info: www.madcapsoftware.com/events/madworld/.

17-18 TCeurope 2015 colloquium
The TCeurope 2015 Colloquium is hosted by STC France, and offers sessions on information delivery, emerging technologies relevant to technical communicators, and methods for engaging users. Saturday hands-on sessions include an Adobe Workshop.

Brussels, Belgium

www.tceurope.org/colloquia.

22-26 IA Summit
Information Architecture Summit exists to promote discourse and offer practical advice about the strategic and intentional design of information environments. New this year: 5-minute Ignite talks and extended round-table discussions.

Minneapolis, USA

www.iasummit.org.

29-30 Adobe Summit
Digital Marketing conference with more than 100 sessions across ten tracks including Personalisation and Optimisation, Marketing Analytics, Digital Experience Management, and Mobile Development and Marketing.

London, UK

http://summit.adobe.com/emea.

May

17-19 Write the Docs
A three-day event to explore the art and science of documentation. Learn about documentation systems, tech writing theory, and information delivery.

Portland, Oregon, USA

www.writethedocs.org/conf/na/2015/.

20-22 Confab Central
Content Strategy conference hosted by Brain Traffic and Kristina Halvorson (co-author, Content Strategy for the Web). Confab Central is for marketers, UX professionals, technical communicators, and content engineers.

Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

http://confabevents.com/events/central.

June

3-5 **LocWorld28**
The Internet of Things

Berlin, Germany

http://locworld.com/events/locworld28-berlin-2015/.

3-5 **UXLx User Experience Lisbon**
16 workshops, 10 talks, UX Book Fair and Sponsors Expo. Speakers are Usability Experts, Information Architects and Interaction Designers. Sessions themes include responsive design, designing wearable experiences and interface writing.

Lisbon, Portugal

https://www.ux-lx.com/.

4-5 **UA Europe Annual Conference**
Focus is on software user assistance and online help. Sessions on agile, Kanban, findability and Information Architecture.

Southampton, UK

www.uaconference.eu.

10-12 **mLearnCon**
mLearnCon focuses on the management strategies, technology alternatives, and design and development considerations for mobile learning.

Austin, Texas, USA

www.elearningguild.com/mLearnCon/content/3400/mlearncon-2015-mobile-learning-conference--expo--home/.

21-24 **STC 2014 Summit**
The Summit consists of over 80 educational sessions, organised in tracks and 20-minute Spotlight Talks covering all aspects of technical writing, editing, project management and publication production. Keynote starts on Sunday evening. Summit Expo runs during conference with over 50 exhibitors.

Columbus, Ohio, USA

http://summit.stc.org.

InfoPlus+ submission deadlines

If you have an article or other content you want to submit for inclusion in *InfoPlus*+, please note the following:
For feature articles, press releases, affiliate news and other general content, please ensure your submission arrives by 20th of the month prior to publication. For example, in the case of a June publication, copy should arrive by 20 May.
For ISTC news or event details, please ensure your submission arrives by 24th of the month prior to publication. For example, in the case of a June publication, news should arrive by 24th May. Every effort is made to ensure that *InfoPlus*+ is published and distributed as early as possible in the month to which it relates. However, last-minute entries, adverts or cancellations can result in an issue being distributed up to a week into that month. Please bear this in mind when submitting time-sensitive information; especially if it concerns an event occurring in the first few days of the month.