

Weidner open in Toronto

The machine translation company Weidner Communications Corporation has opened an office in Toronto to serve its growing Canadian market.

Weidner, who have about 75 users in the West, and some 435 systems operating in Japan, has up to now serviced its Canadian customers from its headquarters in Chicago and through its distributor, TAO Canada, in Montreal.

The new office is located at 155 Gordon Baker Road, Willowdale, Ontario, M2H 3N7 and is managed by Mrs Danièle Ramänen. Mrs Ramänen joined Weidner from CIT Alcatel in Paris, France, where she worked from 1984 to 1986. Previous to that she had lived and worked in Canada from more than ten years.

Weidner, one of the pioneers of the commercial applications of machine translation, brought its system to the market early in 1982. It now offers ten language pairs, including Japanese/English. The software has been continually updated since that time, and is now on version 2.4. A new update, version 2.5, is expected next month (July 1986), 2.6 in January 1987, and 2.7 in July 1987. Generation 3 is planned for January 1988, a version which will be much more transportable, i.e. will interface with many more systems, and will at the same represent a major linguistic improvement. It will be much more user friendly, and highly competitive.

Heading the American operation of Weidner is Nevil M. Garrett, president, supported by Bob Adams, vice-president (in charge of marketing and system support), Henrietta Pons, vice-president (WCC translation service bureau), Don Brown (controller), Stephen Kerce (director of linguistics) and David Ross (director of programming).

In Chicago Weidner, in addition to its administrative and research departments, also runs a translating bureau which in the busier months of the year handles some three million words a month.

In Europe Weidner is widely known through the activities of its European operation, based in Chandler's Ford in southern England, and headed by John Newton.