AppleSearch 1.0.1: Product Description (7/94)

Article Created: 22 March 1993
Article Reviewed/Updated: 22 July 1994

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.

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Keywords: specsht

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 11814