Indexing & Taxonomies: The LexisNexis® Perspective

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Taxonomies & Indexing

Global Electronic Product Development



- History of Indexing at LexisNexis
- Coverage & Statistics
- Taxonomy Development
- Index Term Development
- What's New? What's Next?



LexisNexis Indexing History

Early 90s = Computational linguists & engineers develop technology = Company indexing released

Mid 90s = Geographic & topical indexing released = Branded as LexisNexis SmartIndexing Technology[™]

Late 90s = Indexing surfaced in nexis.com interface

Early 00s = Indexing extended to German & French

2005 = Taxonomy Solutions for customer data launched

2006 = New Nexis service released with many features driven off LexisNexis SmartIndexing Technology Content LexisNexis

Coverage & Statistics

- News and business controlled vocabularies
 - Companies (330,000⁺)
 - Industries and Subjects (3,500⁺)
 - Geographic Locations (900⁺)
 - US/UK English, German and French
- Legal controlled vocabularies
 - US taxonomy (16,000⁺)
 - UK taxonomy (400⁺)
- Specialized and custom vocabularies
 - Built as needed for internal products and on customer request



Taxonomy Development

- Team in US and Europe designs and builds taxonomies
 - Research topical areas and existing standards
 - Consult customers and subject specialists
 - Debate language equivalencies
- Taxonomy specifications
 - 28 industry categories
 - Mapped to major industry coding schemes
 - 17 subject categories
 - Down to six levels deep
 - Polyhierarchical



Industry Taxonomy

Agric, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting

Automotive

Banking & Finance

Chemicals

Computing & Information Technology

Construction

Consumer Products

Defense & Aerospace

Electronics

Energy & Utilities

Entertainment & Arts

Fashion & Apparel

Food & Beverage

Health Care

Insurance

Manufacturing

Marketing & Advertising

Media & Telecommunications

Mining & Extraction

Paper & Packaging

Personal & Business Support Services

Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology

Professional Services

Real Estate

Retail & Wholesale Trade

Transportation & Warehousing

Travel, Hospitality & Tourism

Waste Mgmt & Remediation



Subject Taxonomy

Company Activities & Management

Crimes, Law Enforcement & Corrections

Economy & Economic Indicators

Education & Training

Environ, Natural Resources & Land Use

Government & Public Administration

International Relations & Natl Security

Labor & Employment

Law & Legal System

Medicine & Health

Population & Demographics

Safety, Accidents & Disasters

Science & Technology

Society, Social Assistance & Lifestyle

Sports & Recreation

Trade & Development

Trends, Events & Content Types



Index Term Development

- Human expertise + automated processing
- Information professionals build rule sets
 - Identify vocabulary (strong vs. ambiguous)
 - Weigh document segments
 - Look for multiple occurrences of words/phrases
 - Require co-occurrence
- Perform a battery of iterative tests
- Regular reindexing keeps archive up to date



Example Topic

- Topic identified
 - EXECUTIVE MOVES
- Write scope note
 - Targets hiring, promotion and appointment to executivelevel positions
- Conduct research to identify significant and frequently co-occurring vocabulary
 - LexisNexis
 - Web
 - Other resources



Identified Vocabulary

Synonyms

Strong Associations

Related Associations

Ambiguous Associations announces new CEO, CFO appointed vice president, VP

new chairman, CEO to be its chief executive will head the company

as senior VP promoted to the position to the top post

hired, resigned, retired CEO, COO, CFO, exec

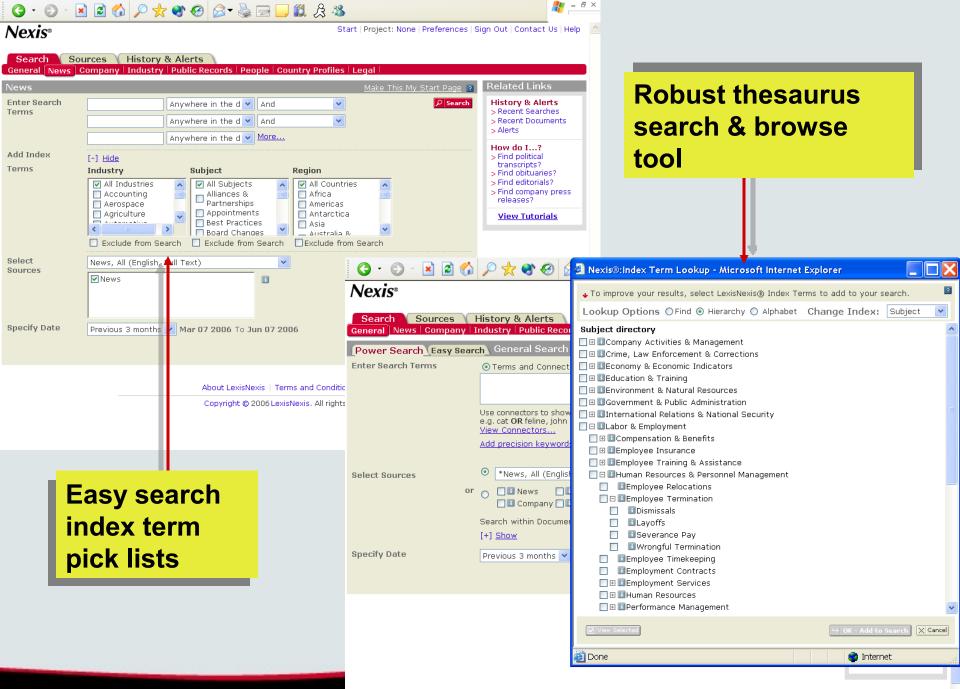


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What's New?

- Taxonomy Solutions
 - Licensing LexisNexis SmartIndexing Technology to customers for internal use
- Indexing critical to new interface features
 - Easy search pick lists
 - Power search thesaurus tool
 - Answer set navigation
 - "More like this" indexing





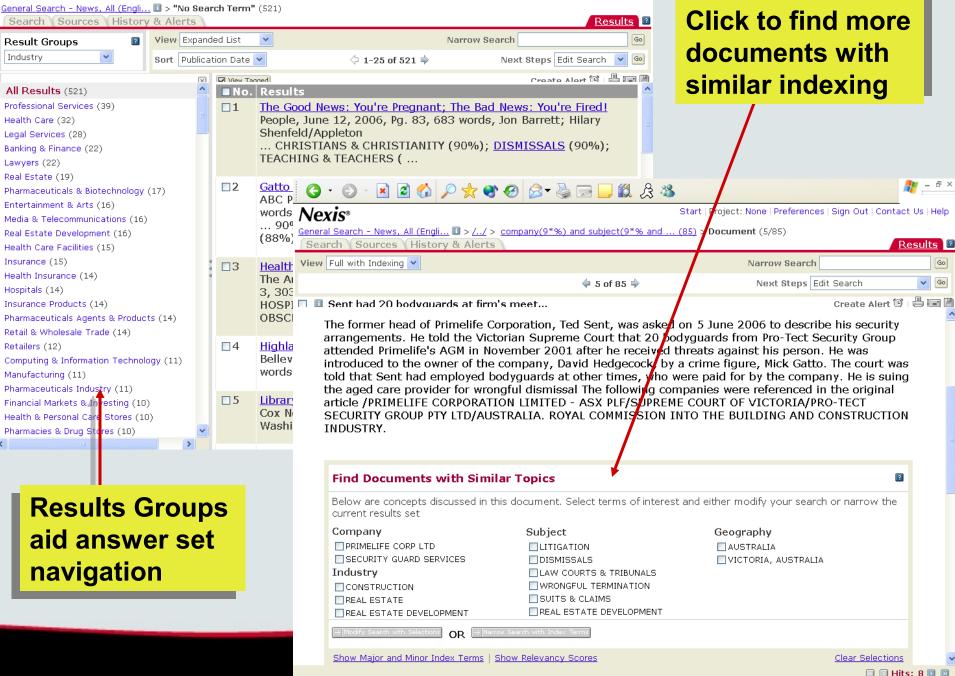
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What's Next?

- Focus on customization
 - Tools for customers to create their own index term rules
- Focus on linking and metadata
 - More complex relationships between terms, content and taxonomies



Thank you!

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