

MULTILINGUAL ASTRONAUTICAL TERMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM (E8)
Multilingual Astronautical Terminology (1)

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ENGLISH AS THE LANGUAGE OF CHOICE FOR THE STANDARDIZATION OF FUTURE SPACE
EXPLORATION

Abstract

Historically, space agencies have had problems with communications, especially those between Russia and the United States. This paper is an analysis of which language is best suitable as a standard for the increasingly multi-national efforts in space exploration. Additionally, problems arise from the differences in mathematical units used, specifically between SI and English units. An analysis will be drawn from experiences from previous failures caused by the lack of appropriate communication, as well as a look at the multiple languages of countries with space exploration capabilities. The author will tie in their own experience learning multiple languages, and the difficulty of meaning losing an idea to translation. The paper will make a case for the use of English and SI units as the standard for designing spacecraft, as well as for international communications.