

# Some Places to Check Out!

## General

- Google.com
- bing.com
- Blogsearchengine.com
- Inc.com
- Guidestar.com
- Nozasearch.com - (previously Grantsmart.com)
- Jigsaw.com
- Alltheweb.com
- Search.org
- Crimeanalysts.com
- Zoominfo.com
- State public data bases
- Archive.org - (check what a website looked like back to 1996)
- Technorati.com - (blog search engine)
- Secinfo.com - (info on publicly held companies)
- Crunchbase.com
- Wikipedia.org
- Craigslist - (auction and personals)
- Ebay.com - (auction site, great for locating items or to id someone selling)
- Zabasearch.com - (residential listings and more)
- Pipl.com - (this is great even if you think you have checked everything)

## Business Search Engines

- Numberway.com (international white and yellow pages)
- Search.bbb.org (Better Business Bureau)
- Allbusiness.com
- Trendwatching.com (consumer trends firm)
- Jayde.com (B2B search engine)
- PCworld.directorym.com
- Where2go.com (business directories worldwide)
- Kompass.com (B2B search engine)

## **Search Engines US**

- Google.com
- Yahoo.com
- Lygo.com
- MSN.com
- Bing.com
- Dogpile.com
- About.com
- Kartoo.com (retrieves with text and pic of webpage/thumbnails)
- Altavista.com
- Alltheweb.com
- Mamm.com (meta search engine)
- A9.com (searches from e-commerce sites)
- Quinturq.com (provides additional words to use and refine search for relevant information)
- Clipblast.com (worlds largest video search)
- like.com (search and shop visually)

## **International Search Engines**

- **Sympatico.com** (CANADA)
- **Yahoo.com** (ADVANCED-102 COUNTRIES)
- **Sensis.com.au** (AUSTRALIA DON'T FORGET THE .AU)
- **Ansearch.com** (AUSTRALIA)
- **ch.altavista.com** (SWITZERLAND plus other countries)
- **Suche.freenet.de** (GERMANY)
- **arianna.libero.it** (ITALY)

## **More International stuff**

- [http://www.stopfakes.gov/events/china\\_webinar\\_series.asp](http://www.stopfakes.gov/events/china_webinar_series.asp) series of free webinars on China business
- Made-in-China.com- (connect with manufactures)
- Corporateinformation.com – (Company analysis' paid service)
- Thepaperboy.com - (international and national papers)
- Kidon.com- (links to global newspapers)
- Asianproducts.com – (find manufactures and businesses)
- Fita.org – (import/export trade leads)

## **Personal Social Networking Communities**

- Facebook.com
- MySpace.com
- Hi5.com (India, Brazil )
- Friendster.com
- Flickr.com (find that photo)
- Imeem.com (share your favorite music with others)
- Friendwise.com
- Downelink.com
- YouTube.com
- Xanga.com
- mocospace.com (similar to myspace)
- Bebo.com

## **Business Social Networking Communties**

- LinkedIn.com
- Spoke.com
- Zoominfo.com
- Plaxo.com
- Ryze.com
- MySpace.com
- Fastpitchnetworking.com
- Twitter.com ((follow business/individuals)
- FohBoh.com
- Xing.com
- Jigsaw.com
- TopLinked.com

## **Blog sites**

- Livejournal 15.8 million users
- Blogger 1.5 million users
- Skyblogs 1.6 million (France) users
- MSN 170K updated daily users
- Technorati 112.8 million blogs users
- Deadjournal 27K active users
- Greatestjournal 107K active users

\*I found these stats back in June 2009. It will give you an idea how popular they are. I would have to say my favorite is Technorati

## **Some random sites**

- cluuz.com (search engine with visual display)
- expatfinder.com (foreign country skip tracing)
- geobytes.com/FreeServices.htm (geolocation and IP tracing)
- theinmatelocator.com/Home\_Page.html (National inmate locator)
- www.lococitato.com (MySpace and Web 2.0 search tools)
- melissadata.com/lookups/index.htm (USPS address verification and other tools, but not everything is for free)

## **Don't forget**

- Change your Google search preferences for number of Results for the page from the standard "10" to "100"
- When searching use the Math commands +(add), - (exclude), \* (wildcard-fill in the blank)
- Use terms like AND, OR, NOT, NEAR/2
- Use other names/spellings like Robert, Rob, Bob, Bobby
- Add to your search string things like, profession, sports, spouses name, kids name, - "Cynthia Navarro" +soccer or "Cynthia Navarro" investigator
- Look for images while you're at it
- Google is great for searching those "private" social networking sites. You may come up with a previous "public" posting or something listed under their friends profile
- Don't forget to capture your findings

## **Tools for Capturing**

- Acrobat – don't forget this is not perfect, watch your margins (may need to use landscape), it does not pick up multi layers, it is not only great for page captures, but capturing an entire website, [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)
- Snagit 8 – great for capturing a region, window, full screen, webpage and webpage keeping links plus more - [www.techsmith.com](http://www.techsmith.com)
- Camtasia Studio – great for capturing video- [www.techsmith.com](http://www.techsmith.com)

- WebCase – new product that shows to be very exciting for the online investigator (corp edition and law enforcement edition). Check out their website for additional information - [www.veresoftware.com](http://www.veresoftware.com)

### **Check out these Books**

- **Business Background Investigations** by Cynthia Hetherington
- **Online Competitive Intelligence** by Helen P Burwell
- **The Manual to Online Public Records** by Sankey & Hetherington
- [www.Plstore.com](http://www.Plstore.com) check out by category for you interest

### **Subscription Databases**

IQdata.com

Tracers.com

Factivia.com (articles, great service)

irbsearch.com (my favorite)

knowx.com (subscription database owned by ChoicePoint)

lexisnexis.com(subscription database public records and legal research)

locateplus.com

masterfiles.com

merlindata.com

PACER.PSC.USCOURTS.GOV/(subscription database – Federal court records)

\*things to remember, always use more than one database to verify and check to see how current the information is you are getting