What AIIC does for the conference industry

Since its establishment in 1953, AIIC has been a key partner in the conference industry.

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After World War II, international conferences became more and more frequent as many new international organisations were established. They all required simultaneous interpretation at their meetings. This was the real start of the profession of conference interpretation.

AIIC defined the profession and laid its foundations. For AIIC the fundamental rule on which everything else is based is the obligation to respect the utmost secrecy. The rule of confidentiality is the main principle of AIIC’s Code of Ethics.

AIIC established the system of classification of interpreters’ working languages into

• A (mother tongue),
• B (other active language)
• C (passive languages)

This is now the standard used throughout the industry. This system is crucial for clients to help them define the language needs of their conferences and ensure quality interpretation.

AIIC set the principle of direct contracts between interpreters and clients (conference organisers) so that the latter know who is working for them and to ensure that interpreters receive all the conference documents and information they need to perform their duties.

In cooperation with the International Standards Organisation (ISO) AIIC elaborated the ISO standards for booths and for simultaneous interpretation systems that are now widely used in the conference industry.

AIIC maintains a long-standing collaboration with major SI equipment manufacturers which has led to improvements in the quality of SI systems used by the conference industry.

AIIC has been a member of the Joint Industry Council (JIC) for many years.

AIIC works closely with interpretation schools and training programmes worldwide, thus contributing to the provision of quality interpreters to the conference industry.

Recommended citation format:
