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INTERPRETING SAFE-AI TASK FORCE WORKGROUP ANNOUNCES FORMATION AND PUBLIC MEETING TO ADVANCE FAIR AND ETHICAL AI IN INTERPRETING INDUSTRY

A group of interpreting industry thought leaders has announced their proposal to form the "Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force - Stakeholders Advocating for Fair and Ethical AI in Interpreting". The proposed mission for the task force is to establish, disseminate, and promote guidelines for the responsible adoption of AI in interpreting by facilitating dialogue among vendors, buyers, practitioners, end-users, regulators, and other stakeholders.

The workgroup's first step has been to organize an online launch meeting, which will take place on June 27. (Registration link below). The meeting is a call-to-action for all interpreting industry stakeholders interested in helping craft an initial response to AI's impact on interpreting.

Once fully constituted, the task force will seek to identify and analyze key use cases of AI in a range of contexts, including conference, medical, legal, educational, and business settings. Given the breakneck speed with which AI is disrupting interpreting, the task force's goal will be to publish the survey results, including preliminary best practice recommendations, in Fall 2023.

"The Chinese adage, 'water can float or sink a boat' aptly describes technology's impact on the interpretation industry. The proposed task force aims to facilitate AI adoption that enhances, not hinders, our field," says industry veteran Winnie Heh of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies. "We look forward to working with a broad base of stakeholders with the goal of advancing language access and cross-cultural communication."

The workgroup is inviting the public to an online call-to-action meeting to be held at 12:00 PDT/14:00 CDT/15:00 EDT, on June 27, 2023. During the meeting, the workgroup will present their mission, launch an anonymous survey to select an initial structure of the task force, gather names of all those interested in participating and announce the date and time for the first official work meeting in July. The survey results will guide the structure, membership, and format of the July meeting.

To register for the event, and for more information about the Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force, please visit https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5iFb1NqORVuzzEFa3OUPcA. We look forward to seeing you at our inaugural public meeting on June 27, 2023.

The initial workgroup proposing the formation of the task force includes:

Katharine Allen, Training Specialist, Boostlingo
Carla Fogaren, RN, Vice President, National Council on Interpreting in Health Care
Cody Francisco, CDI, Director, Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services, MasterWord Services, Inc.
Ludmila Golovine, President & CEO, MasterWord Services, Inc.
Winnie Heh, Career Advisor, Middlebury Institute of International Studies
Eliana Lobo, CoreCHI, Director-Lobo Language Access

Alan Melby, Chair of FIT North America

Natalya Mytareva, Executive Director, Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters

Barry Olsen, Principal Consultant, What about language?

Hélène Pielmeier, Senior Analyst at CSA Research

Dr. Bill Rivers, Principal, WP Rivers & Associates

About Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force Workgroup

Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force workgroup is a diverse group of industry stakeholders advocating for fair and ethical AI in interpreting. The group's mission is to establish, disseminate, and promote guidelines for responsible AI adoption in the field, ensuring the technology's benefits are maximized while minimizing potential risks.

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