



THE LEADER IN GLOBAL LANGUAGE AND BUSINESS SERVICES

LANGUAGE:

- History
- Leadership
- Network
- Press Center
- Our Quality
- Technology
- Experience
 - Case Studies
 - Client List
- Partners
- Corporate Citizenship
- Awards
- Resource Center
- Careers

Case Study: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FBI Secures Convictions Through Accurately Translated Transcriptions

The Client

An agency of the US Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is in charge of national law enforcement and intelligence. Its mission is to protect individuals, communities, and businesses from the most dangerous threats facing the nation—from international and domestic terrorists to cyber villains, corrupt government officials, and organized crime. The FBI has earned the respect of international law enforcement agencies for its many successes.

The Challenge

The FBI was dealing with a highly sensitive case involving an international drug-trafficking ring, spanning across several countries. Undercover special agents wore body wires for two years, communicating with the targets of the investigation in five languages—Farsi, Pashto, Dari, Urdu, and English. Agents collected evidence, captured and incarcerated an entire drug cartel, and were preparing to go to trial. With 72 audio tapes ranging from five to sixty minutes – some with multiple languages intermixed – converting the recorded conversations into usable evidence would be a highly complex task.

The TransPerfect Solution

TransPerfect approached the project head on by establishing a team of linguists to transcribe and translate the material contained on the FBI's tapes. Mindful that the final product would be critical to the effort to put these international criminals in prison, TransPerfect worked hand-in-hand with FBI staff, federal prosecutors, and the undercover agents to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information. Our native-speaking Farsi, Pashto, Dari, and Urdu linguists worked seven days a week for four weeks to finish the task on schedule. Performed within a narrow timeframe and delivered in compliance with strict legal guidelines, the resulting documents proved vital to securing the convictions.

