Welcome to the first edition of the NAATI INT E-news. This will provide regular updates and information on this project as NAATI works to implement the changes over the next three years.

NAATI has spent time over the last twelve months considering how best to proceed with the recommendations made in the Improvements to NAATI Testing - Development of a conceptual overview for a new model for NAATI standards, testing and assessment and planning this work.

I understand that for many people interested in the Improvement to NAATI Testing (INT) Project there will not have been obvious signs of progress over this time. The INT Project is a highly complex undertaking – it potentially affects every aspect of NAATI’s business, including IT systems and infrastructure, and will require significant resources to be completed.

Over the remainder of 2015 you will see obvious signs of progress with work being commenced on one of the most important and largest of the tasks - the Job Analyses - which will form the foundations of the new certifications scheme. NAATI will publish information on the job analyses before the end of the year and survey stakeholders for their input.

In addition NAATI has commissioned a Green Paper from Dr Stephen Doherty of UNSW and Dr Ignacio Garcia of UWS which explores how the recommended move to keyboarded translator testing might be achieved, including considering options for this. NAATI will publish their paper shortly for comment and feedback by stakeholders. Work will also commence shortly to produce a second discussion paper on options for delivery of interpreter assessments.

As research will form a vital part of a number of aspects of the INT Project, NAATI will also shortly commence a Registration of Interest process enabling suitably qualified individuals, institutions or consortia to express an interest in being involved in the research components of the INT Project.

NAATI has also lodged with Standards Australia a proposal for an Australian ‘mirror committee’ to enable Australia to participate in International Organization for Standardization (ISO) work on guidelines and standards applicable to translators and interpreters. If this application is successful, NAATI will coordinate a committee of stakeholders to provide input into relevant ISO work through ISO Technical Committee 37 Subcommittee 5 (ISO/TC 37/SC 5).

If you want more about the INT Project please go to www.naati.com.au/int.html.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email me - intproject@naati.com.au.

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