



Case Study Agriculture

KL Interpreters' hallmark is 'Any Subject, Any Occasion'. We put this to good use during our agricultural assignments. These challenge both our brains and our bodies. Time is often split between office locations and field trips. Physical stamina and familiarity with terminology are equally important. Planning sufficient down-time within the customer's agenda is a vital part of effective preparation. Managing our energy levels properly enables us to perform to the highest standards. It requires training to develop this capability. This expertise is only available from KL Interpreters.



Quality inspection

A group of Chinese inspectors from the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) visited the UK for a final compliance visit before concluding a UK-China barley trade agreement. During their visit, British counterparts from the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) and industry representatives demonstrated how farming practices, assurance schemes and phytosanitary processes, within a complex legislative framework, ensure that food safety and the quality of barley is maintained throughout the supply chain. This job was both physically and intellectually challenging for the interpreter. The nine-day assignment involved lots of travelling and fieldwork across the UK, and covered a wide range of barley-related topics, including weeds, barley diseases and pests.

Dairy diary

On a six-day assignment examining cow breeds our interpreter kept a daily record of her activities. Most of the programme involved farm visits. One of these required her to interpret while standing in a pool of cow dung. The smell from the dung was overwhelming. So was the chorus of mooing from hundreds of cows. Even KL Interpreters' thorough training hadn't prepared her for this. But thanks to the 'Will of Iron' attitude instilled in all our interpreters, she was able to block out the smell and noise. She focused on interpreting technical terms that ranged from silage to melamine and from heifer to Holstein. The UK host was amazed at her technical knowledge, especially as only a week before her knowledge of the dairy sector had been little more than the milk she drank.

Fitness and cleanliness

A dairy mission from China visited the UK for a week-long tour of sites across London, Bath, Bristol, Manchester and Stratford-upon-Avon. At some visits, our interpreter stood in front of a large audience interpreting at a formal presentation. At others, she accompanied the group on field trips. During one trip, the site's stringent hygiene rules required her to wash her hands more than ten times. She was also asked to don specialist protective clothing over her business attire. The vocabulary used ranged from milk powder R&D to forage selection, from ice cream mix to waste heat recovery. In this case thorough preparation was not enough. KL Interpreters' training in on-the-job-learning helped the interpreter succeed on the day.