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BUSINESS INFORMATION

SEARCHER provides quarterly coverage and critical review and comparison of key initiatives, products and services of interest to all those who seek, use and develop business information services.

The editor and publisher are always pleased to receive news of new products, software and service offerings, and to hear from readers with ideas for articles.

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Please address all editorial correspondence, subscription and advertising enquiries to the publisher at the following address -

Business Information Searcher

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Annual subscription price 2009

(published 4 times/year)
Print + PDF Files: £95.00 (+ £10 airmail),
PDF Files only (email): £75.00

Advertisement rates

Mono: full page £195.00, half page £125.00,
quarter page £75.00

Full Colour: full page £295.00, half page
£165.00, quarter page £95.00

Copy deadline 10th day of month of issue.

VAT at 17.5% to be added to advertisement charges in UK.

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See You Later Aggregator

Anthony Wood

I was invited to a lunch discussion recently to discuss RSS and XML feeds and their impact on traditional online services. The food was excellent and the company even better. I had one problem - I did not have a clue what we were supposed to discuss and I was not alone!

Each of the 10 Heads of Information invited were asked to introduce themselves and say a few words about their use of RSS and XML. I explained that I knew that RSS means Really Simple Syndication and that I had subscribed to 2 RSS-based information services but I felt more than a little vulnerable. I was greatly cheered by the fact that most of my fellow Info-Heads were as in the dark as I was.

What intrigued me was that one of our number had gone overboard on RSS and was bit by bit dumping other more expensive news services. On my return to my Information Unit I decided it was time to find out more.

I started with Wikipedia which told me

"RSS is a family of Web feed formats used to publish frequently updated content such as blog entries, news headlines or podcasts. An RSS document, which is called a "feed," "web feed," or "channel," contains either a summary of content from an associated web site or the full text. RSS makes it possible for people to keep up with their favourite web sites in an automated manner that's easier than checking them manually.

RSS content can be read using software called an "RSS reader," "feed reader" or an "aggregator." The user subscribes to a feed by entering the feed's link into the reader or by clicking an RSS icon in a browser that initiates the subscription process. The reader checks the user's subscribed feeds regularly for new content, downloading any updates that it finds".

Clear as mud. This was obviously written by an IT professional not an information professional. In this editorial I hope to shed light on RSS by contrasting two news information services - a conventional online information news aggregator (Factiva.com) and what I believe to be the foremost RSS-based news aggregator (MeltwaterNews).

Factiva.com

Factiva grew out of Textline, Reuter Business Briefing and Dow Jones Newswire. Its raison d'être is to gather together in one place the full text of news articles from about 13,000 largely independent sources. It adds tags / descriptors to each article record to make it easier for users to retrieve relevant information. Words can have many meanings and spellings. Factiva provides listings of unambiguous words to guide users to the information they need. Georgia in the country list has only one meaning - articles about the East European country. In a Google-type free-text box it

can also mean a State in the USA, a girl's name or a word in the title of a famous song.

Users need information to solve specific problems (research) and to keep up-to-date (alerts). Factiva provides both with some information sources going back many years and the ability to be alerted via email whenever any new relevant content is added. Emailed alerts contain a link to the Factiva service which when clicked takes the user directly to the full text of the original article. Remember the word "text" - it is very important.

Factiva charges users for access to their service and uses the income to pay royalties to the content owners, to fund their operations and, hopefully, make a profit for their owners.

MeltwaterNews

Hands up all those who have heard of MeltwaterNews - be honest! It may not be as famous as Factiva but that could well change. Who after all remembers the "star" of the 1970s - Predicasts PROMT. Technology is a ruthless big dipper ride - cling on or get thrown off.

MeltwaterNews, originally called MagentaNews, is a product of the vast oil and gas wealth of Norway - the blonde Arabs! Unlike the UK, Norway has saved its North Sea revenues and is investing them for the future. Norway's Sovereign Wealth Fund also provides seed capital for innovative ventures such as MeltwaterNews.

Meltwater draws its content from 90,000 free news feeds worldwide in many languages. It is a product of the invention of RSS. Meltwater collects RSS extracts from these news feeds, such as headline, source, date, author, the first 250 words and the web address, and matches the content against words inputted by users. It's only real competition is Moreover but whereas Moreover is more technology-focused, Meltwater is definitely content-focused. Further, before Moreover was sold to Verizon, Meltwater gained access to their source list.

Meltwater can be used as a simple research tool for inexperienced users - providing the words chosen are unambiguous - Georgia is not a good word to find articles on the country but Tbilisi (Georgia's capital city) is perfect! "President Bush" is a good phrase but President Bush (without the quotation marks) would search for all articles containing either or both President and Bush.

More complex search strategies require a degree of information literacy rarely found in the average searcher. Meltwater's search toolbox includes

- Quotation Marks - for phrases
- Wildcards / Truncation - to search using word stems e.g. automobile* for automobile and automobiles
- Boolean operators - AND, OR and NOT

- Parentheses / Brackets - to determine the order of processing
- Proximity operators - NEAR/n where the two connected words are within n words of each other
- Limiting by Title - to search for articles with specific words in the title e.g. title:Obama

It is also possible to search for words with capital letters such as Obama above or more significantly Bush.

Comparing Traditional with RSS

I have tried the same simple search on each service - my favourite "fuel cell*" search - as a daily alert. My experience was that Meltwater invariably produced more results. There was overlap but surprisingly not much. With Factiva clicking on the link produced the text of the retrieved article - no surprises there! With Meltwater, as is the nature of RSS, I was redirected to the website where the article appeared often surrounded by a feast of information!

There might be photos, links to further information, sometimes a video but always colour and design - in other words rich content rather than dull words. Maybe I was dazzled by the bright lights of RSS that obscured the meaning of the plain text. All I know is I quickly dropped Factiva as an alerting service.

Will others follow me? Is Factiva past its Sell By date?

Yes to the first and not necessarily to the second. All that Meltwater needs to do to compete with Factiva "head on" is to develop an indexing overlay that will make searching easier for users. All that Factiva needs to do is to offer an RSS link to the original website as an alternative where available. Factiva's job is much easier.

Meltwater must offer four picklists to users covering geographic location, industry sector, subject / topic and source. Each word in the picklist would generate the equivalent of an ORed search in brackets e.g. United Kingdom would generate (*United Kingdom** OR UK or London OR Birmingham OR Manchester OR Edinburgh OR Cardiff).

Although Factiva may have been caught "on the back foot" by RSS services such as Meltwater there may also be some profit in competition. Clicking on Factiva's RSS links to provider's websites may not only avoid royalties to those same providers but may in themselves generate income from providers for clickthroughs. Cash out may turn to cash in.



QIN – Opening the Door to China

Anthony Wood

My son is a biker. No not the hairy, leather-jacketed, Hell's Angel kind - more the clean-cut, Lycra-clad, Tour de France kind. He, and it would seem a huge army of devotees, thinks nothing of spending £1,000 on a carbon fibre bike frame that a puff of wind could blow away - and a further £1,000 on forks, wheels, handle bars, saddle, pedals, gears and brakes. He can hurtle along at 22 miles an hour, up hill and down dale, for two or three hours at a stretch and, unlike his father, is underweight and extremely fit.

The rest of the family have bikes also. In a moment of unhinged nostalgia, probably after watching Margaret Rutherford in an old "Miss Marple" black-and-white film, I bought a Pashley for my wife. For the uneducated Pashley make the kind of bicycles beloved of vicars' wives and other members of the WI.

Pashleys are immensely heavy and come in sombre colours, usually dark green or black, with baskets at the front, mudguards, three gears and a chain guard. They are not cheap but Pashley are the last surviving bicycle manufacturer in the UK. They make 6-8 a week. My wife rode her Pashley once and ever since it has sat under wraps in the garage. One day, I hope, it will find its way onto eBay.

Who makes most of the world's bicycles?

China, of course, and they do it very well. My first bike was a Raleigh - made in Nottingham. It was a present for nearly passing the 11 plus 50 years ago! I bought a new Raleigh recently - designed in Nottingham but made in China. It cost about £250, is very light and has more gears than I will ever use.

China's is the biggest of the four major emerging markets generally grouped under the acronym BRIC - Brazil, Russia, India and China. Their populations, GDPs and growth rates since 2000 are compared below.

Country	Population (Millions)	GDP in 2000 (\$Bn)	GDP in 2007 (\$Bn)	Growth Rate over 7 years (%)
Brazil	191.79	\$644.48	\$808.60	25.5%
Russia	142.50	\$259.52	\$405.91	56.4%
India	1,169.02	\$467.79	\$782.93	67.4%
China	1,321.29	\$1,198.47	\$2,364.41	97.3%

China is without doubt the biggest of the large emerging economies by all measures. Further it has in a few short years overtaken all of the largest European Union economies (see below). Whether it can sustain this pace of growth in the post-Credit Crunch years will remain to be seen. The Chinese are great savers, hopefully they have chosen the right banks to keep their money in.

Country	Population (Millions)	GDP in 2000 (\$Bn)	GDP in 2007 (\$Bn)	Growth Rate over 7 years (%)
USA	302.41	\$9,816.95	\$11,523.90	17.4%
UK	60.97	\$1,451.92	\$1,738.77	19.8%
Germany	82.26	\$1,899.37	\$2,063.58	8.6%
France	61.69	\$1,328.49	\$1,504.36	13.2%
Italy	59.62	\$1,097.42	\$1,182.98	7.7%

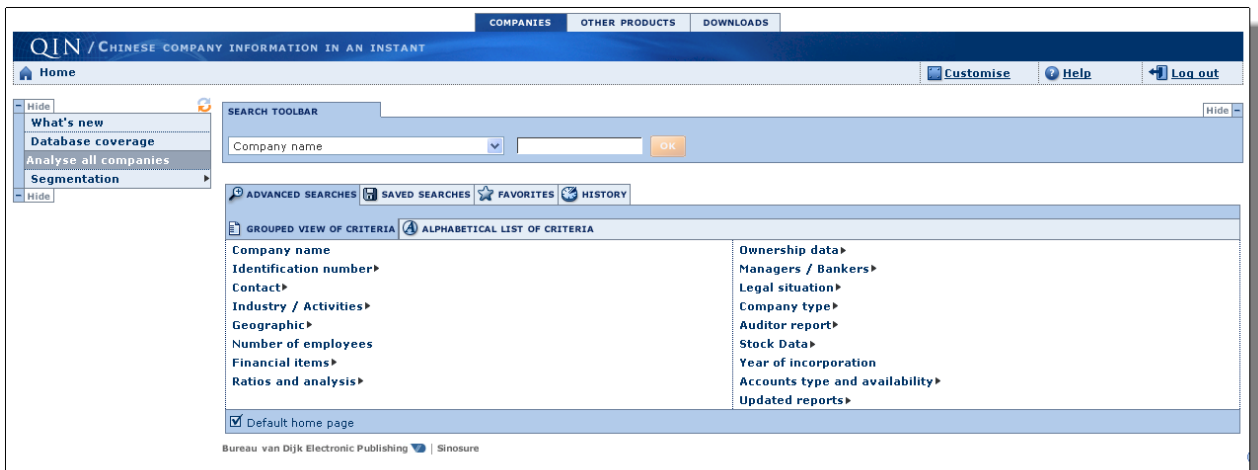
The engines of China's growth are its manufacturing companies. Give them a blueprint and they can turn out products by the million of a quality and at a price that is hard to match anywhere else in the world. Until 2006 getting a handle on Chinese companies was hard going. In a very ambitious initiative Bureau van Dijk teamed up with Sinasure - the China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation to list and analyse the published accounts of over 300,000 Chinese companies, The company information is provided by SinoRating - a division of Sinasure - with additional data from WorldVest Base.

Region	Numbers
North East	21,994
North	32,735
East	153,977
South	42,221
North West	9,794
South West	16,324
Middle	29,464
	306,509

China is divided into 7 geographical regions. The breakdown by region at the time of going to press is presented in the Table. The total number of companies listed was 306,509. The regions are in turn divided into 31 Cities or districts centred on large cities. These cities are listed in a later diagram. City names, such as Beijing and Shanghai, are very familiar.

The vast majority of China's companies are in manufacturing (263,005) representing 86%. Of these nearly half (122,066 - 46%) had a turnover of between £1bn and \$5bn.

Below is a screenshot of the opening QIN search screen. The format is the exceedingly well designed new BvD format with very clean lines, highly intuitive layout and minimal clutter. My main use of BvD services is one of their more established databases - ORBIS - that has yet to be upgraded. When it is I will lead the cheering from the Mezzanine Floor of the London Online Meeting.



I first came across the new design with BvD Ruslana database and I make no apologies for repeating what I said then

"I cannot wait for Bureau van Dijk (BvD) to roll this new design out over ALL of their information services. The designs are attractive and highly ergonomic. Without reading a word the various screens beg to be used and there is no confusion about the various directions that a company researcher might wish to go to build up a clear and comprehensive picture of a commercial enterprise. Make it soon BvD!"



An innovation that BvD have added since my Ruslana evaluation (in April 2006 - get a move on BvD!) is the availability of some packaged PREDEFINED ANALYSES of all companies in the database. I clicked on the Industry / Location option.

The result was a one-page packaged "miracle" that did more to explain the makeup of China's economic phenomenon than sixty pages of text could ever do.

These pre-packaged reports are not static analyses. The Industry / Location report defaults to all industries and all locations but both parameters can be changed. The full report indicates that the four cities - Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Guangdong and Shandong - together contain nearly half of China's major companies.

Clicking on the Mining option alone changes the picture completely. Now the cities that lead are Shanxi, Henan, Liaoning and Hebei. For the Financial Industry, not surprisingly, Beijing and Shanghai lead the way with one third each of enterprises.

Before I started this evaluation China to me was the "closed book" that it was for 100s of years up until the middle of the 19th century. Features such as these Predefined Analyses that rely heavily on charts provide instant insights into a country's industries. This to me is the magic of "Search" - minimum input, minimum time, maximum insight.

As the main purpose of all information systems and services is to save valuable people time - to increase personal productivity - BvD have hit the "bull's-eye" once again. No wonder they have the smallest staff turnover in the information industry and the highest staff loyalty.

What about my bike?

Company databases have two main purposes: to research an individual company or; to construct a list of companies according to specific criteria. There are four main criteria - geographic location, sector, size and performance. The first three of these are shared with news databases.

In my search for bicycle manufacturers I have a number of sector options to choose from within QIN. They are

- Trade description
- China SIC (4 digit Standard Industrial Classification Codes)
- NAICS (2002 - North American Industry Classification System)
- Nace Rev .1.1 and
- US SIC

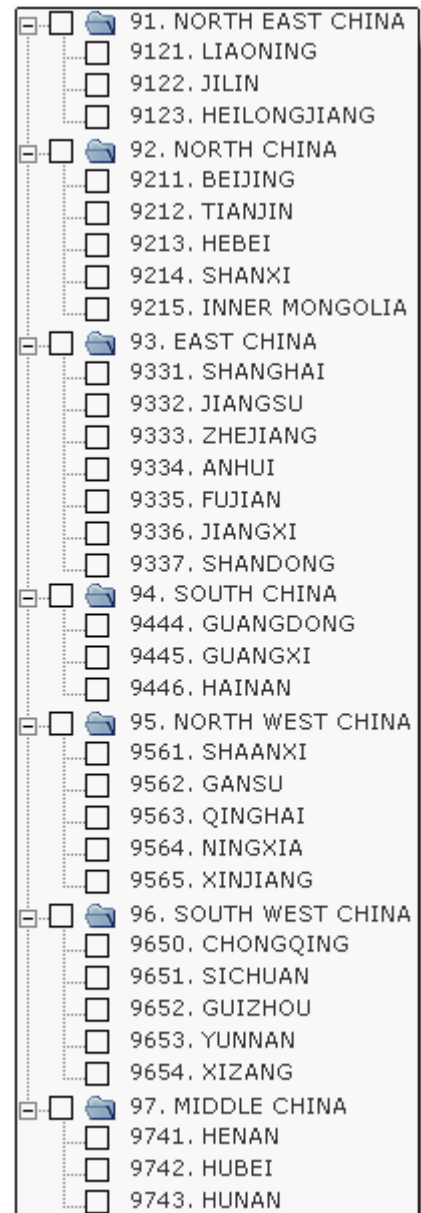
I always find that a "quick and dirty" text search of the Trade Description is a good starting point. The language of standards is very precise and it is very easy to miss a potential contact / prospect. My search using the word bicycle pulled up a list of 1,012 companies - there are an awful lot of bicycles in China!

Choosing an obvious candidate - the Shenzhen Baoan Bike Co Ltd (the clue is in the title!) - I displayed the company in default format. From this I very quickly discovered that their 1,100 employees in Guangdong have generated \$85million in sales of bikes and that the China SIC Code for Bicycles is 374.

Using the more precise code I discovered that there are separate codes for electric bikes (3742) and ordinary bikes and wheelchairs (3741). I have always fancied an electric bike. It is going up hills that puts me off cycling - going down them is a breeze. 3742 got me 234 manufacturers of battery-powered bicycles. 3741 got me 679 conventional bicycle / wheelchair manufacturers. Both codes got me 929 Chinese companies whose main activity is the manufacture of bicycles (and wheelchairs). Stunning and all done in a few keystrokes!


Conclusion

I would like to make it clear that I have no obligation - financial or otherwise - to Bureau van Dijk. They are just simply one of, if not the best, online information companies in the world. In their class they are



untouchable - a virtual monopoly for worldwide company financial data. They must listen to their customers because they not only give them what they need today but they anticipate their needs for tomorrow. They win hands down on both content and design - the twin attributes that make or break any online information service.

Company accounts are the building blocks of any economy. Yes a Balance Sheet is a picture of the subject company only on a single day, yes there are many accounting assumptions that go into Annual Reports and yes they are always about the past ... BUT they are universally recognised as publicly available "pictures" of an enterprise's health and progress. BvD with all its databases (including QIN) analyses, normalises and organises raw data in order that company researchers can compare like with like without the huge investment in time otherwise needed.

One last plea, can I have ORBIS in the new format soon!! 

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Major Companies of Central & Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States 2009

The number of named contacts in the directory has been increased by more than 10,000 to 38,000 since the last edition. The number of named contacts in the directory has been increased by more than 10,000 to 38,000 since the last edition.



Major Companies of Europe 2009 - 7 Volume Set (available as separate volumes)

Provides current and comprehensive information on more than 24,000 of Europe's largest companies, including the names of 194,000 senior executives.



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Provides information on more than 7,800 of the largest companies in Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Algeria, Bahrain, Dubai, Egypt, Fujairah, Gaza/West Bank, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Ras Al Kaimah, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Um Al Quwain and Yemen.



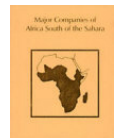
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News Desk

Karen Blakeman

Simmons & Company - energy statistics and data

<http://www.simmonsco-intl.com/default.asp>

Simmons & Company International is the only independent investment bank specializing in the energy industry. Founded in 1974, the firm has acted as financial advisor in over \$134 billion of transactions, including 535 merger and acquisitions worth over \$93 billion. As well as copies of presentations made by senior partner Matthew R Simmons there is a collection of industry statistics gathered from a variety of sources. These are split into upstream and downstream and include rig counts, summaries of oil and gas prices, US crude oil inventories, refining capacity and days of supply. There is some International data but much of it is North American biased.

	Q1 06A	Q2 06A	Q3 06A	Q4 06A	Average
International Land					
Europe	27	34	25	28	26
Middle East	185	201	221	228	209
Africa	37	37	45	49	42
Latin America	253	265	265	258	260
Asia Pacific	125	115	116	120	119
Total	627	642	672	683	656
International Offshore					

Under the main Energy Industry link are lists of major public listed upstream and downstream companies (coverage is world-wide), and links to industry news sources, associations, statistics and government sites (many are North American).

Despite the geographical bias, this is a good starting point for information on the oil and gas industry as it lists most of the key resources. Matthew Simmons's presentations and papers are often quoted in the main stream media and are worth monitoring. There is an email alert for new presentations but no RSS. If you are desperate for RSS rather than email there is always the Page2RSS service that monitors pages for changes and alerts you via RSS.

Masterseek Business Directory

<http://www.masterseek.com/>

Rearrange the following words into a well known phrase or saying: pole - a - barge - don't - with - touch.

I picked up the news of Masterseek's imminent launch from AltSearchEngines. Worth investigating further, I

thought, especially as I am always on the lookout for quality business directories.

From their press release:

"A new enormous business search engine battles Yahoo! and Google for B2B searches. Masterseek's global search engine provides quick and free access to, among other things, company profiles, contact information, and descriptions of products and services from more than 45 million companies in 75 countries. Behind Masterseek lies nearly 9 years of diligence from Danish and international programmers.

The unique feature of Masterseek is the specially developed crawlers that can sort out irrelevant private websites automatically and simultaneously gather and index relevant company websites quickly and diversely. This includes company profiles, news, as well as contact and product information. The company information is at the same time in the process indexed in more than 50,000 business categories in 21 languages."

This sounded promising so time to put it to the test and indulge in a bit of ego-surfing. My first search on RBA Information Services as a company came up with my own RBA, but gave its location as the US despite the co.uk domain name and contact details clearly stated as being in the UK. A quick email to Masterseek and it was corrected. But then it all went seriously pear shaped.

23rd September 2008, 16.48 UK time: search on RBA Information Services and 'All' category selected.

Results: At the top of the list is a sponsored result for RBA Enterprises based in the US. Nothing to do with me but I am not too bothered as there are thousands of RBAs around the world. However the web site URL was mine and the profile was mine! Numbers 4, 5 and 6 in the results list were for Sources UK (electric cable manufacturers), RBA Enterprises Inc and RBA Internet Services Inc. All three had my web site URL and a profile extracted from my web site.

Company Profile MAESTRO: RBA Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ... 176 177 Next

RBA Enterprises
5759 Rhodes Road
44240 Kent OH
United States
*Phone: 3306052958
*www.rba.co.uk

Profile
RBA Information Services and Karen Blakeman offer training, publications and consultancy in the areas of online business information and the Internet. RBA Information Services
RBA Information Services RBA Information Services offers training, consultancy and publications on how to find and use electronic resources more effectively. Copies of Karen Blakeman's RSS, Blogs and Wikis Powerpoint presentation, and additional support materials, are now available on the News - News and views on search tools and Internet resources for business information. Also information on updates to the RBA Information Services web site. Evaluated listings of key business resources including company information, share price information, directories, news, M&A and industry sectors. Business Information Key Starting Points & Search Tools - implementing Internet and electronic information services, advice and help on setting up access to online services. A selection of my Powerpoint presentations are available for download. Search this web site 5th edition now available. Available in and electronically with updated chapters, fact sheets and comparison chart. Free, monthly electronic newsletter covering reviews and comparisons of information sources, search tools, updates on business information resources, and dealing with technical and Internet access problems. How to use the Internet to communicate and find information more effectively. ... Goo...

Keywords
RBA, RBA Information Services, Karen Blakeman, karen blakeman, rba, training, publications, Internet, business information, consultancy, creating web pages, managing web sites, web page design, UK RBA Information Services

Upgrade Account Now
You can upgrade company contact information, personnel, product lines, e-mail and addresses of RBA Enterprises
[Update Profile](#)

23rd September 2008, 17.08 UK time: search on RBA Information Services and 'Company' category selected.

Results: Only two. The first is a 'sponsored result' which is me, the correct URL and correct location. The second is

identical to the first but the location is given as the United States.

23rd September 2008, 17.15 UK time: search on Karen Blakeman and 'All' category selected.

Results: The sponsored result at the top of the list was correct. The next four were totally unrelated companies but with my profile and there were another four dotted throughout the remainder of the twenty sites listed on the first page.

23rd September 2008, 17.31 UK time: search on Karen Blakeman and 'Company' category selected.

Results: Hurrah! I am the only entry.

I did a few quick searches on other companies and people and the quality of the results was equally dire.

There are additional search and browse options, but I saw no point in investigating them if the underlying data was so horribly wrong. Either the Masterseek "specially developed crawlers" were having a bad day or more serious work needs to be done on processing the information that they gather.

The press release goes on to say:

"Masterseek.com B2B searches will also be a competitor for well-established directories, such as Kompass, Thomson and the Yellow Pages, besides the obvious Yahoo! and Google."

Given the current appalling quality of Masterseek's data Kompass, Thomson and Yellow Pages can rest easy, as can Yahoo and Google.

Masterseek's official global launch is due to take place in November by which time they claim that they will have more than 50 million pieces of company information and more than 1/4 billion indexed websites. Unless they apply more 'diligence' to the quality of the information in their database, my recommendation is to avoid this directory like the plague.

Top Business Research Tips

Yes, I'm sorry, this is another Top 10 list from one of my workshops - a full day in-house session on Business Research. This time around Marketingfile.com made a return to the list at number 4 after a long absence, three of Alacra sites are at number 2 (nominated by participants as "All the Alacra sites"), and Twitter is at long last being considered as a serious business tool (Yay!!). It is worth noting that this group were interested in Second Life; some of their contacts and clients are involved with Second Life so it would have been useful to have a look at how it works. As usual, though, we could not connect to SL. It appeared that the ports used by SL were blocked by the by the organisation's network.

Here is the full list:

1. **Internet Archive or Wayback** machine at <http://www.archive.org/>. For pages, sites and documents that have disappeared. Ideal for tracking down lost documents and seeing how organisations presented themselves on the Web in the past.

2. **"All the Alacra sites"**. Not strictly accurate in that it was just three of their business web sites that attracted attention:

Alacrawiki at <http://www.alacrawiki.com/>. The Alacra Spotlights section is a good starting point for evaluated sites and information on industry sectors. Note that although it is a wiki only Alacra can edit these pages.

Alacrasearch at <http://www.alacra.com/alacrasearch/>. A Google custom search engine that focuses on business sites selected by Alacra.

AlacraStore at <http://www.alacrastore.com/>. "Search over 70 million reports on more than 550,000 public companies and private companies from over 55 premium business information publishers." Search for free and pay as you go on your credit/debit card. A full list of their content providers is at <http://www.alacrastore.com/search-by/publisher>.

3. **Advanced Search**. The advanced search screens of the likes of Google and Yahoo have many options for increasing the precision of your your search: file format (e.g. xls for data and statistics, ppt for expert presentations, pdf for industry or government reports); site and domain search to limit your search to just one web site or a type of organisation (e.g. UK government, US academic); and in Google there is a numeric range search.

4. **Marketingfile.com** at <http://www.marketingfile.com/>. A collection of lists with a bias towards UK and Ireland but there are some International, European and North American lists. The lists are divided into Business and Consumer and further categorised into sectors or type, for example Drinks Trade, Aviation & Defence, Smaller Companies. Each list can be searched by a number of criteria depending on its structure and coverage. Searching is free and data is charged for on a pay per record basis.

5. **Freepint** at <http://www.freepint.co.uk/> Head for the discussion area, labelled as the Bar, where you can post your query and tap into the knowledge of regular 'tipplers'

6. **Trade Association Forum** - <http://www.taforum.org/>. A useful, searchable directory of UK trade associations.

7. **Sector Skills Councils**. This was not one that I mentioned in the workshop but is a resource that the organisation that I was visiting often uses. According to Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sector_Skills_Councils), and please don't complain that I am citing it:

“Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) are state-sponsored, employer-led organisations that cover specific economic sectors in the United Kingdom. They have four key goals:

- * to reduce skills gaps and shortages
- * to improve productivity
- * to boost the skills of their sector workforces
- * to improve learning supply”

Further information on the Councils can be found at Alliance of Sector Skills Councils, <http://www.sscalliance.org/home/home.asp>.

The workshop participants commented that “some of the councils are better than others”.

8. **Google, Yahoo, Live, Exalead, Ask.** Let’s admit it - much of the time we head for Google as our first port of call, but it is worth running your search in the other contenders. Results are sorted in a different order and they do have different coverage and search features.

9. **Twitter** - <http://www.twitter.com/>. “Looks interesting”. “Need to try it out as a source of information”. “Could be useful as a promotion/communications tool”.

10. **RBA Business Sources.** <http://www.rba.co.uk/sources/>. Selected sources of business information organised by type e.g. statistics, share prices, company registers. Yes, my own site, the basis of the workshop notes, and as one person commented “It is the quickest way to get to all the sites you told us about”!

Intellectual Property Laws enacted in the Bailiwick. As well as providing e-filing services for companies, there is a searchable database. You can search by registered number or company name (current and previous). Company number, name, type, status, registered address, activity, and date registered are available free of charge. Company profiles, certificates of good standing and of incorporation are priced as are the annual reports. There is a link to the Companies (Guernsey) Law 2008, which can be downloaded free of charge. Be warned - it is 569 pages long!

Newsdesk is based on Karen Blakeman’s Blog (see <http://www.rba.co.uk/wordpress/>).

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Guernsey Registry

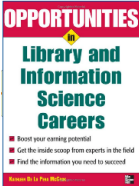
<http://www.guernseyregistry.com/ccm/portal/>

Register	Company Reg Num	Company Name	Current Name	Company Type	Company Status
Guernsey Registered Company	25674	Novocina Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Compulsorily Wound Up
Guernsey Registered Company	41218	Novoco Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Normal
Guernsey Registered Company	27114	Novoport (Guernsey) Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Compulsorily Wound Up
Guernsey Registered Company	31251	Novos Navigadores Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Wound Up
Guernsey Registered Company	47790	NOVOSB FINCO LIMITED	N	Non Cellular Company	Normal
Guernsey Registered Company	47790	NOVOSB LIMITED	Y	Non Cellular Company	Normal
Guernsey Registered Company	2850	Novotec (Guernsey) Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Compulsorily Wound Up
Guernsey Registered Company	40285	Novotech Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Compulsorily Wound Up
Guernsey Registered Company	18420	Novotel (Guernsey) Ltd.	Y	Non Cellular Company	Wound Up

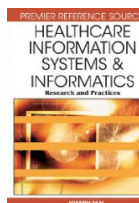
The new Guernsey Registry was launched on 1 July 2008 following a review of the Companies (Guernsey) Law and the existing company processes. The Registry also includes the Bailiwick of Guernsey Intellectual Property Office which administers all Trade Mark and Design registrations and activities, and provides information on the

Books


A selection of recent business information related titles are listed here to alert readers to them. Links (*click title or cover image in pdf file*) are provided for further information and ordering.

 **Opportunities in Library and Information Science** (Paperback)
by Kathleen de la Pena McCook (Author)
Paperback: 160 pages
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Contemporary; 3 edition (1 Oct 2008)
ISBN-10: 007154531X
ISBN-13: 978-0071545310

Get informed and enjoy a successful, gratifying career . . . Get started in a position that has a future and is financially rewarding. "Opportunities in Library and Information Science Careers" provides you with a complete overview of the job possibilities, salary figures, and experience required to enter the fields of library and information science. . . This career-boosting book will help you: . . . Determine the specialty that's right for you, from library science to computing to research. Acquire in-depth knowledge of library and information science. Find out what kind of salary you can expect. Understand the daily routine of your chosen field. Focus your job search using industry resources. . . ENJOY A GREAT CAREER AS AN: . . . archivist * bookmobile driver * information broker * librarian* teacher. . .


 **Healthcare Information Systems and Informatics: Research and Practices**
by Joseph K.H. Tan (Author)
Hardcover: 448 pages
Publisher: Medical Information Science Reference; 1 edition (15 Jul 2008)
ISBN-10: 1599046903
ISBN-13: 978-1599046907

Healthcare Information Systems and Informatics: Research and Practices compiles estimable knowledge on the research of information systems and informatics applications in the healthcare industry. This book addresses organizational issues, including technology adoption, diffusion, and acceptance, as well as cost benefits and cost effectiveness, of advancing health information systems and informatics applications as innovative forms of investment in healthcare. Rapidly changing technology and the complexity of its applications make this book an invaluable resource to researchers and practitioners in the healthcare fields.

 **Business Driven Information Systems with Premium Content Card** (Hardcover)
by Paige Baltzan (Author), Amy Phillips (Author)
Hardcover: 519 pages
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Higher Education; 2 edition (13 Oct 2008)

ISBN-10: 0077300343
ISBN-13: 978-0077300340

The Baltzan and Phillips approach in Business Driven Information Systems discusses various business initiatives first and how technology supports those initiatives second. The premise for this unique approach is that business initiatives drive technology choices in a corporation. Therefore, every discussion addresses the business needs first and addresses the technology that supports those needs second. This approach takes the difficult and often intangible MIS concepts, brings them down to the students level, and applies them using a hands-on approach to reinforce the concepts. BDIS provides the foundation that will enable students to achieve excellence in business, whether they major in operations management, manufacturing, sales, marketing, etc. BDIS is designed to give students the ability to understand how information technology can be a point of strength in an organization.

 **Semantic Digital Libraries** (Hardcover)
by Sebastian Ryszard Kruk (Editor), Bill McDaniel (Editor)
Hardcover: 246 pages
Publisher: Springer-Verlag Berlin and Heidelberg GmbH & Co. K (15 Oct 2008)
ISBN-10: 3540854339
ISBN-13: 978-3540854333

Libraries have always been an inspiration for the standards and technologies developed by semantic web activities. However, except for the Dublin Core specification, semantic web and social networking technologies have not been widely adopted and further developed by major digital library initiatives and projects. Yet semantic technologies offer a new level of flexibility, interoperability, and relationships for digital repositories.

Kruk and McDaniel present semantic web-related aspects of current digital library activities, and introduce their functionality; they show examples ranging from general architectural descriptions to detailed usages of specific ontologies, and thus stimulate the awareness of researchers, engineers, and potential users of those technologies. Their presentation is completed by chapters on existing prototype systems such as JeromeDL, BRICKS, and Greenstone, as well as a look into the possible future of semantic digital libraries. This book is aimed at researchers and graduate students in areas like digital libraries, the semantic web, social networks, and information retrieval.