Traditionally Russian School of Terminology outlined many fundamental problems during its history.

At the beginning and in the middle of the XXth century it drew its attention to a term as a linguistic sign which was regarded a representative of a special symbolic (semiotic) system, a word or a word combination (word-group) that is characterised by its specific function and used in one of the language substrata. It was also pointed out that the terminological conception had to be discussed from two main angles. As a part of an engineering approach it determined the future practice in standardisation and internationalisation of terminology. As a part of linguistic theory it highlighted the difference between the linguistic and logical peculiarities of terms. A bit later, in the second half of the XXth century the discussion concerned the existence of terminology science in the framework of linguistics. During this period it became possible to speak about its own methodological principles and metalanguage. The terminological studies developed to enrich our understanding of human nomination and communication process, so linguists introduced the descriptions of typological-comparative, semasiological, onomasiological and cognitive-communicative aspects of terms and terminological systems. The application of terminology science develops in the following directions: creating terminological glossaries and dictionaries, standardization and normalization of terminology, translation of terminology, terminological editing of scientific texts, developing, running and supporting terminological data banks and knowledge bases, teaching terminological theory and practice. These main tendencies in Russian terminological science were revealed during the last three symposiums on LSP. This colloquium will focus on peculiarities of cognitive aspects of terminology description. The goals of it are as follows:

- to represent the possibilities of cognitive approach for the description of terminological systems and conceptual fields, the latter being very flexible due to the function of categorisation and communication in the specific sphere of discourse,
- to show the new tendencies in terminological descriptions, especially in the naming of new categories and developing new knowledge,
- to point at the appearance of cognitive and other models necessary for our understanding of human thinking and professional communication.


The presentation will be devoted to the description of methods widely developing and applied in the sphere of Cognitive Terminology in Russia. The object of the research is the English telecommunications terminology based on the synthesis of the language for general purpose with the language for specific purpose – the sublanguage of computer engineering. However, in comparison with the computer engineering terminology, the telecommunications terminology is a wider sphere of various human activity applications. This terminology exists on the basis of ordinary and scientific types of knowledge. It gives us the opportunity to show how the scientific knowledge develops and how it can influence the mentality of an individual who is involved in the language conceptualization and categorization processes based on usage and creation of new language forms in his intellectual activity.

A great importance in our research is emphasized on the integrative methods that help us subsequently to combine the results of the linguistic and extra linguistic knowledge research into one conceptual, systematically organized, and dynamic structure.

The aim of our research is to construct a frame of the English telecommunications terminology with the help of which we can view a language as a mental formation and one of the most important systems of human knowledge representation. The frame analysis gives us the opportunity to get the idea about all the existing types of relationships between different concepts included in this frame.

According to its structure a frame is a “three-dimensional”, multicomponent concept, representing “a package” of data, knowledge about stereotyped information. To construct a frame of any sphere of human activity, it is necessary to analyze the structure and nomination characteristics of simplex, derived, compound units and terminological word-combinations of different complexity constituting this sphere, and to define the main categories of the terminology under analysis. The process of conceptualization relates to the distinguishing of minimal informal units of human experience and knowledge structures whereas the process of categorization refers to the combining of similar or identical units into bigger classes – categories. Therefore, categories are always constructed with regard to a definite sphere of knowledge. The sphere of human knowledge and activity is a complex and developing terminology consisting of 11 categories. Every category or nominative class has its hierarchical structure and consists of several layers: the highest (e.g., artifacts), thematic (e.g., hardware), basic (e.g., device) and subcategorical (e.g., antenna). The borders of the most categories are fuzzy, as a result, specific categorical classes of words-hybrids are formed, which are a part of several categories at once. This process can be explained by the openness of classes and the dynamics of human general and scientific world-images interaction.

The categorical analysis of terminology and its distribution among the semantic categories helps us to show the fuzziness of categorical borders, their flexible structure and also terms’ interaction with each other.

The next step to the frame analysis is to outline nomination characteristics. The cognitive-onomasiological modeling is a universal method of semantics presentation of word- and phrase-formative linguistic categories. The reconstruction of predicative relationships between the unit’s components standing behind every word- and phrase-formative model is considered to be the
initial step in the cognitive modeling which is called onomasiological analysis. The onomasiological model is the integration of three or two ontological entities: object entity, process and non-process feature. The research shows that the most productive onomasiological models in the English telecommunications terminology are [THING – BE USED FOR – OPERATION] and [THING – BE OF – TYPE (KIND)], used for defining a device applied for different operations or for its description.

As a result, by means of cognitive-onomasiological modeling we examined the main connections between concepts in the sphere of telecommunications reflected in its terminology. The conceptual structure of the English telecommunications terminology provides us with the necessary data for the frame construction reflecting the process of fixation, transmitting, receiving and storing of information. So, it includes the whole “package” of knowledge about this sphere of human activity.

This conceptual system is dynamic and is able to reflect existent changes in human life and society and also can change its form according to the pragmatic aims of its usage (by a creator of telecommunications technologies, their user and mediator – the one who offers the services in this sphere of activity). In conclusion, I’d like to note that all three frames of a creator, user and mediator of telecommunications technologies will be presented and commented. Nevertheless, it is necessary to point out that the conceptual structure of a user of telecommunications technologies is closely interconnected with the conceptual structures of their creator or mediator. Hence, the frames cannot be isolated from each other because the world-images closely interact. Consequently, a frame can perform three functions: reflect a structure of a certain type of human activity, be the result of its cognition and record formally the received knowledge in human consciousness.

So, the cognitive-communicative approach helps us to realize the connections between those phenomena existing in a language in its material representation and those phenomena which are concealed from our observation and go deeply into the human consciousness. By means of this approach, scientists undoubtedly get closer to the understanding of processes and mechanisms of human cognition. This research based on the English telecommunications terminology let us specify the existing conceptions about the rules of new terminology organization and understand the means of knowledge representation in this sphere of human activity.

COGNITIVE-COMMUNICATIVE PERSPECTIVE:
WAYS OF STUDY OF PROFESSIONAL DISCOURSE AND LSP

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The major problem of our current understanding of language for specific purposes and professional communication is concerned with the modern and up-dated ways of discourse and language description. The most influential view of LSP studies in Russian school of Terminology is connecte with cognitive and communicative methodology in linguistics. This trend is gradually coming to the full understanding of human cognition expressed by specialized discourse and language means used in a specific function.

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The presentation is aimed to explain how terminological meanings of words and expressions in specialized discourse of modern technique are cognitively and contextually grounded. The author pays special attention to processes of categorization and conceptualization in terminology. The categorization is explicated on the basis of factors which can progress us towards the semantic structure of a term and the terminological system of interrelated concepts. The conceptualization is presented in terms of formal modeling of conceptual structure and its relationship with linguistic structure which is ready to incorporate propositions, image schemas, metaphor and metonymy, mental spaces, and frames for the purposes of terminology exploration. The topic raises a variety of fundamental issues: the relationship of general and specialized knowledge in professional discourse, the role of a scientist in semantic and discourse understanding, the advantages of cognitive description of semantics and syntax.