The Trados Corporation, which has its head office in Stuttgart has released version 2.0 of its Translator's Workbench translation memory tool.

The new faster 32-bit Workbench upgrade is fully integrated into Word 97, and is compatible with many industry-standard document formats.

The new features of Workbench 2.0 include: the faster, 32-bit application; direct integration into Word 97; continued support for Word 6.0 and 7.0; a new and faster database; a new and faster neural network matrix for faster fuzzy searching; especially in shared network translation memory system; a new translation memory maintenance tool for global search and replace operations, attribute manipulation, etc.; and OLE-based API for third party applications.

Workbench 2.0 works is based on the translation memory principle, that a considerable percentage of terms, phrases and sentences often appear repeatedly within a document. After they are translated once, Workbench 2.0 updates its database. Whenever the term, phrase or sentence appears again, the software can automatically perform the translation. This significantly speeds up the translation process and enhances the consistency of terminology and accuracy of translation.

The original Translator's Workbench, introduced in 1994, has established itself, in terms of number of licences sold, as the market leader in translation memory software used by professional translators. Due to the impact Trados products are having on the translation industry, Microsoft recently acquired a 20% share in the company.

Since it was formed in 1984, the Trados company has developed several translation, terminology and document conversion products that assist companies with their international product release, communication and marketing projects. Among the users are professional translation companies, translators within companies and organisations with international trade markets, publishers, and educational institutions. Trados has 11 offices throughout Europe, the United States and Japan.