



Dimensions

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Examination Language Translation

In 1998, SMT performed our first examination translation in French for a Canadian client. Working with a translation firm, the examination questions were translated and entered into the SMT item banking system. The item banking system produced parallel French and English editions as new test forms were generated.

Over the course of new test form releases, candidates complained about some item meanings. Upon investigation, the translations of these items were found to be inadequate because the translation did not accurately meet the source English question. SMT developed a translation process that has resulted in accurate and reliable translation examinations. Today, SMT test developers working with Bilingual Subject Matter Expert (BSME) create examination specific Translation Rules designed to address linguistic/cultural differences and unique profession-specific vocabulary before initiating examination translation.

The Translation Rules are tested by having a BSME translate source questions into the foreign language, than a second BSME independently back-translates the questions to the original source language. SMT test developers compare the products of the two BSMEs to note differences. Rule adjustments are made as needed to avoid translation errors. Where a rule adjustment is insufficient to avoid translation error, a panel decision is made on how to translate that specific item as similar to the subject question. This process is successively repeated until a defined set of rules is established in order to begin the complete examination translation.

SMT has modified our item banking system to support the automatic assembly and production of examination editions in multiple languages. SMT has guided the development of parallel examinations in;

- French
- Korean
- Japanese
- Mandarin
- Spanish
- Vietnamese

SMT is currently working with the **National Peoples Republic of China** to provide English and Mandarin screen prompts and outputs of our item banking system.

As a result of our extensive translation experience, SMT is uniquely qualified as the premier test development company positioned to support international testing programs.



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New Private Investigator Examinations



SMT is now offering service to state agencies responsible for the licensure of Private Investigators.

The examination consists of two parts. Part One is a general section testing the following areas:

- ≈ Constitutional principles
- ≈ Court decisions related in privacy and other issues
- ≈ Laws related to eavesdropping, assault, search and seizure, and computer access
- ≈ General weapons use and concealed weapons law

Part two is customized for each jurisdiction and can include questions about specific state law and other local considerations.

The SMT Private Investigator Examination can be administered by:

- ≈ Paper and pencil
- ≈ Computer-based testing
- ≈ Internet testing

The examination is based on a thorough Job Analysis Study providing a foundation for development of a detailed Test Specification. Subject Matter Experts led by SMT psychometricians prepared test items based on the Test Specification blueprint and derived a passing score applying the Angoff method. The SMT examination ensures the assessment process is:

- ≈ A fair measure of competence
- ≈ Legally defensible
- ≈ Complies with industry testing guidelines;
 - American Psychological Association
 - National Council on Measurement in Education
 - American Educational Research Association
 - Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation
 - National Organization for Organization for Competency Assurance

National Family and Consumer Sciences Certification Examination Piloted Nationwide

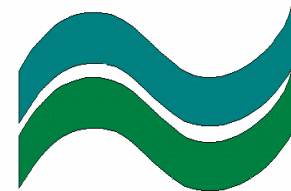
The new American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Certification Examination was launched January 1, 2004. Prior to examination release, SMT and AAFCS pilot tested a composite test and two concentration tests at 12 universities nationwide. A total of 226 consumer sciences university student scores were used to validate the cut-score.

SMT Request for Proposals and Quotation

Inquiries should be directed to:

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SMT

Welcome New SMT Clients



National Fire Protection Association

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) advocates scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research, and education for fire and related safety issues. NFPA's National Fire Codes are developed by technical committees staffed by over 5,000 volunteers, and are adopted and enforced throughout the world. NFPA functions as a nonprofit membership organization with more than 65,000 members from around the globe, all working together to fulfill the Association's mission. SMT maintains three NFPA item banks, produces examination booklets in our Printing Department, and performs examination scoring and candidate result notification to NFPA.



The American Association of

Family and Consumer Sciences

The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences is the only national organization uniting, educating, and promoting professionals engaged in all aspects of family and consumer sciences, including food safety and nutrition; human, family and community development; family and consumer education; apparel and textiles; health and well-being; retailing;

communications, art and design; housing; and personal financial literacy and resource management. The Association's 11,000 members work to empower individuals, families, and communities. SMT was retained to provide test development, administration and consultation services for launching a reconceived certification program aimed to measure threshold knowledge for entry level practice in the field of family and consumer sciences. SMT prepared a composite test and two concentration tests and pilot tested the examinations for validity, reliability, and difficulty levels. The final test is now available.



United States National Security Agency Information Assurance Directorate

In a joint effort between SMT and the International Information System Security Certification Consortium (ISC)², SMT provides the United States National Security Agency (NSA) Information Assurance Directorate examination development, examination administration, and certification services for Information Systems Security Engineering Professionals to NSA employees, vendors and partners worldwide.

SMT Affiliations

Association of Test Publishers – SMT is now a member of ATP. ATP is a non-profit organization representing providers of tests and assessment tools and/or services related to assessment,

selection, screening, certification, licensing, educational or clinical uses.

American Board of Nursing Specialties – SMT has become an affiliate member of ABNS with an interest in supporting the organizations nursing certification program. ABNS promotes uniformity in nursing via its certification and public awareness programs.

SMT Calendar

SMT maintains active membership in research and development organizations and SMT staff perform active and contributory roles within these organizations; serving on the executive boards, subcommittees, regularly appearing as speakers, and contributing their publications. SMT operates from a philosophy that recognizes the professional and ethical standards that must be met in performing services associated with the certification process.

The Association of Test Publishers Technology in Testing, February 2-4, 2004, Palm Springs, California.

American Board of Nursing Specialties Spring Assembly Meeting, March 4-6, Phoenix, Arizona.

American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, April 12-16, San Diego, California.

National Council on Measurement in Education Annual Meeting, April 13-15, San Diego, California.