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"By automating time-consuming and repetitive tasks with solutions in Adobe Technical Communication Suite, in combination with the IBM Class Author add-in tools we provide, we've been able to cut the development time for course content by up to 20%."

Julian Cable,

Courseware Tools Specialist and Technical Editor, IBM Learning Development

InfoPlus⁺

May 15

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.

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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 online booking is now open

TCUK 2015 is taking place at the Beardmore Hotel and Conference Centre, Glasgow, from 29 September to 1 October 2015. Online booking for TCUK 2015 is now open, at http://technicalcommunicationuk.com/index.php/booking-form-tcuk-2015.

We've done everything we can to keep price rises to a minimum but we haven't been able to escape them entirely, so this year's prices about 2% to 3% higher than they were in 2014.

Early-bird prices are available from today until 26 June, and the early bird all inclusive residential package is £605 for members and £755 for non members. These prices will rise to £665 and £815 respectively after 26th June.

The early bird price for day registrations is £175 for members and £240 for non members, rising to £205 and £270 respectively after 26 June.

We hope to start announcing programme details very soon, so please bookmark www.technicalcommunicationuk.com and check back often.

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.

Keynote speakers for TCUK

We are delighted to announce the names of the first of our keynote speakers for TCUK 2015.

Andrea Ames

Andrea L. Ames, is a Senior Technical Staff Member and Information Experience Strategist/ Architect/Designer at IBM, and is also a former President of the Society for Technical Communication (STC).

Andrea L. Ames

Andrea has more than 25 years of experience in technical communication, specialising in content information experience strategy, architecture, design, and usability. She is a speaker and teacher on these topics, as well as technical communication industry trends, strategy, leadership, and professional development. In her personal time, she teaches about and creates quilt and Zentangle(r) art.

Murray Cox

Murray Cox is a strategy director at Pancentric, a digital consultancy that uses service design to drive digital transformation with the aim of helping businesses provide services that make people's lives better. His background is in quality news journalism, and he made the move to digital in 1998. Since then he has worked in both the UK and Australia for leading media brands like the BBC, Australian Associated Press, Special Broadcast Service and MSN.

Murray Cox

Since leaving the newsroom he has delivered projects as a digital and content strategist for Renault, Nissan, Honda, HSBC, Barclaycard, Avis, Budget, Jumeriah, Etihad and Oracle among others. His interest in service design grew out of the fact that many organisations organisations still don't think hard enough about their customers and their context when designing communications.

More details about the keynote speakers and their presentations will be announced on the website soon.

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.

5 **Discover the five benefits of being an ISTC member:**

What the istc offers.

Contributions

This newsletter is for the benefit of both ISTC members and technical communicators in the wider community. We are always pleased to hear from readers with suggestions for content, improvement and the development of *InfoPlus+*. If you have something you'd like included or any ideas for features and regular sections, please email newsletter.editor@istc.org.uk.

ISTC community

ISTC local area and special interest groups

MadSIG meeting report from March

From Marjorie Jones

MadSIG met on 20 March in Ripley, Surrey. We watched one of Mike Hamilton's pre-recorded webinars on CSS stylesheets with a focus on fonts. Now we know lots more about fonts, including what fonts to choose if you want them to appear as expected in browsers across Windows, Macs and Linux, and why two different fonts can have the same point size, but one can be easily readable and the other needs a magnifying glass to decipher.

As always, we learned a lot, had a lively discussion, and found time to eat cake too. Later, we discussed the exciting new features available in Flare 11, which had been the subject of a live MadCap webinar a couple of hours earlier, and which several of us had watched. It was a rare pleasure to enjoy two MadCap webinars in a day, but only ours had cake!

The next meeting will be at 3di's offices in Ripley on 11 June at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. If you'd like more information, contact MadSIG@istc.org.uk.

Southern Area Group: next meeting

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 12 May 2015, 7pm at 3di Information Solutions in Ripley, Surrey. Rachel Potts will give a presentation on *Introduction to Confluence for Technical Authors*.

Confluence is a wiki with a growing reputation as a technical authoring tool. Maybe you've heard of it and you're curious, maybe your colleagues are already using it ... or maybe you've already been asked to start using it yourself. This is your opportunity to get a feel for what it's like to work with Confluence and discuss its strengths and limitations.

The presentation will be a hands-on demo of how Confluence can be used by Technical Authors – from the basics of how to write and edit content, through to features that enable more sophisticated formatting, content reuse and single-sourcing.

The talk is aimed at complete beginners, but if you have experience using Confluence already, please do come and share your tips and favourite features.

For details of location and registration, visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ southern-area-group-introduction-to-confluence-for-technical-authors-tickets-16294086050?aff=erelexporg.

Speaker Bio:

Rachel specialises in designing and improving the interfaces between customers and businesses, and the various disciplines involved in creating and communicating about software and technology.

Rachel now works as a Consultant for 3di, on projects with a focus on creating and managing support portals, improving the findability of information, developing user-centric business processes and improving software user interfaces.

Thames Valley area group: meeting report

From Darren Mitcham

A good enthusiastic turnout of technical communicators met for some food, a chat, and this month's topic - YouTube instructional videos. We watched six videos that teach new skills. We evaluated the videos on sound, script editing, video editing, speed, subject suitability, and cross platform suitability. Some of the videos enthralled and amused; some reduced us to yawns. To compare and contrast we picked two videos on knitting and two on changing a tap washer. The video links are:

- From the knit witch for the twisted German cast on: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfFadEumBak.
- For comparison: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIXs0__P4vc.
- Tap washers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2Xhp83VUcg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMaFmHBrpy4.

Next meeting

The Thames Valley area group's next meeting is Tuesday 5 May at the Bird In Hand pub in Knowle Hill. All welcome. We will take what we learned last month on YouTube instructional videos and write a procedure on how to prepare good YouTube videos.

Please use this link to Eventbrite to confirm your attendance: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thames-valley-area-monthly-meet-tuesday-5th-may-2015-tickets-16084606491.

Oil and Gas Special Interest Group

From Peter Fountain

Background: The Oil and Gas (O&G) industry traditionally employs many technical communicators (TC) around the world, and has been doing so for many decades. With the ISTC being a leading organisation for TCs, it is natural that an O&G SIG would materialise.

Events: On our website we have a link to this group but it has been rather slow at gathering momentum. To try to get things moving, much work was undertaken to hold a SIG meeting in Aberdeen in June of last year, this being a place where a lot of the O&G industry has requirements and employs TCs. The evening was hosted by Wood Group ODL and attracted a variety of people, including TCs, employers, representatives from training organisations and the Robert Gordon University.

The initial agenda was to ascertain how much interest there may be in holding O&G SIG meetings in Aberdeen and to move forward with plans for the group. Part of this led to the understanding that many TCs who work in this sphere often find themselves working away from home or working hours that may prohibit attendance at too many meetings. Around 15 people attended and it was felt that input from many others was needed to capture ideas and formulate plans for the group.

Next steps: Not wishing to organise a SIG that few people want or need, it would greatly assist the organisers to gain feedback from practicing TCs on their opinions regarding the worth of such a group. All views are sought on this subject, including any thoughts around location(s), participation methods, purpose, scope, etc, and these can be emailed (mail here). From an administration point of view, it would be easier to distribute information, share ideas, etc, if you joined the LinkedIn group which is open to all TCs.

Links:

For email: oilandgas@istc.org.uk.

LinkedIn Group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5023918.

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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.

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
South West England	Eric Weston	southwest_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

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?

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
- South West England
  www.linkedin.com/grp/
  home?gid=8269000

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

Industry news

emaze partnership with designer community

emaze – a new generation of presentation making software – launched its partnership with Emazebase, creator of customised presentations, during the Web Boost Conference, in April. Emazebase is a flagship addition to the emaze brand, delivering high-end customisation services by proven presentation experts.

'emaze has made a point of sticking to its primary product. It has purposely declined offers to enter the service arena, refusing customisation requests in order to focus all efforts on advancing and perfecting its software,' said Motti Nissani, CEO, emaze. 'Collaborations of this kind are emaze's answer to the growing need among its user base for customisation and on-demand templates.'

With more companies intent on customising high-impact documents and recognising the value of custom design, such collaborations aim to expand the service offerings of designers.

About emaze

emaze was launched in 2013. For more information, visit: www.emaze.com.

Lenovo WRITEit Technology improves handwriting experience on PCs and tablets

Lenovo has announced WRITEit®, a new software application that makes the handwriting experience on select pen-enabled devices better. WRITEit transforms pen writing to a truly useful and practical solution for entering input: It allows users to write nearly anywhere they can type. It works across select Lenovo Windows 8 devices with digitizer, active pen or AnyPen technology and provides real-time feedback and correction. All these advantages encourage more opportunities for users to write with a pen rather than type on a keyboard, giving them a continuous, faster and more accurate experience.

Unlike the handwriting experience on many devices today, WRITEit lets users write their input directly into virtually any text field that accepts typed input, even if the field is in an app without native pen support. This

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capability takes handwriting from a limited, app-specific novelty to a truly viable means of input. WRITEit opens up a world of new writing possibilities beyond typical note-taking and drawing apps. For example, users can write search terms directly in a browser to quickly search the web instead of using the on-screen keyboard. WRITEit also works well for emails, social media, online forms and more.

WRITEit works in the background as users are writing and converts handwriting to text characters in real time. Speedy writers will love the automatic suggestion tool that offers alternatives to unrecognised words, helping to catch typos and getting text right the first time. A collection of gesture commands also makes editing easy.

For more information, visit: www.lenovo.com/us/en/apps/writeit/.

Blog news

By Ginny Critcher

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

Nick Doherty at Atlassian explains why Atlassian it is no longer allowing users to comment on its documentation:

http://blogs.atlassian.com/2015/04/closing-comments-documentation/.

Margaret Sullivan at the NY Times discusses writing headlines optimsed for Google search engines:

www.nytimes.com/2015/04/19/public-editor/hey-google-check-out-this-column-on-headlines.html?_r=0.

A guest post from new technical author Kaylin Tristano at I'd rather be writing shares tips about moving into the tech writing field:

http://idratherbewriting.com/2015/04/03/newbie-to-technical-writer-in-4-easy-steps/.

Also from the I'd rather be writing blog Tom Johnson continues his series comparing DITA with Jekyll and explores contrasting ways of produce PDFs:

http://idratherbewriting.com/2015/04/14/producing-pdfs-in-dita-versus-jekyll/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TomJohnson+%28I%27d+Rather+Be+Writing%29.

On the FFeathers blog Sarah Maddox explains how to override CSS stylesheets in Firefox:

https://ffeathers.wordpress.com/2013/03/10/how-to-override-css-stylesheets-in-firefox/#comment-26371.

Cherryleaf's Ellis Pratt posts a 2015 book list for technical communicators:

www.cherryleaf.com/blog/2015/04/a-2015-book-list-for-technical-communicators/.

Gretyl Kinsey asks why would you develop a content strategy without an exit strategy:

www.scriptorium.com/2015/04/content-strategy-whats-your-exit-strategy/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=content-strategy-whats-your-exit-strategy.

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).

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The Evolution of Content Development

Introducing

FLARE™ 11

Move beyond the tripane with modern frameless HTML5 website output that is sleek, beautiful and easy to navigate.

" I'm thrilled that MadCap Flare 11 gives me the tools I need to break free of the tripane interface for HTML5 output, something my clients have been clamoring for. I'm equally thrilled that Flare 11 supports GIT, another popular wish from my clients. "

Nita Beck | **Consultant and MadWorld Conference Speaker**

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Learn More at
MadCapSoftware.com/Flare11

madcap
FLARE
Version 11

Getting Started   Basic Steps   Features   Interface   Tutorials

Welcome to MadCap Flare's Online Help
The Place to Find Information, Tutorials, FAQs, and More

Search MadCap Flare Help

What's New   Key Features   Basic Steps

PDF Guides

Meet Flare
Welcome to MadCap Flare—the first native XML content authoring application, which offers the following:

» Single-source XML authoring
» Multi-channel publishing for the Web, desktop, print, and mobile devices

madcap
software

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/.

May

5-6
DITA Open Toolkit Course
For developers who need to customise publishing systems for DITA content using the DITA Open Toolkit.

10% discount to ISTC members

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

7-8
Introduction to Adobe Illustrator
Learn professional approaches to creating artwork projects efficiently.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.mekon-creatives.com/courses.cfm?course=illustrator_introduction&type=adobe.

11-12
Introduction to Adobe InDesign
Learn how to produce documentation from design concept right through to output.

10% discount to ISTC members

http://www.mekon-creatives.com/courses.cfm?course=indesign_introduction&type=all.

12-13
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
HTML5 2 Day Course
Provides theoretical and practical, first-hand experience with the new HTML5 features.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.mekon.com/index.php/pages/services/introduction-to-html-5/training.

...May

14-15 **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.

18-19 **Simplified Technical English Course**
Practical introduction for those who will use Simplified Technical English (formerly AECMA Simplified English).

10% discount to ISTC members

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

19-20 **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.

21-22 **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.

21-22 **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.

21-22 **Adobe FrameMaker Structured**
Learn the skills necessary to work with structured templates to produce valid documents conforming to an EDD or an SGML DTD.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.mekon.com/index.php/pages/services/adobe-framemaker-training-course-structured-documents1/training.

21-22 **Introduction to Adobe PhotoShop 2**
Learn to achieve high quality output from Photoshop.

10% discount to ISTC members

www.mekon-creatives.com/courses.cfm?course=photoshop_introduction&type=adobe.

...May

27-29   Introduction to Adobe FrameMaker
Provides a thorough grounding in FrameMaker in unstructured (standard) mode, covering the essential techniques for generating high standard printed documents. Includes the generation multi-document books, table of contents, index and cross-references.

10% discount for ISTC members.

Armada, Bromsgrove, Midlands.

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

June

1-5   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, Miton Keynes.

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

1-3   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, Midlands.

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

8-9   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.

10-11   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.

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...June

15-16   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.

18-19   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.

25-26   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.

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This is the Newsletter for technical authors, technical illustrators and information designers. *InfoPlus+* is posted at www.istc.org.uk/our-publications/infoplus-newsletter/.

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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.

May

2 **Write Now! 2015 Annual Writers' Conference**
Includes technical writing.

Raleigh, NC, USA

http://tafnc.com/WriteNow.html.

www.visitraleigh.com/includes/calendar-of-events/Write-Now-2015-Annual-Writers-Conference/31360/.

3-8 **Usability Week Austin**
Nielsen Norman Group.

Austin, TX, USA

www.nngroup.com/training/austin/.

5 **ISTC Thames Valley Area Group**
This is an informal meeting and food is available for those who want to eat. All are welcome. This month we will take what we learned in April on YouTube instructional videos and write a procedure on how to prepare good YouTube videos.

Reading, UK

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thames-valley-area-monthly-meet-tuesday-5th-may-2015-tickets-16084606491.

12 **ISTC Southern Area Group Meeting**
Introduction to Confluence for Technical Authors by Rachel Potts. Confluence is a wiki with a growing reputation as a technical authoring tool. The presentation will be a hands-on demo of how Confluence can be used by Technical Authors – from the basics of how to write and edit content, through to features that enable more sophisticated formatting, content reuse and single-sourcing.

3di Information Solutions
Ripley, Woking, UK

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/southern-area-group-introduction-to-confluence-for-technical-authors-tickets-16294086050.

16-22 **Usability Week London**
Nielsen Norman Group.

London, UK

www.nngroup.com/training/london/.

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...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, OR, 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, MN, USA

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

June

2-4 **Information Energy**
Information Energy is about trends in managing, using, editing, sharing knowledge and information. The event covers user experience, enterprise content and big data, innovation in learning and structured content. Also features an 'Open Space for Infomedians' where delegates can stand up and do a talk – spontaneous, scheduled or announced.

Utrecht, Netherlands

www.informationenergy.org.

3-5 **LocWorld 28**
LocWorld is a conference for international business, translation, localization and global website management. Attendees are the people responsible for communicating across the boundaries of language and culture in the global marketplace. With a specific emphasis on global business the conference provides an opportunity for the exchange of high-value information in the language and translation services and technologies market. This year the theme in Berlin is 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.

...June

4-5 TOTh 2015
Terminology and Ontology: Theories and applications.

Chambéry, Savoie, France

www.porphyre.org/toth/toth-2015-en.

6-7 XML London
Third international XML conference, covering both academic as well as the applied use of XML and Semantic Web technologies in industries such as finance and publishing.

London, UK

http://xmllondon.com/.

9-10 SCHEMA Conference 2015
In order to do justice to the increasing number of English-speaking guests, we're offering a complete English-language track as part of the lecture and workshop program. A second track will be simultaneously translated from German.

Nürnberg, Germany

For more information have a look at our conference website: www.schema.de/conference/en.

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/3400/mlearncon-2015-mobile-learning-conference--expo--home/.

12-14 2015 EAC International Conference: Editing Goes Global
Toronto, Canada

www.editors.ca/conference/2015/index.html.

14-19 Usability Week Chicago
Nielsen Norman Group.

Chicago, IL, USA

www.nngroup.com/training/chicago/.

15-17 8th Biennial EATAW Conference 2015
European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing.

Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn, Estonia

www.eataw.eu/conferences.html.

19 ETC 2015
Evolution of technical Communication.

Sofia, Bulgaria

http://etc-conference.eu/.

...June

21-24 **STC 2015 Summitt**
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, OH, USA

http://summit.stc.org.

22-25 **UXPA 2015**
User Experience Professionals Association.

San Diego, CA, USA

http://uxpa2015.org/.

https://uxpa.org/event/uxpa-2015.

July

12-15 **IEEE International Professional Communication Conference 2015 (PRO COMM 2015)**
Limerick, Ireland

http://pcs.ieee.org/procomm2015/.

16-19 **PSWA annual conference 2015**
Public Safety Writers Association.

Las Vegas, NV, USA

http://policewriter.com/wordpress/conference/.

19-24 **Usability Week Sydney**
Nielsen Norman Group.

Sydney, Australia

www.nngroup.com/training/emailme/62/.

***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.