TRADOS 5 in 20 Questions

TRADOS 5

In this very first tools feature we focus on the latest version of the TRADOS translation suite, which is released in May 2001. See introduction on page 4.

A – General Product Information

1. Please provide a short description of your product and/or service.

TRADOS 5 is an open content management platform that supports all production and management processes involved in the translation and localization cycle. It is built around an intuitive WorkSpace that acts as a launchpad for the individual applications. TRADOS 5 leverages industry-leading translation memory technologies to automate recurrent translation work, thus streamlining the entire production process. TRADOS 5 integrates seamlessly into existing workflows and operating environments, scaling from the freelancer's desktop to massive corporate deployments.

2. What are the most appropriate applications for your product? Who are the targeted users?

TRADOS is targeted at all branches of trade and industry engaged in the business of expansion in foreign markets. Not only does TRADOS accelerate the translation process, it enhances quality and consistency. It also gives companies full control over their multilingual assets, enabling them to reduce costs on future localization or translation projects.

TRADOS supports all tasks involved in the translation and localization cycle: the use of translation memories; alignment of legacy translations and terminology; interfacing with different DTP systems, Web formats and editing environments; and distribution/management of terminology.

B – Product Components

3. Please indicate the components that are included in your technology solution and add a comment if appropriate:

Component:	Y/N
Translation Memory?	Yes
Software UI Localization?	Yes
Either through RC localization or through integration with third-party products such as Passolo or Catalyst (planned)	
Translation Workflow Management?	Yes
Introduced with TRADOS 5.	
Terminology Management?	Yes
Machine Translation (compatibility)?	Yes
Web Content Change Detection?	No
However, TRADOS 5 can be integrated with Web content management systems through its APIs.	
Multilingual Content Management?	No
However, TRADOS 5 can be integrated with multilingual content management systems through its APIs.	
Others, please specify…	Yes
Specialised front-ends for tagged formats (TagEditor), Word documents (Word 97 or 2000), PowerPoint (T-Window for PowerPoint); alignment software (WinAlign); APIs for integration into third-party applications.	

4. Does your product include a translation memory engine? If yes, please describe the engine. Does it support fuzzy matching, any benchmarks available, etc?

TRADOS translation memory technology is based on a "true" database, featuring the TRADOS proprietary fuzzy index engine. Internal competitive

analyses have shown that this engine is up to six times faster than that of a typical competitor. One of the benchmark tests involved a Word document with 1.6 million words. This was translated against a translation memory containing 180,000 segments. The TRADOS translation memory engine needed 33 minutes to process this document, whereas the competing application required 199 minutes.

The latest version, TRADOS 5, features a new translation component that can also directly transfer translations from previously translated material into new source material. This will complement the database approach and is ideally suited to project updates.

5. Does your product have collaboration features for translator teams and/or publishers and localization service providers?

TRADOS 5 is designed to meet both the collaborative requirements of translation teams and the stand-alone needs of remote users. Translation teams working over a local area network share a translation memory and termbase, and can dynamically allocate work among team members. All members of the team have immediate access to the fruits of the other translators' work. Desktop publishers working collaboratively use TRADOS 5 to filter DTP formats into formats that can be translated in Word or TagEditor. They can also use TRADOS 5 to manage their files. Localization service providers can exchange project packages with other providers, clients and vendors. These packages can then be returned and opened in TRADOS 5 on completion of the work. Localization service providers can also use TRADOS 5 within their local area network to distribute work among project managers, desktop publishers, linguists and CAT specialists.

6. Does your product have a terminology management component?

TRADOS 5 includes extensive terminology extraction, alignment, management, and distribution functionality. MultiTerm is a stand-alone, yet fully integratable terminology management system. It can be configured to reflect individual needs. It offers a concept-oriented approach (in keeping with the latest terminology science findings) and supports all languages that are supported by Microsoft Windows platforms.

In addition to standard lookup mechanisms, MultiTerm offers fuzzy-logic-based, active terminology recognition. This practical facility identifies terms that are
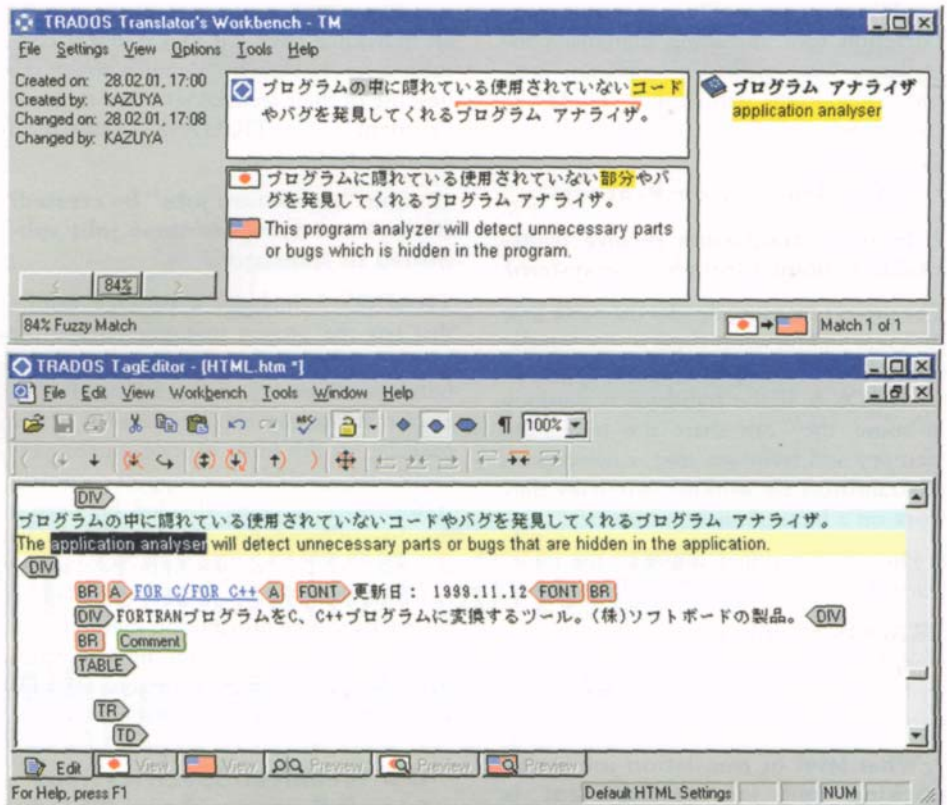

Translator's Workbench and TagEditor in Action

similar, but not necessarily identical. MultiTerm also handles common graphic file formats.

MultiTerm Web Access is a highly customizable, XML/XSL-based enhancement that provides access to a termbase over the Web from any standard Internet browser.

ExtraTerm, the most recent innovation in our terminology product line, provides advanced terminology extraction capabilities. It generates a monolingual or bilingual list of new potential term candidates. This list can then be used in MultiTerm. As an integrated environment, ExtraTerm offers all the features one
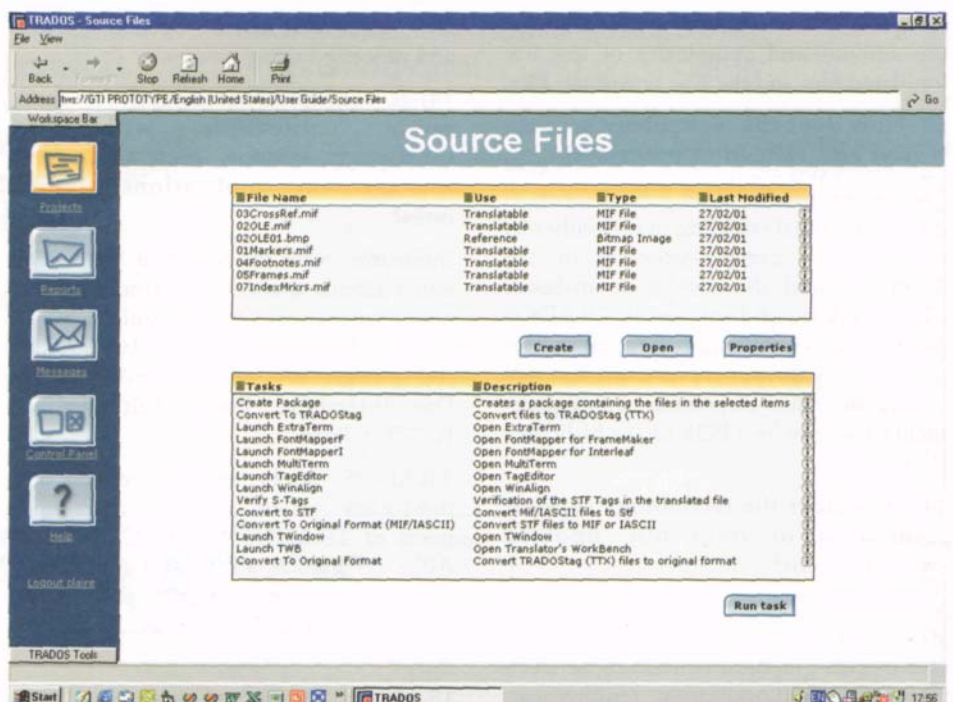
TRADOS 5 WorkSpace showing the project page

would expect in a bilingual terminology extraction tool, including bilingual concordance functionality, a validation area, and integration with other TRADOS products.

C – Translation Process

7. How do translators receive translatable content through your system?

The project manager divides the work into packages and forwards these to the translators who then open the packages in TRADOS 5. If the translator is working in-house, they can share the translation memory and termbase over a network. If the translators are working externally, they work on a local translation memory.

8. Does your product automate the translation/localization workflow? If yes, how?

TRADOS 5 automates key steps in the workflow. It is not a workflow system per se, but rather a production management system.

9. What level of translation job status tracking and job management is available to the client?

The status of files within TRADOS 5 is set manually by the project manager. He or she can create a status report form with an overview of all file/component statuses. However, status information in its raw state is not necessarily very useful. It requires human analysis to draw meaningful conclusions. Assuming you have ten files and five have been translated, can you conclude that the project is 50 percent complete? Not necessarily—it depends on the amount and complexity of the five translated files and the five remaining files.

10. How does the technology support review and validation processes?

The review process takes several forms. It may be an initial sampling of files either by a localization service provider or the client. It could also involve an in-house editor working on final files. In TRADOS 5, a package containing review material is assembled by the project manager and sent to the reviewer. Depending on requirements, this may be a PDF file or bi-lingual RTF files.

11. How does the technology support translation of frequently updated (web) content?

Web sites vary enormously in complexity with factors such as database-driven content or rich graphical content to be taken into account. Localization requirements thus vary considerably. Experience at TRADOS has shown that it is preferable

to address each customer's challenges on an individual basis. TRADOS offers consulting services to help clients make the best use of their technologies and their investment in TRADOS translation memory technology.

12. Can "translation jobs" be created? If yes, how? How are these jobs submitted to translators?

TRADOS 5 includes a package feature that lets the project manager bundle the files for translation with the appropriate translation memory and termbases. Reference material can also be included in the package (in the form of style guides, previous versions of files or support material). If the work is being divided between a number of translators, the project can be sub-divided. The settings to be used in the translation memory are also included in the package. The distribution method used depends on the size of the project. Small packages can be emailed or sent by FTP. Larger projects can be burned on CD.

D – Technical Specifications

13. Which file types and content types are supported, for example FrameMaker, FrameMaker + SGML-HTML, RTF, RC, etc?

TRADOS supports the following formats: Word DOC and RTF, PowerPoint, SGML/HTML/XML including ASP/JSP/XSL, FrameMaker, Interleaf, Quicksilver, PageMaker, Ventura, QuarkXPress, RC, Bookmaster/DCF, Troff. In addition, TRADOS technology supports any format that can be opened in Word and processed using macros.

14. Is your product directly or indirectly compatible with any third-party systems such as content management applications? Which ones?

Integration with the following products is either already available or planned for the near future: Lotus Notes, Passolo, Chrystal Astoria, Schema, Software AG/Struktur AG (integration into Tamino), Catalyst, Day Interactive, Poet, Multilizer and RC-WinTrans.

TRADOS can be easily integrated into third-party systems as the core components of TRADOS feature COM-based APIs. Integration can also be indirectly achieved by exchanging data using common standards such as XML and SGML.

15. What language types are supported: single-byte, double-byte,

bi-directional? Is the technology Unicode compliant?

TRADOS applications support single-byte, double-byte, and bi-directional languages thanks to extensive Unicode support. TRADOS 5 supports all European languages, Russian, Japanese, Chinese and Korean as well as the bi-directional languages Arabic and Hebrew.

16. On what platforms does the system run; on what platform is it administered?

The system runs on Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows Me, Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000. We recommend Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000 for optimum performance.

E – Implementation

17. How long are average implementation times?

The implementation cycle depends on the size of the deployment. This is usually between three and five days in the case of small and medium-sized businesses. This includes creating a database model and a translation memory database model reflecting the customer's individual process needs. With larger organizations, implementation may take up to 30 days, training included.

18. What is the pricing model for the technology? What is the average cost?

Pricing for TRADOS 5 is not available at this time.

19. What other products/services are offered in conjunction to the technology?

Consulting and software engineering services to ensure seamless integration into existing content management or workflow systems (via APIs); training services; telephone and e-mail support (24-hour).

20. Where can more information on the technology be found? Is a demo version available?

For more information, please visit www.trados.com.

Sure, Your Translation Software Is Multilingual. But Does It Speak Project Manager, CAT Specialist And Translator?

The next generation of translation memory technology has arrived. TRADOS 5. Our new software makes every step of the translation process easier. Its modular and easily customized features let everyone work in concert. This lets you get your product, website and document translations to market faster, while improving quality and significantly cutting costs.

And if you buy TRADOS 5 before June 25, 2001, you'll receive preferred pricing and other Early Bird incentives. Visit trados.com or call 703-683-6900 ext. 5000 for more details.

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