From IBM: Translation Manager/2

Extensive multilingual resources and automatic dictionary lookup characterize IBM's OS/2-based offering.

In addition to Trados's new translation software, this summer also saw IBM's formal announcement of SAA AD/Cycle Translation Manager/2 (TM/2), its OS/2 package that integrates a variety of translation aids within a Presentation Manager interface. Having itself a huge inhouse translation burden, IBM is clearly hoping that it can turn this liability into an asset by sharing its tools with other companies – for a price.

Like Trados's system, TM/2 is has its own editor (although others can also be installed). It too has a translation memory feature which uses fuzzy search algorithms to retrieve existing material from its translation database. Like ALPNET's TSS and INK's TextTools, TM/2 can analyze texts to extract terminology. What sets the product apart from other translation software is, among other things, its extensive support for foreign languages. TM/2 comes supplied with lemmatizers, spelling lists, and other linguistic resources for nineteen languages, including Catalan, Flemish, Norwegian, Portuguese, Greek, and Icelandic. It does not, however, come with translation dictionaries, although it does offer facilities for creating dictionaries on the fly or in batch mode. External dictionaries can also be integrated into TM/2, provided they are formatted in SGML. Since most users would need their existing dictionaries reformatted to meet these requirements, IBM plans to offer this service through its local offices. TM/2 has extensive online documentation which is accessed using IBM's BookManager Read/2 software..

Originating from IBM Germany's Böblingen Application Development Laboratory, TM/2 has been tested at a number of IBM's European sites over the past fifteen months. Initial reactions have been positive. Edouard Prisse, director of Word House Associates, a European network of translation companies, says of TM/2, "a number of our translators have been using the package extensively on location at IBM and they like it very much. The ultimate test of a translation package is, after all, whether skilled translators will want to keep using it. TM/2 is in my estimation the first computer-aided translation package to really get it right." Prisse adds he is currently negotiating with IBM to license the software for use within his organization.

TM/2 does not come cheap: prices start at ECU4500 (US$6,300) for a single user.