

Internet as a reporting tool

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Online Journalism

Internet as a reporting tool

- Types of information:
 - Documents
 - Details
 - Multimedia
- Search types:
 - Known item
 - Existence
 - Exploratory
 - Comprehensive

Internet as a reporting tool

- Search engine structure:
 - Robot/crawler/spider
 - Database
 - Extraction software
 - Interface
- Resources: <http://searchenginewatch.com/>,
<http://www.allsearchengines.com/>
- Examples:
 - Google.com
 - Alltheweb.com
 - Metacrawler.com (meta search)
 - Dogpile.com (meta search)

Internet as a reporting tool

- Interesting search engines:
 - Teoma.com (results, suggestion for narrowing, link collections) – an organic approach
 - Kartoo.fr (nonlinear interface)
 - News search engines: google, yahoo, alltheweb, netnews.co.uk
 - RSS News & Blog search engines: Blogdex <http://blogdex.media.mit.edu/>
 - Industry search engines

Internet as a reporting tool

- Advanced search:
 - **First select a type of search**
 - Create a boolean query using the operators **AND**, **OR** and **NOT** (or +,-)
 - Language filtering
 - Word Filters
 - Domain Filters (com, gov, dell.com, etc.)
 - Include results from
 - Exclude results from
 - Find results from a specific geographic region
 - File format
 - Only find results updated after/before

Internet as a reporting tool

- Portals/Vortals
 - Yahoo, AOL, MSN
 - About.com, florportal.com
- Web directories
 - **Search vs. Browse**
 - Yahoo
 - Dmoz

Internet as a reporting tool

- Databases: email, phone numbers, statistics, maps and directions, encyclopedia
- Government websites (public information)
- Europe.eu

Internet as a reporting tool

- Media Sites
 - News Integrators: yahoo, google
 - News Agencies: Reuters.com, afp.com, AP “The Wire”
 - Newspapers online: nytimes.com, washingtonpost.com, lemonde.fr, guardian.co.uk, elpais.es
 - Radio/TV stations: bbc.co.uk, cnn.com, msnbc.com
- Industry/PR Resources
 - Businesswire.com
 - Prwire.com

Internet as a reporting tool

- Professional resources
 - Poynter online: <http://www.poynter.org/>
 - Online Journalism Review:
<http://www.ojr.org>
 - Cyberjournalist.net
<http://www.cyberjournalist.net/>
 - Columbia Journalism Review www.cjr.org
 - I Want Media
<http://iwantmedia.com/resources/index.html>

Internet as a reporting tool

- Evaluating online information
 - Accuracy (who wrote, the purpose, is qualified?)
 - Authority (who published, domain/institution)
 - Objectivity (goal, how detailed, opinions)
 - Currency (when it was produced, updated, link up-to-date)
 - Coverage (are links evaluated, multimedia, citation, software)

Internet as a reporting tool

- Techniques, advantages and problems of:
 - Email interviews
 - Chat rooms discussions
 - Forum/ mailing lists post
 - Weblogs
 - RSS feeds