

ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a "Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code" form

Date: 2009-1-5

Name of Primary Requester: Kevin Bortis

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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:

Associated Change request number : 2009-012

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : wts

(completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

- a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
Wallisertitsch
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Wallisertitsch
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Walliserdeutsch (German) , Walliser-German (English)
- d) Reason for preferred name:
Authentic name
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
20'000-30'000
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: wti

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

- a) Is this a
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Living language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recently extinct language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Historical language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ancient language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Artificially constructed language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Macrolanguage |

(Select one. See explanations of these types at [://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp](http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp))

For individual languages, also complete:

- b) Countries where used:
CH - Switzerland

- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
The language is spoken in the Alemannic, German spoken part of the Canton Wallis in Switzerland. The center is approximately the town Brig 46°18'53.61"N, 7°59'9.70"E

- d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user's death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is: Signed Spoken Attested only in writings

- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
Alemannic language family

- c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
deu, gsw, wae

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
There are some books written in Walliser-German. There are books with legends and fairy tales, historic books, religious texts, songs etc. There is also a TV-Channel and a Radio-Channel that use Walliser-German for the main part of the program. The local newspaper has also some texts in Walliser-German, but the main part is written in German.

If the request will be accepted, I will start with some friends translating computer software in this language

- b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
The language is recognized by the local government but only for oral communication. In school the main language is German and Walliser-German is only used in sport classes etc. In a day to day basis, German is used for written content and Walliser-German is spoken and used for modern communication like e-mail, sms or chat.

- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

- a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:
I live in the region the language is spoken
- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
I am an active speaker of the language
- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
- wäärli waar - NoISBN - Rotten Verlag - Gedichte
- Wallisertitschi weerter - ISBN9783907816745 - Rotten Verlag - Dictionary Walliser-German <> German
- Chinderlieder - NoISBN - Rotten Verlag - Kinderlieder
- Altes Brauchtum im Oberwallis - Rotten Verlag - Nur zum teil in Walliserdeutsch
... and many other books, almost all published by the Rotten Verlag or in private print

Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
ISO 639-3/RA web site: [://www.sil.org/iso639-3/default.asp](http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/default.asp)
Email: -3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: [://www.ethnologue.com/](http://www.ethnologue.com/) .

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. [://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html](http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html)

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. [://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html](http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html)