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InfoPlus⁺

April 16

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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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Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey
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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
Letters: Letters Editor
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 2016

Technical Communication UK (TCUK) is the ISTC's annual conference for everyone involved in writing, editing, illustrating, delivering and publishing technical information. This year's conference is being held at Wyboston Lakes Hotel and Conference Centre, Wyboston, Bedfordshire, on 13th to 15th September www.technicalcommunicationuk.com. This year's conference theme is From Novice to Expert – Writing Your Career Path as a Technical Communicator and the call for proposals ended on 31st March. If you have submitted a proposal then we expect to start notifying speakers about proposal acceptances in early May.

Sponsors

We are pleased to announce that Adobe is our Diamond sponsor for the third

year. We have two Platinum sponsors – Capita TI and SCHEMA. 3di is again supporting TCUK as a Silver sponsor, Acrolinx has taken up a Bronze package and for the very first time Balsamiq has registered as a Supporter. Our thanks to all these sponsors for their support. For further information about exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities, please contact the TCUK team tcuk@istc.org.uk or take a look at the information on the website <http://technicalcommunicationuk.com/index.php/tcuk16-sponsorship-exhibitor-supporters-opportunities>.

CJ Walker takes up ISTC International Representative role

We're pleased to report that the role of ISTC International Representative, previously managed by Edward King, is to be taken up by CJ Walker.

CJ Walker is company director of Firehead, a Bronze level ISTC affiliate headquartered in Le Tholonet, France; Lund, Sweden; and Maidstone, Kent. Since founding Firehead in



CJ Walker

2007, CJ has worked hard to develop a high quality, personalised recruitment service based on a deep understanding of clients' digital needs and on interviewing each candidate individually. This hard work has paid off as Firehead is now on the Preferred Supplier list of 15 major multinationals, as well as smaller companies across a variety of sectors. You can find out more about CJ and Firehead [here](#).



“Ask Me Anything” sessions

The second of our “Ask Me Anything” sessions took place in March, with representatives from Semcon Product Information UK (www.semcon.co.uk) answering questions about augmented reality (AR), producing AR based customer documentation, tips for technical authors interested in moving towards digital content creation, and much more! You can read the full session here (if you're an ISTC member and logged in): www.istc.org.uk/our-community/discussion-forums/topic/ask-david-farbey-anything-about-tech-comm/. Thank you very much to the Semcon

representatives, and for everyone who contributed to the questions and discussion.

For Monday 11 April, we have Darren Mitcham joining us who welcomes questions related to technical writing, style guides, DITA, XML, and even writing within a large corporate organisation. Darren is the debonair organiser of the lively Thames Valley group, a past speaker (and dancer) at TCUK, a DITA convert, car buff, and is currently going through the highs and lows of organisational change. For 16 years he has been a senior technical communicator with a modern forward-looking American semiconductor company. Technical communication is his job, his hobby, indeed his whole life.

If you would like to ask Darren a question, log on to the Discussion Forums section of the ISTC website on Monday 11 April. You will see a new post, introducing him and inviting questions. Our “Ask Me Anything” sessions are forum posts, rather than live sessions and over the course of the day or even week, Darren will respond to questions posed. There isn't a closing date or time, but questions added days or weeks later may wait longer for a response.

If you would like to volunteer for one of our “Ask Me Anything” sessions, we would

A purple rectangular advertisement for 3di. On the right side, there is a silhouette of a person wearing a climbing harness and a helmet, holding a rope. On the left side, there is white text. At the top, the '3di' logo is inside a dashed white box, followed by the text 'Complexity made clear'. Below this, a yellow circle is followed by the text 'Is your documentation lost in translation?'. Underneath that, in smaller white text, it says '3di can help you provide effective information to your international customers by managing the translation and localization of your products, processes and services.' Below this is a dashed white box containing the text 'FIND OUT HOW'. At the bottom, another yellow circle is followed by the text 'www.3di-info.com'.

love to hear from you! You don't need to be a star of the tech comm world – though stars are welcome too. You can volunteer with a colleague and/or opt for “anything” to be limited to a particular field. Please email cecily.techauthor@gmail.com for more details.

Call for submissions – ISTC seeking authors for a new book

The ISTC plans to publish a new book in 2017 entitled 'Current Practices and Trends in Technical Communication'. The main aim of this book is to enable practitioners and academics to share information about, and raise awareness of, what is currently happening in the field.

Book editor Dr Stephen Crabbe MISTC would like to invite interested authors (both members and non-members of the ISTC) to contribute a chapter to this new book on a topic of their choice related to current practices and trends in technical communication. 3000-5000 word chapters

are being sought, although longer chapters are welcome. Chapters may be written by one or more authors.

Interested authors are invited to submit a chapter proposal of up to 250 words, and an author biography of up to 50 words, as soon as possible but by no later than Friday 29th April 2016 to books@istc.org.uk. The chapter proposal should provide the proposed chapter title and a brief outline of the topic that the author(s) would like to write about.

Should you have any questions about the book, or should you wish to discuss prospective topics, please feel free to contact Stephen Crabbe at books@istc.org.uk.

Volunteering opportunities – get involved with ISTC projects

The ISTC is run by its members for its members, and depends on volunteers for its success. Besides being essential to the success of the organisation, volunteering is a good way for you to develop new skills and build your network.

Job Title	ISTC Volunteer content developer (Events)
Job description	A great opportunity to keep your finger on the pulse of the world of tech comm. Create copy for the events listing in the ISTC's monthly InfoPlus+ publication, keep the ISTC website calendar of technical communication events up to date, and curate content provided by our community on events of interest to our members.
Commitment	3 hours per month.
If you would like to find out more	Please contact Diana Logan on events@istc.org.uk or Carol Leahy on community@istc.org.uk if you would like to apply for this role and receive more information.

Communicator

The award-winning quarterly journal from the ISTC.

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Print

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"Thank you again for letting me be one of your authors. It is a true privilege."
Maxwell Hoffmann



"The Spring 2015 issue of Communicator is possibly one of the best I've seen yet."

Claire Wood

www.istc.org.uk

ISTC local area and special interest groups

Thames Valley Area Group meeting report

From Darren Mitcham

At the last meeting of the Thames Valley group ISTC, we brought in our collection of style guides. I was pleasantly surprised just how many published style guides we amassed and how many of them I had not heard of before. Some are aimed at general clear writing, for example *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White; some much more at the technical author community, such as the *Microsoft Manual of Style*. A particular favourite was *Gower's Plain Words* (Written back in the 1940s) and *Global English*, which is ideal for writers who deal with English as second language audiences.

Thames Valley Area Group next meeting

The next meeting of the Thames Valley group will be held on Tuesday, 5 April 2016 at 19:30 at The Plowden Arms, Shiplake Cross, Henley on Thames. We will have a presentation which will be an introduction to DITA and XML for beginners.

All are welcome – you don't need to be an ISTC member. If you would like to attend, please register via Eventbrite using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/istc-thames-valley-area-group-meeting-5th-april-2016-tickets-22892282433>.

The organiser for the event is Darren Mitcham who may be contacted by email: thamesvalley_areagroup@istc.org.uk.

South West England Area Group next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13 April 2016 at the George Inn, Bristol from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Please head upstairs to 'Abbot's Retreat' <http://thegeorgeinnbristol.co.uk/>.

The general topic for discussion this time is 'Authoring tools'. Some ideas to get you thinking:

- How would you go about choosing an authoring tool? How would your approach and requirements vary in different scenarios (e.g. as an employee, as a consultant or as a freelancer)?
- What are the broad themes that define different classes of authoring tools (e.g. 'help authoring tools' like MadCap Flare, wikis like Confluence, content management systems like Drupal)?

- To what extent do different 'authoring tools' overlap with collaboration, delivery/publishing and other related areas that are important to our workflow? What might a holistic approach look like, and how can we steer towards it?

All are welcome and if you would like to attend please register your interest via the following Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/istc-sw-england-area-group-wednesday-13-april-2016-tickets-23789860112>.

The organiser for the event is Eric Weston who may be contacted by email: southwestareagroup@istc.org.uk

MadSIG next meeting

MadSIG will meet on Tuesday 19th April 2016 at the offices of 3di in Ripley, Surrey, from 7pm onwards. Coffee and cake will be available. I'm told there is now a local chippy too if anyone is interested.

We plan to watch one of the excellent MadCap webinars, "MadCap Analyzer: Your secret weapon for higher quality projects", presented by Denise Pena. I'm sure you will learn something new from this webinar. After the webinar, we'll eat cake, chat around the topic and learn from each other.

Anyone who uses the MadCap authoring products or is interested in finding out more about them is welcome. You don't need to be a member of the ISTC, so tell your colleagues!

If you'd like to come, please book your place on EventBrite so we know you're coming and how much cake to get. Please book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/madsig-meeting-tuesday-19th-april-2016-ripley-surrey-tickets-22469333381>.

Southern Area Group next meeting

The ISTC Southern Area group will meet at The Keep, 29, Castle Street, GU1 3UW, Guildford, on Tuesday 17th May 2016, from 7pm. Ellis Pratt will speak on Technical Writing in Lean and Agile environments. He'll explain how to rise to the challenge of writing user documentation in an Agile environment and how Lean and Agile could be used to manage writing projects.

We'll be there from 7pm, and Ellis's talk will start around 7.30pm. Afterwards there will be the usual opportunity for questions, for serious discussion, or light-hearted chat, depending on your mood and inclination.

The event is free, and is open to ISTC members and non-members, so tell your friends and colleagues! But if you are

planning to come, please register on Eventbrite here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/technical-writing-in-lean-and-agile-environments-tickets-22468971298> so we can let the venue know how much space to reserve for us and how many people are likely to want to order food.

Parking is available in the Tunsgate Multi Storey right next door to the Keep, or the Sydenham Road Multi Storey about 250 yards away, but be aware that some roads in the area are one-way streets, so check your directions carefully!

The organiser for this event is Marjorie Jones who may be contacted by email: southernengland_areagroup@istc.org.uk.

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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.

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	Marjorie Jones	southernengland_areagroup@istc.org.uk
South West	Eric Weston	southwest_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

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.

ISTC groups on LinkedIn

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



■ Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators www.linkedin.com/groups/1858546

■ ISTC Community www.linkedin.com/groups/8440733

England

■ Cambridge Technical Communicators www.linkedin.com/groups/1805651

■ London – N/A

■ ISTC Midlands Area Group www.linkedin.com/groups/4835591

■ North East England – N/A

■ ISTC NW England www.linkedin.com/groups/2445779

■ Southern Area Group www.linkedin.com/groups/4795279

- ISTC South West England www.linkedin.com/groups/8269000
- Thames Valley Area Group www.linkedin.com/groups/4805266
- Yorkshire – N/A

Wales

- South Wales Group www.linkedin.com/groups/5161265

Scotland

- East of Scotland – N/A
- West of Scotland Area Group
www.linkedin.com/groups/5081412

Ireland

- ISTC Irish Group – N/A
- Irish Technical Writers--An ISTC Area Group
www.linkedin.com/groups/3369559

Special interest group

- MadCap UK and Europe Users Group
www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5081593

ISTC Community online

The ISTC Community has its own digital presence in social media networks including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Following these networks you'll be able to keep up to date with news, events, area group developments and other community activities.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/istccommunity.

Twitter: [@istc_community](https://twitter.com/istc_community).

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8440733>.

Business affiliate news

MadCap Software Launches Latest Version of Leading Technical Authoring Software for Modern Multi-Channel Publishing

The leader in multi-channel content authoring and a showcase company for Microsoft (NASDAQ: MSFT) Visual Studio, today announced that MadCap Flare 12 is now available. Flare, MadCap's flagship software, is the industry's most advanced single-source, multi-channel authoring and publishing solution, supporting the ability to publish to a number of devices and formats including print, Web, desktop and mobile.

MadCap Flare 12 expands MadCap's commitment to enabling the delivery of modern online and print documentation in the languages of users' choice. MadCap Software already offers the only professional authoring and publishing solution that allows customers to take advantage of creating and publishing a responsive HTML5 output with top navigation, which more closely resembles a modern, search engine-optimized, and completely customizable informational website.

MadCap Software continues its industry-leading innovation by building on these capabilities in version 12. The new release now includes a Custom Responsive Layout Editor that puts the power of creating responsive content and output in authors' hands, without requiring in-depth knowledge of cascading style sheets (CSS) or requiring the assistance of Web development expertise. Additionally, Flare 12 offers new multilingual output functionality, enabling a project to be published in multiple languages—all within the same Web or print output.

The all new Custom Responsive Layout Editor in version 12 builds on MadCap Flare's capabilities for creating responsive "frameless" HTML5 output with top navigation that more closely resembles a modern website. Using it, authors can place elements in a Web page and tell the CSS where to display images and how content should respond when viewed on different devices. The Custom Responsive Layout Editor provides robust functionality for controlling responsive layouts for Web, tablet and mobile displays.

New multilingual output functionality in MadCap Flare 12 enables global companies to more easily deliver content to customers in their language of choice by letting authors publish the same project in multiple languages—all from the same print and Web output. Users can choose the order in which languages will appear in the PDF output, for example: English first, French second, Spanish third.

Additional features in MadCap Flare 12 include:

- The ability to preserve tracked changes in Microsoft Word and Adobe® PDF output.
- Support for 64-bit computing to enhance performance.

- Improved support for high dots-per-inch (DPI) monitors and tablets to leverage advancements in display technology.
- The ability to insert page breaks independent of HTML elements.
- Advanced table sorting to provide tables that resemble those in applications, such as Microsoft® Excel®.
- Enhancements to the glossary, index sorting, source control, XML Editor, drop-down text, expanding text, and master page functionality in MadCap Flare.

To read the full press release, visit:

www.madcapsoftware.com/company/presscenter/pr20160316.aspx.

Industry and general news

Microsoft Edge extensions now available to preview

From the Microsoft Edge Team

Today, we're happy to announce that the first set of extensions for Microsoft Edge are now available to preview via the Windows Insider Program. You can try out extensions starting

in build 14291, which was released today to the Fast ring. Visit our new extensions page at Microsoft Edge Dev to learn more and try it out for yourself!

In keeping with our commitment to an interoperable web, we're participating in the W3C Browser Extension Community Group's efforts to define standardized extension APIs based on familiar web technologies. Today, we're previewing our first step towards that goal.

This release supports a selection of preview extensions that have been validated by our team to work with the current set of supported APIs. Some planned APIs are not yet supported, but will be coming in future previews. We'll share additional examples of extensions with future releases.

Loading extensions in Microsoft Edge

When we ship extensions to the public later this year, extensions will be available through the Windows Store, providing users a simple and secure discovery and installation experience. In this preview, extensions need to be sideloaded manually.

You can download the first preview extensions at our extensions page on Microsoft Edge Dev. We currently support the Reddit Enhancement Suite, Microsoft

Introducing **FLARE**™ 12



Create Stunning Web and Print-Based Documentation Your Users Will Love

“ One of my favorite new features simplifies creating responsive content. It allows users to select and design a responsive layout medium using the new user-friendly Responsive Layout Editor. ”

Denise Kadilak | **Blackbaud**



MAJOR NEW FEATURES

- **Responsive Layout Editor**

Create Responsive Content without Any Coding or Web Developer Resources

- **Multilingual Publishing**

Multilingual Web and Print Publishing from a Single Project

- **Plus 64-Bit Support, Source Control Improvements, Snippet Enhancements and More!**

- **New Stylesheet Editor**

Multiple Medium Views Such as Print, Mobile, Tablet or Any Customized View

- **Preserve Tracked Changes**

Tracked Changes Now Preserved in Word and PDF Output

Learn More at MadCapSoftware.com/Flare12

Translator, and Mouse Gestures extensions, with more on the way!

Sharing feedback

At this time, we're focused on collecting feedback on the supported extensions and finding bugs in our extension APIs. We're continuing to work with a group of co-development partners on the first extensions that will be available in the Windows Store later this year. We'll share more details on our extension APIs and the path to the Store at Build 2016 and Microsoft Edge Web Summit, and we look forward to sharing more then.

If you encounter any issue with these extensions, you can share it with the Microsoft Edge team via the Windows Feedback app in Windows 10. Try it out and let us know what you think!

To read this article in full, including hyperlinks, visit:

<https://blogs.windows.com/msedgedev/2016/03/17/preview-extensions/>.

Blog news

By Ginny Critcher

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

Sarah Maddox at FFeathers takes a look at Corilla a new technical writing tool:
<https://ffeathers.wordpress.com/2016/03/12/playing-with-corilla-a-new-tech-writing-tool/>.

Tom Johnson at I'd rather be writing talks technical writing APIs in this podcast:
<http://www.stitcher.com/podcast/10minute-tech-comm/e/42943843>.

Bill Swallow blogs at Scriptorium about translation and the complexity of simple content:
<http://www.scriptorium.com/2016/03/translation-and-the-complexity-of-simple-content/>.

Robert Norris writes on the Content Wrangler blog about overcoming the paradoxical challenges that surface when writers do their best work to craft resources that – due to their elegant design – appear simplistic to audience and colleagues:
<http://thecontentwrangler.com/2016/03/10/the-curse-of-elegance/>.

Maxwell Hoffman over at the Madcap blog discovers content publishing through a new lens:

www.madcapsoftware.com/blog/2016/03/10/modern-content-development-introduction-moving-away-document-centric-workflow/.

Eric Holscher discusses why you shouldn't use markdown for documentation:
<http://ericholscher.com/blog/2016/mar/15/dont-use-markdown-for-technical-docs/>.

Richard Foster gives us 5 lessons on DITA after 5 years of building and managing a DITA infrastructure for technical publications:
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/5-years-lessons-dita-personal-take-richard-forster>.

Do you have a blog? Let Ginny know so she can include it in her monthly review. Seen an interesting post? 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. 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. 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.



Courses run by ISTC Business Affiliates that are notified to us by the deadline for inclusion in *InfoPlus*⁺ will be listed. For others, we cannot guarantee listing if space is limited and details may be abridged. Armada, MadCap and Cherryleaf are ISTC Business Affiliates.

MadCap training

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

The MadWorld Technical Communication and Content Strategy Conference Returns to San Diego April 10-12, 2016

www.madworldconference.com/.

Upcoming Webinars

www.madcapsoftware.com/resources/livewebinars.aspx.

Flare 11 Reviews and Customer Reaction

www.madcapsoftware.com/flare11/reviews-testimonials.aspx.

April

4-8 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, Reading.

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

11-12 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, Reading.

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

13-14 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, Reading.

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

<p>...April</p> <p>18-19 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. www.armada.co.uk/photoshop-training-course.</p>	<p>20-21 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. www.armada.co.uk/indesign-training-course.</p>	<p>9-10 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, Reading. www.armada.co.uk/photoshop-training-course.</p>
<p>18-20 Basic and Intermediate MadCap Flare Teaches how to use Flare to create a working help project with media-rich content and full navigation features. You learn how to work efficiently and effectively with Flare, becoming familiar with features including variables, conditional text and multi-format publishing. 10% discount for ISTC members. Armada, Milton Keynes. www.armada.co.uk/madcap-flare-training-course.</p>	<p>May</p> <p>5-6 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.</p>	<p>9-11 Introduction to Adobe RoboHelp Course for beginners, teaches how to use RoboHelp to create online help in most popular formats. 10% discount for ISTC members. Armada, Bromsgrove. www.armada.co.uk/robohelp-training-course.</p>

...May

9-13 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, Reading.

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

16-17 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, Reading.

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

19-20 Introduction to Adobe Captivate
Learn how to develop web enabled e-learning modules and interactive software simulations.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove.

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

24-25 Introduction to Adobe Captivate
Learn how to develop web enabled e-learning modules and interactive software simulations.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Reading.

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

26-27 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.

...May

26-27 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, Reading.

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

Events news



The poster for the TC Europe Colloquium 2016 features a background image of terraced hills in Portugal. Overlaid on the left is a blue and green geometric pattern. The text 'TC europe Colloquium 2016' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'THE NEXT BIG THING' below it. A date tag '15 April 2016' is positioned below the main title. In the top right corner, a black circle contains the text 'PORTO PORTUGAL'. A white box in the bottom right corner reads 'Call for Papers until 30 December 2015'. At the bottom, a white bar contains the text 'MORE INFO HERE: www.tceurope.org | colloquium@tceurope.org' and logos for 'apcomtec' and 'hosted by'.

TC europe Colloquium 2016
THE NEXT BIG THING
15 April 2016

PORTO PORTUGAL

Call for Papers
until 30 December 2015

MORE INFO HERE: www.tceurope.org | colloquium@tceurope.org

co-organized by **apcomtec**
hosted by

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.

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.

You can also find information using the online event calendar at: www.istc.org.uk/calendar/

April

- 5 Thames Valley Area Group**
We will have a presentation which will be an introduction to DITA and XML for beginners. All are welcome and if you would like to attend, please register via Eventbrite.
- The Plowden Arms, Shiplake Cross, Henley on Thames from 7:30 to 9:30pm.
- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/istc-thames-valley-area-group-meeting-5th-april-2016-tickets-22892282433>.

- 6-9 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)**
Writing strategies for action.

Houston, TX, USA

<http://www.ncte.org/cccc/conv>.

- 10-12 MadWorld 2016**
Premier technical communication and content strategy conference for technical writers, documentation managers and content strategists.

San Diego, CA, USA.

www.madcapsoftware.com/events/madworld.

- 13 South West England Area Group**
The general topic for discussion this time is 'authoring tools.' All are welcome and if you would like to attend, please register via Eventbrite.

George Inn, Bristol from 7:30 to 9:30pm.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/istc-sw-england-area-group-wednesday-13-april-2016-tickets-23789860112>.

- 13 European Academic Colloquium on TC Studies 2016**

Annual event that focuses on scientific contents with respect to technical communication. It is targeted at members of the European scientific community who are teaching and doing research in the area of technical communication or related fields, Berlin, Germany

<http://conferences.tekom.de/european-academic-colloquium/the-colloquium/>.

- 13-14 Now What? Conference**
Now What? Conference is two days of talks and workshops about how to maintain and improve your website.

Sioux Falls, SD, United States

<http://2016.nowwhatconference.com/>.

...April

13-15 LocWorld30 Tokyo

A conference for international business, translation, localization and global website management.

Tokyo, Japan

<http://locworld.com/events/locworld30-tokyo-2016/>.

16 TCeurope Colloquium 2016

The TCeurope Europe Colloquium 2016 will offer participants the chance to explore and discuss the new tools, methodologies, and skills that technical communicators must acquire and leverage in order to stay relevant and succeed in this challenging environment.

Porto, Portugal

<http://tceurope.org/colloquia>.

18-21 tcworld China 2016

tcworld China is an annual event for TC decision-makers and specialists in China. This year's conference will focus on intelligent information, terminology management, CCMS and information modelling.

Shanghai (presentation and workshops) and Shenzhen (workshops), China

<http://conferences.tekom.de/tcworld-china-2016/tcworld-china-2016/>.

19 MadSIG Meeting

Watch one of the excellent MadCap webinars, "MadCap Analyzer: Your secret weapon for higher quality projects". Anyone who uses the MadCap authoring products or is interested in finding out more about them is welcome. Please register via Eventbrite.

3di offices Ripley, Surrey
7:00pm to 9:30pm.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/madsig-meeting-tuesday-19th-april-2016-ripley-surrey-tickets-22469333381>.

19

Spectrum 2016

Spectrum 2016, STC Rochester's 57th annual conference, in partnership with Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). This year's theme is Mastering Tech Comm: Harness the Power of Story.

Rochester, NY, United States

<http://stc-rochester.org/spectrum/>.

25-29 6th International Learning Analytics and Knowledge Conference

LAK16 will keep up the momentum generated in earlier conferences to define who we are as a community and how our research can impact the important decisions facing education today.

University of Edinburgh, UK.

<http://lak16.solaresearch.org>.

May

4-8 **Information Architecture Summit**

This year's theme: a broader panorama.

Atlanta, GA, USA

www.iasummit.org/.

11-12 **COMTecnica 2016**

International Experts will convene at the two-day event in Bologna on May 11-12 to discuss trends and topics in the field of technical communication. The main conference topic is "Intelligent Information".

Bologna, Italy

<http://conferences.tekom.de/comtecnica/comtecnica-2016/>.

15-18 **STC 2016 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 numerous exhibitors

Anaheim, CA, USA

<http://summit.stc.org/>.

17 **Southern Area Group Meeting**

Ellis Pratt will speak on Technical Writing in Lean and Agile environments. All are welcome and if you would like to attend, please register via Eventbrite.

The Keep, 29 Castle Street, GU1 3UW, Guildford from 7:00pm to 10:00pm.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/technical-writing-in-lean-and-agile-environments-tickets-22468971298>.

23-27 **IEEE International Conference on Communication 2016**

Communication for all things.

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://icc2016.ieee-icc.org/>.

24-25 **NORDIC TechKomm 2016**

Experts from various European countries will convene at the two-day event in Copenhagen to discuss trends and topics in the field of technical communication. The main conference topic is "Intelligent Information".

Copenhagen, Denmark

<http://conferences.tekom.de/nordic-techkomm/nordic-techkomm-2016/>.

24-27 **UXLx User Experience Lisbon**

2 full day and 16 half-day workshops to hone up your skills and 11 inspiring talks from thought leaders in the field. Speakers are Usability Experts, Information Architects and Interaction Designers.

Lisbon, Portugal

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

June		8-10	LocWorld31 Dublin A conference for international business, translation, localization and global website management. Dublin, Ireland http://locworld.com/events/locworld31-dublin-2016/ .	10-12	mLearnCon mLearnCon focuses on the management strategies, technology alternatives, and design and development considerations for mobile learning. Austin, TX, USA www.elearningguild.com/mLearnCon/content/3885/mlearncon-2015--mobile-learning-conference--expo--registration-closed/ .
31-3	UXPA User experience professionals association. Seattle, WA, USA http://uxpa2016.org/ .				
2-3	soap! 2016 Learn, share knowledge, and be part of the Central European technical communication community at the fourth annual technical writing conference organised by soap! Krakow, Poland http://soapconf.com/ .	9-10	UA Europe Annual Conference At the conference you'll learn the critical factors that contribute to effective user assistance, which in turn results in more successful software. Budapest, Hungary www.uaeurope.com .		
				10-12	2016 EAC International Conference: A Correction Connection Vancouver, Canada www.editors.ca/conference/2016 .
2-3	ETC 2016 Innovations in software documentation. Sofia, Bulgaria http://etc-conference.eu/ .	9-10	TOTh 2016 Terminology and Ontology: Theories and applications. Chambéry, Savoie, France http://porphyre.org/toth/toth-2016-en .	14-15	SCHEMA Conference 2016 We expect about 400 attendees from Germany, Switzerland, Austria, France, Scandinavia, UK, Japan, Italy and USA. Nuremberg, Germany www.schema.de/conference/en/ .