

ADAM WOOTEN: DIRECTOR OF TRANSLATION SERVICES, LINGOTEK

Posted by admin on 06 Dec 2011 / 1 Comment

[Tweet](#)

Name: Adam Wooten

Hometown: Palmdale, CA

Occupation(s): Director of Translation Services at Lingotek, International Business columnist for the Deseret News, and Adjunct Professor at BYU

Passion: Being outdoors and playing with his kids

Aspiration: To make his division one of the largest translation companies worldwide

Connect: @AdamWooten

Lunch: Paradise Cafe, American Fork, UT

If you've ever wondered how businesses translate their materials into different languages, look no further than Adam Wooten. We asked him to describe what he does:

"I'm a translation nerd who got into the business side of things."

While in school at BYU, Adam worked as a Spanish interpreter for the Utah court system. After realizing that his translation work was more than just a fleeting interest (and deciding that his previous interest in becoming a doctor wasn't as interesting as translation), he decided to go to the Monterey Institute of International Studies, "the" place to go if you want to become a high-level interpreter or translator. But before he left BYU, he took a translation technology course and realized he was really interested in the technology aspect of translation.

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER



Enter your email newsletter. We promise to share your information and not misuse it in any way.

Subscribe

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

404 Not Found

The requested URL was not found on this server. Sorry for the inconvenience. Please report this message and the following information to the webmaster. Thank you very much!

URL: https://web.archive.org/web/20111206150000/http%3A%2F%2Fwww.blogs.byu.edu/2011/12/06/adam-wooten-director-of-translation-services-lingotek/

Server: wwwb-front3.us.archive.org

POPULAR POSTS



Josh James: CEO and Founder of Omni
March 29, 2012

By the time he got to Monterey, he had decided to pursue a more business-oriented track, and earned his MBA in addition to his other studies. While he still enjoyed actively translating, he realized that he preferred the lifestyle that the business side of translating would offer. But even that had its ups and downs.

“When I first started learning about translation project management, it was intimidating to think that I would be managing projects of documents or websites that would go into one or two dozen languages that I didn’t speak. I learned a lot about making sure a good process was in place so that I could actually trust what came out the other end.”

But he kept working at it. As we talked, there was one thing about Adam that really stood out to me—he’s the kind of guy who decides what he wants and goes for it. He just figures things out, like how to become an approved court interpreter. That’s a great quality, and one that I really admire.

One of the defining experiences in his career came early on with a company originally called TermSeek (now Lingotek). Adam was able to interface with the CEO and get some one-on-one mentoring.

“He [the CEO] taught me quite a bit about the industry. That ended up being very worthwhile and leading me into project management for a small, local translation company while I was in school in Monterey.”

Working for that small, local, “Mom & Pop” shop in Monterey, Adam wore many different hats and learned about the different facets of running a business. When asked if he had ever considered opening his own company, he said:

“I’ve often thought that I would want to run my own company, but that’s been changing a bit. I think running a very successful division of a company would be just as fulfilling.”

There are more than 25,000 translation companies in the world, of two employees or more. That’s not counting the thousands of one-man-shows doing the same kind of work. But that doesn’t bother Adam. We asked about his goals and ambitions for the company:

“I want to build this division into one of the largest translation companies in the world.”

This is a guy who shoots for the moon. And I don’t doubt he’ll get there. He shared his definition of success with us:

“[Success is] being able to do your best and be happy doing it.”

“Although my career path has taken quite a few twists and turns, it’s been nice, in hindsight, to see that each of those turns was for a very good reason and really helped to prepare me for exactly what I want to be doing now.”

For those looking to expand their networks and break into the world of business, he had this advice:

“Be willing to do pro-bono projects—things for which you’re not paid, but will still give you some experience and allow you to network.”

Sorrel Jakins: Director of IT Infrastructure at Brigham Young University

October 28, 2011



James Murphy: Entrepreneur & Owner

November 4, 2011



Bad Authentication data.

When it comes to work, there are two things that get Adam out of the bed in the morning:

“I like being able to feel like I'm really helping people with something I know something about. Also, it's nice to be constantly learning about different languages and cultures.”

Be sure to check out Adam's [Twitter account](#) and his [column in the Deseret News](#). This is definitely someone you'll want to keep tabs on.

(Hat tip to Tyler Smith for introducing us to Adam!)

RELATED POSTS



Josh James: CEO at Domo, Founder of Omniture

March 29, 2012



Ed Eyestone: Olympic Runner & Coach

January 13, 2012



Clark Merkley: Asst. Personnel Director, Utah County Government

January 4, 2012

1 COMMENT



Dixie Tiffany Pierce *4 years ago*

[\(Reply\)](#)

BYU passion. Just where do I sign up for those classes?

LEAVE A REPLY

COMMENTS

Brandon on Clark Merkle: Asst. Personnel Director, Utah County Government

Spencer Bean on Jon Bradshaw: Co-founder & CEO at Pantheon Motion

Nik Krohn on Jon Bradshaw: Co-founder & CEO at Pantheon Motion

RECENT POSTS

Jon Bradshaw: Co-founder & CEO at Pantheon Motion

Warialasky – Professional YouTube'ers

Stuff We Love: Stuff Caitlin Connolly Loves

