



Tech Info Library

AppleSearch 1.0.1: Product Description (7/94)

Revised: 7/22/94
Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This article describes AppleSearch, the full-text search and retrieval software.

DISCUSSION -----

AppleSearch offers a powerful yet easy way for Macintosh users to access information on a server by providing text search and retrieval. Client users can quickly find information on topics they specify or they can let AppleSearch act as a personal agent that periodically provides updated information.

AppleSearch provides electronic "Reporters" and newspaper-like updates as intuitive ways to obtain personalized information. A Reporter is a user-defined electronic search agent that looks for and retrieves the information requested. If a Reporter is set to make scheduled searches, it looks for new or recently modified documents relevant to the search request and automatically delivers the results—from the server to the user's computer—in an easy-to-read update.

Both beginners and expert users will benefit from a wide range of query features. Because AppleSearch processes natural language search queries, users can simply ask for information in their own words. They can also search for a particular phrase or for terms that occur frequently with a search query term. For users familiar with the Boolean query language, AppleSearch supports the full range of Boolean operators.

AppleSearch gives users transparent access to documents in various formats, including word-processing, page-layout, spreadsheets, and electronic-mail. XTND file format translators extract plain text from these document types so that AppleSearch clients can view the text regardless of the document's original format.

AppleSearch information sources are shared folders of documents (such as

correspondence, reports, or on-line newsfeeds) that reside on the server or a locally mounted volume.

The AppleSearch search engine automatically creates an index for each information source, which is used to find the best matches to user search requests. Using a one- to five-star rating system, results are automatically ranked in the order of their relevance to the request.

Benefits

Easy to use

- Allows search queries to be entered in the user's own words

Personalized information updates

- Formatted updates delivered to user's desktop on a daily or weekly basis

Easy-to-read, prioritized information

- Provides quick access to the most relevant document titles

Transparent access to source documents

- Displays text independently of the original application

Powerful full-featured search engine

- Processes natural language or Boolean queries

Easy to administer

- Provides automated indexing of information sources

Customizable

- Can be adapted to meet an organization's specific needs

Article Change History:

22 Jul 1994 - Change title to reflect product version number.

28 Apr 1994 - Updated information to AppleSearch 1.0.1.

Support Information Services

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