
THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF CRYPTO INDUSTRY TERMINOLOGY WORLD-BUILDING IN ENGLISH

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СПЕЦИФИКА СЛОВООБРАЗОВАНИЯ ТЕРМИНОЛОГИИ АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА В ОБЛАСТИ КРИПТОИНДУСТРИИ

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АННОТАЦИЯ

Статья посвящена проблеме словообразования английской терминологии в криптоиндустрии. Рассмотрены различия терминов и слов общего назначения. Дается подробный анализ особенностей словообразования терминологии в криптоиндустрии. Кроме того, в статье раскрывается значение каждого термина в данной области.

ABSTRACT

The article is concerned with the problem of word-building of English terminology in the crypto industry. The differences of terms and words of general orientation are considered. A detailed analysis of the specific features of term word-building in the crypto industry is given. In addition, the article reveals the meaning of each term in the given area.

Ключевые слова: словообразование, термин, терминология, криптоиндустрия, криптовалюта, язык, биткойн.

Keywords: word-building, term, terminology, crypto industry, cryptocurrency, language, bitcoin.

This article deals with the problem of word-building and using of terminology in the crypto industry. Since the sphere of crypto industry is gaining increasing popularity this problem is relevant at the moment. Consequently, in order to possess information in this area, it is necessary to know the terminology, that is, to understand the word formation patterns which may result in translation difficulties.

There is an opinion that in the world of terms everything is different compared to the studied language [3]. Terminology is a special system different from “common language”. And most of scientists state that such language phenomena as antonymy, synonymy, polysemy, homonymy, idiomatics, semantic development are peculiar only to a common language, that the compatibility of terms is due only to logical relations, etc. Is it so?

According to theory, the term is a unit of language which has a special meaning [4]. It can be expressed in a verbal form, or in this or that formalized form and fully reflects the main signs of the corresponding concept that are essential at a given level of science development. It refers to a word, a phrase, an abbreviation, a symbol, combination of words and letter symbols, combination of words and number symbols.

The answer to this question is important not only from a theoretical point of view, but also for the development of practical work principles for reading and translating special literature, in particular in the field of crypto industry, for language training of specialists in

any science, translators in the field of professional communication.

You can consider the meaning of the term from two positions. On the one hand, the terms differ from other words in their information richness. They exist as part of a certain terminology, in the system of concepts of a given science, enshrined in the corresponding verbal expression but not only in the language [3].

If a word in a “common language” can be multi-valued, then, falling into a certain terminology, it acquires unambiguity. The term does not need a context, like an ordinary word, because it is part of a certain terminology, which stands for the context; it can be used in isolation, for example, in the texts of registers or orders, and must be unequivocal not only in the language, but within the limits of the given terminology.

On the other hand, the term is an integral part of the lexical system of the literary language, entering into complex semantic-syntactic relations with other words.

The terms in the crypto industry cause considerable difficulties. To overcome these difficulties it is advisable to pay attention to a number of features of terms.

1. Many crypto industry terms are international words.

For example, *transaction* in the broad sense means the buying or selling of something, or an exchange of money. *Transaction* in the crypto industry is a money transfer between two addresses.

Commission is the fee charged for transaction.

2. Word-building is often done using prefixes.

For example, *altcoin* formed from the word “*coin*” and prefix “*alt*”. Prefix “*alt*” is an abbreviation for *alternative* and used to form nouns and adjectives to refer to things that are not usual examples of their kind, and that often have an enthusiastic group of people who support them [7]. Consequently, *altcoin* is all cryptocurrencies with the exception of Bitcoin.

Another example of this word-building is the term *cryptocurrency* that is formed from the word “*currency*” and prefix “*crypto*”. Prefix “*crypto*” means “hidden” or “secret” [7]. “*Currency*” means the money, used in the particular country at a particular time. Consequently, *cryptocurrency* is a digital currency produced by a public network, rather than any government, that uses cryptography to make sure payments are sent and received safely [6].

The same pattern is used in building the word “*cryptography*” which is also arranged from two parts: word “*graphy*” and prefix “*crypto*”. “*Cryptography*” is the science of methods of ensuring confidentiality (the inability to read information by an outsider), data integrity (the impossibility of imperceptible changes of information) and authentication (authentication of authorship or other properties of the object) [5].

3. Compounding is very common in the crypto industry sphere.

For example, *blockchain* represents of two parts. First part of the word is a “*block*” and the second part is the “*chain*”. *Blockchain* is a system used to make a digital record of all the occasions a cryptocurrency is bought or sold, and that is constantly growing as more blocks are added [6].

The second example is a word “*bitcoin*”. It also represents of two parts: “*bit*” and “*coin*”. According to the literature *bit* is a unit of information in the binary number system [2]. By the way, *bit* was derived from a combination of words *binary digit*. This combination means binary number and is used in the computer technology. It should be emphasized that there is also a play of words. *Bit* also means *piece*. The second part called “*coin*” means banknote made of metal or other material of a certain form, weight and dignity. So *bitcoin* is a type of cryptocurrency [6].

4. Abbreviations are very often used in the crypto industry sphere.

Let us examine the most significant abbreviations.

ATH – *All Time High* – is highest value of all time or it shows the maximum rate of cryptocurrency.

BPI – *Bitcoin Price Index* – bitcoin price index developed by Coindesk, represents the average price of bitcoin on the world's largest exchanges.

DLT – *Distributed Ledger Technology*. *In other words, it's a blockchain.*

ICO – *Initial Coin Offering* – *initial placement of tokens on the exchange.*

P2P – *Peer to Peer* – *a peer-to-peer computer network in which all participants (nodes) are equal and can interact with each other, being a client and server at the same time* [8].

PoI – *Proof-of-Importance* – *an alternative PoW algorithm for achieving consensus when writing a block on a blockchain. The definition of the user who*

will record the next block takes into account the contribution of each participant in the process to the development and promotion of cryptocurrency in it.

PoS – *Proof-of-Stake* – *proof of ownership*

PoW – *Proof-of-Work* – *a proof of the work done, the algorithm by which the bitcoin mining network comes to a consensus, determining which mining node will write the formed block into the blockchain* [5].

5. Polysemy is a linguistic property of words of a language, reflecting whether a word has two or more meanings.

For example, the possible meanings of the word *mining*:

a) *mining* in the context of geology is the industrial process of digging coal or other minerals out of the ground [7];

b) *mining* in the context of crypto industry is a necessary and important process in the Bitcoin network and other cryptocurrencies, as a result of which a new block of transactions is added to the blockchain and coins are emitted [8].

Another example is a noun *wallet*. The possible meanings of the word *wallet*:

a) *wallet* in their usual usage context means a small, flat container for paper money and credit cards [7];

b) *wallet* in the crypto industry is a software application that allows you to make a transaction from a given address and view its balance [8].

The complex and multifaceted nature of the terms word-building, their synonymy and metaphorical character result in translation difficulties. If the translation task is to ensure equivalence as a generality of the content of the original and translation texts, then when translating special texts, in our case in the field of crypto industry, the terms should be paid a special attention. It is they that determine the informational content of a special text, being peculiar keys

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