

## Webster's New World English-Spanish/Spanish-English Business Dictionary **FREE**

Steven M. Kaplan. . *Webster's New World English-Spanish/Spanish-English Business Dictionary*. Indianapolis, IN: Wiley 2006. ix+724 pp. £22.95; \$34.95, ISBN: 0 471 71994 3

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“Habla español?/Do you speak Spanish? Habla inglés?/Do you speak English? Habla de negocios?/Do you speak business?” This is the slogan of the English-Spanish/Spanish-English business dictionary launched by Wiley under the Webster label and compiled by Steven M. Kaplan. Wiley presents its first bilingual dictionary of this type specializing in economics and finance, representing an unprecedented effort to surmount the language barriers among business experts.

The dictionary contains 80,000 entries for terms of common use in the business world and more than 100,000 translations from fields such as accounting, advertising, commerce, economics, e-commerce, international trade, tax, securities, banking, real estate, management and insurance. These terms have been extracted not only from traditional specialized sources, but also the following: statements, filings, textbooks, treaties and theses amongst others and from modern reference materials such as Usenet posting and blogs from the internet.

The *Dictionary* is an incredibly exhaustive tool; indeed, exhaustiveness is one of its most outstanding characteristics, the dictionary including almost exclusive terms of business jargon, for instance Direct Trust or Immunity from Taxation, alongside others from daily and less specialized language such as Leakage or Bill, as well as common use terms that appear in economic, financial or business texts – for example Risk or Hike. It should also be highlighted that this *Dictionary* is an up-to-date work where it is possible to find numerous terms regarding new ways of e-commerce, for example Electronic Business Ethics, Electronic Bill or

The *Dictionary* is structured in a classical and simple way (English-Spanish-English) due to the fact that it is designed for speeding up searching. The user should simply look up a word in a language in order to obtain its translation, its morphology and syntax specifications (masculine or feminine noun, adjective, preposition, adverb, or verb) and its synonyms. Occasionally, when there is not a clear lexical equivalent in the other language, an explanatory definition is given, such as: "Money-maker, word that lacks of translation in Spanish", and defined as "person whose main aim is earning money". In some cases, it could be possible that the Spanish user will find some of these definitions not quite satisfactory due to the translation quality. Other examples of this kind of definitions are: Gazump, Raider, Scalp, Saving Clause and Proxy Fight.

This work also contains many acronyms used in daily business language which usually are included in a developed way – for example Gross Domestic Product both in full and as the acronym GDP – in order to allow the novel user to find the desired term from both approaches, avoiding the disadvantages of cross-references. This method is also applied to international banks and organizations, for instance: IBRD or International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and EURATOM or European Energy Community.

The dictionary includes different variants of Spanish and English: not only the language from Spain but also dialect from other Spanish-speaking countries, as well as American and British English. However, this tool lacks specifications relating the correct use of these variants. For instance: Peak Hours is translated into Spanish as *hora punta* (which is the Spanish from Spain) or *hora pico* (used in Latin American countries). Also, *Centro de negocios* is translated into English as business center (American English) or business centre (British English).

The entries are not excessively long. The expressions related with the term are not included in the same entry, but are written underneath so that user is able to find an expression at first sight and speed up his/her searches. For instance, Labour is followed by 44 different entries that contain that word up to the last one Labour Variance. The *Dictionary* also leaves out some information in relation to the field where a term is used, and some explanations about "false friends" – pairs of words in two languages or letters in two alphabets that look or sound similar but

*ley* (Law), *Cuenta* (Commerce) ... without any kind of information regarding the field. False friends – Economic – *Económico* (adjective “referring in Spanish to Economics” like in English, but also to “cheap” which would be economical in English) and Economical – *económico*.

In spite of the lack of examples of the terms in context, phonetic information, antonyms, explanations concerning the slight difference between synonyms, illustrations or unique lexical features, the business expert or student of any aspect of finance will consider this *Dictionary* a valuable tool in order to deal with specialized texts. Despite its brief foreword and user notes, an expert user or translator will find the book easy to use and user-friendly thanks, especially, to its correct margins, legible typography and an acceptable number of entries per page. In conclusion, this *Dictionary* is a useful tool, comfortable for daily use and advisable for those people who need to search frequently used terms or expressions during a reading or a specialized translation. It is recommended for those experts who desire to find a quick translation without difficulties – cross-references and acronyms, for instance – that otherwise hold up research.

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