Areas of Competence

Note: The following descriptions are based on the Council of Europe's "A Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment" (CEFR)

	Level II (CEFR B I)	Level III (CEFR B2)	Level IV (CEFR C1)
Reception	The candidate can quickly grasp the details contained in texts that are in frequent use in his/her field of work, using aids such as dictionaries and illustrations. He/she can understand virtually all the content of messages spoken clearly and at an appropriate, natural speed if the items of information are noticeably separated and there is an opportunity to listen to the message more than once.	The candidate can comprehend fairly complex texts in his/her field of work and recognise their implicit meaning, using works of reference if necessary. He/she can follow messages spoken at a natural speed and recognize and record the main ideas even if these are spoken with a slight regional accent.	The candidate can comprehend authentic, complex texts related to his/her field of work and recognise their implicit meaning, using works of reference if necessary. He/she can follow messages spoken at a natural speed and detect and record both the main ideas and details even if these are spoken with a regional accent. He/she is aware of language variances.
Production	The candidate can produce standard texts that are typical of his/her field of work in the foreign language to a relatively high degree of accuracy, acting on instructions and using works of reference. He/she can express factual information concerning his/her field of work comprehensibly in the foreign language despite a limited range of vocabulary.	The candidate can phrase texts that are typical of his/her field of work to a high degree of language and stylistic accuracy and appropriateness of form, without necessarily resorting to text modules.	The candidate can phrase texts that are typical of his/her field of work correctly with stylistic accuracy and appropriateness either briefly or at length, according to the addressees' requirements. His/her language and intercultural competences enable him/her to communicate very effectively; hardly ever distorting his/her messages.
Mediation	The candidate can render job-related facts provided in the foreign language in German or convey the message in the foreign language facts provided in German, using works of reference. Of primary concern is appropriateness of content, not accuracy of language and the suitability of style.	The candidate can either render fairly complex job-related information provided in the foreign language in German or convey fairly complex job-related information given in German in his/her own words in the foreign language, using works of reference. He/she considers stylistic appropriateness.	The candidate can either render complex job-related information provided in the foreign language in German or convey messages provided in German in the foreign language, using works of reference. He/she considers linguistic and stylistic appropriateness, according to addressees and situations.
Interaction	The candidate can cope with conversational situations in the foreign language that arise frequently in his/her field of work, on occasion making use of the help provided by the person to whom he/she is talking. He/she can react to messages, and express or explain his/her own opinions and plans, considering major cultural differences. Pronunciation, choice of vocabulary and use of structures may still be influenced by the mother tongue.	The candidate can cope confidently with conversational situations in the foreign language that relate to his/her field of work. In the process, he/she can also take the initiative and adapt to the needs and wishes of the other person. He/she can react to fairly complex contributions within the situation. He/she can explain facts in detail and defend his/her position. In this context, he/she is able to pay appropriate attention to the intercultural differences existing in the occupational environment of the speakers of the two languages. Although the influence of the mother tongue may still be recognisable with regard to pronunciation, choice of vocabulary and use of structures, he/she has an appropriate command of idiomatic expressions.	The candidate can communicate spontaneously, clearly and fluently in the foreign language. He she can participate in conversations actively and competently, and may also take the initiative. His/her substantial command of lexis and idioms enables him/her to use the foreign language effectively and flexibly both in business life and social areas. His/her language and intercultural competences allow him/her to present issues and arguments precisely and in a logical way according to addressees, considering socio-cultural differences.

The four levels of the Foreign Language Certificate issued by "The Standing Conference of Ministers for Education and Culture of the Länder" (KMK) can be categorised according to the Euro-Levels as follows:

A **Basic User**	B **Independent User**	C **Proficient User**
A1 **A2** **KMK-Level I**	**B1** **B2** **KMK-Level II** **KMK-Level III**	**C1** C2 **KMK-Level IV**