



NEEDLEBOT INCORPORATED

Examples to Demonstrate Needlebot's Advanced Search Capabilities using the Reuters Databases with News Articles from 1987 and 1996



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Examples using the Reuters 1987 database	5
2.1. Example 1a: Keyword search for documents related to Reagan’s defense program (Star Wars)	6
2.1.1. Example 1b: Improving results via Needlebot’s Similar Pages tool (with keywords)	8
2.1.2. Example 1c: Improving results via Needlebot’s Similar Pages tool (without keywords)	10
2.2. Example 2: Using Needlebot’s Conceptual Search tool to find hits related to the AIDS virus	11
3. Examples using the Reuters 1996 database	13
3.1. Example using Needlebot’s Similar Pages tool	14
3.1.1. Example 3a: Using keyword search to find hits related to Reagan’s defense program	14
3.1.2. Example 3b: Improving results via Needlebot’s Similar Pages tool (with keywords)	17
3.2. Examples using Needlebot’s Conceptual Search tool (paragraph search tool)	20
3.2.1. Example 4a: Conceptual search for hits related to the 1996 IRA bombing in Lisburn	20
3.2.2. Example 4b: Conceptual search for hits related to the legalization of abortion in Guernsey	22
3.3. Examples of disambiguation via Needlebot’s User Profile search tool (personalized search tool)	27
3.3.1. Example 5a: Seeking documents related the Unabomber, Theodore Kaczinski	27
3.3.2. Example 5b: Seeking news articles on actors named Theodore	30
4. Summary	43



Introduction

Needlebot, Inc. is a Princeton, New Jersey-based software-company that has developed a proprietary, patent-pending technology for dramatically improving Enterprise document search capabilities by abstracting the content of a document into a “mathematical fingerprint.” The “mathematical fingerprint” of a document is much more easily understood and manipulated by computers than conventional language-based search approaches, allowing Needlebot to demonstrate superior search results and provide users with a new and attractive menu of search features, several of which were previously unavailable.

Two distinct test databases were used for the examples shown in this document.

- The **Reuters 1987 database** - this contains 21,578 news articles from 1987.
- A subset of the **Reuters 1996 database** - this contains 102,338 randomly selected news articles from the 800,000 available in the Reuters 1996 database.

The examples described in this document are intended to demonstrate the benefits of some of Needlebot’s unique search features, described below, with a particular emphasis on our advanced **Similar Pages** tool which could be easily integrated into any existing Enterprise search engine to provide users with a unique and extremely powerful conceptual search capability.

Needlebot’s advanced **Similar Pages** search tool has two distinct search capabilities:

- *More like this with keywords*
 - This option retrieves documents which contain the chosen keyword and are the most relevant to the selected document based upon their conceptual similarity and displays them in order of this relevance.
- *More like this without keywords*
 - This option retrieves documents which are the most relevant to the selected document based upon their conceptual similarity, whether or not they contain the selected keywords, and displays them in order of this relevance.

Needlebot’s **Similar Pages** tool, based on content analysis, works much more effectively than other similar pages found in other online search engines, retrieving very relevant hits to the users’ needs.

Needlebot’s **User Profiles** search tool also provides a powerful search personalization technology that discerns an individual’s interests and provide superior search results that are highly relevant to each user. Each user’s profile evolves over time as interests in text retrieval change. In addition, multiple past profiles can be stored by the user and employed in future searches.

Finally, Needlebot’s **Concept-based** search tool, (paragraph search tool), allows the user to search for concepts rather than keywords by pasting a paragraph as opposed to keywords into the search window. Results are then ordered based upon the level of overlap of their fingerprints when compared to that of the search paragraph. This unique approach, once fully developed, will avoid many of the limitations associated with current keyword-based search methods.



Commonly, users try several creative keyword combinations to retrieve results most relevant to their needs. This practice is obviously successful, yet can be very time consuming, particularly since some people appear to be more skilled than others in selecting the correct keywords to relay their needs to the search engine.

It is our intention, in the rest of this document, to demonstrate that these three features, implemented using Needlebot's patent-pending technology, provide a quantum leap to help users relay their intentions to the Search Engine and enable it to retrieve relevant hits very efficiently. We are also currently working on the implementation of other enhanced features that would provide a significant improvement in the user's enterprise and online search experience and also allow the delivery of highly targeted advertisements.

In most of the examples shown in this document, we usually focus on the top 5 search results returned for each query, partly because of space constraints but also because recent research* indicates that the majority of search interactions occur within the first five hits. (The top hit alone accounts for over 40% of all search interactions and the top five hits combined account for 74% of all click-throughs).

* Based on 36.4 million search queries with 19.4 million click-throughs using AOL-data.tgx files, (March-May 2006).



Examples using the Reuters 1987 database



Original Results from Needlebot's Keyword Search Tool

Example 1a: User seeks hits related to Reagan's missile defense program (Star Wars)

When ambiguous keywords such as "star" are used, traditional keyword-based search engines typically display a mixture of relevant and irrelevant hits as shown below

Database: **Reuters 1987**

Keywords Searched: **star**

1 - article id: 10313 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: ACQ

ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS HAS 10 PCT OF NORTHERN STAR

SYDNEY, March 27 -<Northern Star Holdings Ltd> said Britain's <Associated Newspapers Holdings Plc> will hold 9.99 pct of its enlarged issued capital after applying to acquire 15.9 mln shares in its recently announced placement. Associated was one of the major investors participating in the previously reported placement of 128.9 mln shares at 3.75 dlrs each, Northern Star said in a statement. The northern New South Wales regional group is emerging as a national media force in the wake of the industry restructuring sparked by the News Corp Ltd <NCPA.S> takeover of the Herald and Weekly Times Ltd <HWTAS.S> group. Associated now holds 3.3 pct of Northern Star's current issued capital, a company official said. As previously reported, Northern Star is raising 623 mln dlrs through placements and a subsequent one-for-four rights issue at 2.95 dlrs a share. Of the placements, 56.9 mln shares will go to a number of investors and 72 mln to investment group <Westfield Capital Corp Ltd>, which arranged Northern Star's purchase of News Corp's television assets, three newspapers and three radio stations for 842 mln dlrs. Westfield will increase its stake in Northern Star to about 45 pct from 20 as a result. REUTER

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

2 - article id: 17606 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

STAR TECHNOLOGIES NAMES NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO

STERLING, Va., June 1 -Star Technologies Inc <STRR.O> said it has appointed Robert Mathis as president and chief executive officer. Mathis, a retired four-star general with the U.S. Air Force, and formerly president of <Toomay, Mathis and Associates Inc>, replaces Herbert Shaw, who is returning to his position at <Shaw Venture Partners>, Star said. Star said Shaw will continue as Star's chairman of the board. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

3 - article id: 17609 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

STAR TECHNOLOGIES <STRR.O> NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

STERLING, Va., June 1 -Star Technologies Inc said it has appointed Robert Mathis as president and chief executive officer, effective June one. Mathis, a retired four-star general with the U.S. Air Force, and formerly president of <Toomay, Mathis and Associates Inc>, replaces Herbert Shaw, who is returning to his position at <Shaw Venture Partners>, Star said. Star said Shaw will continue as Star's chairman of the board. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

4 - article id: 19112 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

TRI-STAR PICTURES <TRSP.O> GRANTED RELIEF

NEW YORK, June 19 -Tri-Star Pictures Inc said it won permanent relief from various provisions of the 1952 Consent Judgment and 1980 Order that apply to the Loews' Theatre Circuit, which Tri-Star acquired last December. It said the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York agreed to permit exhibition of Tri-Star motion pictures in loews theaters and to allow Tri-Star to conduct its business other than with Loews free from restrictions of the court's earlier orders. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

5 - article id: 4187 - high rank: 5

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

CONSOLIDATED FIVE STAR RESOURCES ISSUES STOCK

EDMONTON, Alberta, March 11 -<Consolidated Five Star Resources Ltd> said it agreed to issue 1.25 mln dlrs of common stock and 10.75 mln dlrs of convertible preferred stock in a private placement. The three-year 7-1/2 pct preferred shares are convertible into common shares at 60 cts a share, and exchangeable into 1,650,000 common shares of <Cancapital Corp> owned by Consolidated Five Star. Proceeds will be used to retire bank debt, with the balance added to working capital. Consolidated Five Star previously said it borrowed 10.75 mln dlrs from a bank to acquire <Chaffinch Ltd>. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords



6 - article id: 12590 - high rank: 6

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

LONE STAR <LCE> FORMS JOINT VENTURE

GREENWICH, Conn., April 2 -Lone Star Industries Inc said it formed a joint venture with Monier Ltd of Australia to make and sell concrete railroad ties in North America. The equally owned venture, Lone Star Monier Concrete Tie Co, initially will operate a new Denver, Colo., plant that will make 1.75 mln ties ordered by Burlington Northern Inc <BNI>. In addition, the venture will market ties made at Lone Star's existing Massachusetts facilities. Based in Chatswood, New South Wales, Monier is a manufacturer of building and construction products and concrete ties. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

7 - article id: 14143 - high rank: 7

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

LONE STAR <LCE> SEES FLAT U.S. CEMENT DEMAND

GREENWICH, Conn., April 7 -Lone Star Industries Inc expects demand for cement om the U.S. to remain in the 85-90 mln ton range through 1992, its annual report said. The company said U.S. cement consumption totaled 90.6 mln tons last year, up four pct from 1985. Lone Star also said it expects consolidation and internationalization of the U.S. cement industry to continue, adding foreign companies now own over 50 pct of U.S. capacity. Since 1974, it added, more than 30 cement plants have closed. "In our opinion, the industry's annual cement capacity today is, in reality, less than 80 mln tons" a year, it added. Lone Star said the gap between supply and demand is being filled by imported cement, which accounted for 18 pct of domestic consumption last year, up from four pct ten years ago. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

8 - article id: 14537 - high rank: 8

Reuters Topics: SHIP

BERMUDA STAR <BSL> LEASES VESSEL

TEANECK, N.J., April 7 -Bermuda Star Line Inc said it has leased a 23,500 ton passenger vessel from Orley Shipping Co Inc, of Liberia for a term with options extending for 15 years. The vessel, SS Liberte, will be renamed the Canadian Star and will be used for cruises to Montreal from New York, beginning in June. Orley SHipping is partially owned by Common Brothers PLC, a U.K. maritime firm which owns 60 pct of Bermuda Star's shares and arranged debt financing for the ship's purchase. Orley acquired the vessel from Banstead Shipping Ltd. Terms were not disclosed. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

9 - article id: 2434 - high rank: 9

Reuters Topics: ACQ

LONE STAR<LCE> AGREES TO BUY CONCRETE OPERATIONS

GREENWICH, Conn., March 5 -Lone Star Industries Inc said it has agreed to acquire ready-mixed concrete and aggregates businesses from <Riedel International Inc> of Portland, Ore., for an undisclosed amount of cash. Lone Star's one sentence statement gave no further details and company spokesmen were not available. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Click here for more pages similar to this highly relevant result that contain the original keyword "star"

10 - article id: 2842 - high rank: 10

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

OFFICIAL SAYS REAGAN AGAINST EARLY SDI DEPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, March 6 -A senior Defense Department official said he believed President Reagan has decided against an early deployment of the controversial anti-missile defense system known as "Star Wars." But the official, Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Perle, told a luncheon Reagan could decide within a few weeks to adopt a less restrictive interpretation of the 1972 Anti- Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty to justify a move towards wider "Star Wars" testing and development. "I think the president has made a decision not to proceed with an early deployment of SDI," said Perle, referring to the Strategic Defense Initiative, as Reagan's antimissile project is formally called. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Note: When an ambiguous keyword such as "star" is selected traditional keyword-based search engines typically display a mixture of relevant and irrelevant documents. Additionally, once a relevant result has been found, traditional search engines do not usually provide users with an efficient tool to find other highly relevant documents. The results given by similar pages tools offered by other search engines, such as Google, are often inadequate since they simply retrieve additional pages, (that happen to contain the original keyword), whether or not they actually contain the same *topics* as the selected hit. **Needlebot's Similar Pages tool (with keywords)** overcomes this problem by retrieving results based upon their *conceptual* similarity to the selected document. (See page 8 for Similar Pages [with](#) keywords results for hit #10 above).



Improved Results using Needlebot's Similar Pages Tool (with keywords)

Example 1b: User seeks hits related to Reagan's missile defense program (Star Wars)

Needlebot's Similar Pages tool found all six documents in the database that contain the keyword "star" and are related the Star Wars defense project and displayed them at the top of the improved results list

Database: **Reuters 1987**

Keywords Searched: **star** – followed by Similar Pages tool (with keywords)

1 - article id: 2842 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

OFFICIAL SAYS REAGAN AGAINST EARLY SDI DEPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, March 6 -A senior Defense Department official said he believed President Reagan has decided against an early deployment of the controversial anti-missile defense system known as "Star Wars." But the official, Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Perle, told a luncheon Reagan could decide within a few weeks to adopt a less restrictive interpretation of the 1972 Anti- Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty to justify a move towards wider "Star Wars" testing and development. "I think the president has made a decision not to proceed with an early deployment of SDI," said Perle, referring to the Strategic Defense Initiative, as Reagan's anti-missile project is formally called. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

2 - article id: 7535 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

U.S. SAY SOVIET UNION HAS EXCEEDED MISSILE PACT

WASHINGTON, March 19 -President Reagan accused the Soviet Union of exceeding a traditional restrictive reading of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty, but said the U.S. Saw no reason yet to follow suit. "We believe that the Soviet Union has been going even beyond a liberal interpretation of the treaty," he said at a news conference. There has been speculation the U.S. Administration was moving toward a looser reading of the treaty in order to permit the development of the "Star Wars" antimissile system, but Reagan said no decision has yet been made. REUTER

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Clicking here will find additional similar pages to this hit that do not necessarily contain the keyword "star"

3 - article id: 16550 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

SHULTZ BEGINS ARMS TALKS WITH SHEVARDNADZE

MOSCOW, April 13 -U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was holding several hours of talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today in pursuit of the first superpower arms control agreement in nearly a decade. Shultz, accompanied by a panoply of senior advisers and technical experts, went directly into a closed-door meeting with Shevardnadze and the Soviet delegation after arriving in Moscow from Helsinki aboard a U.S. Air Force jet. State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters traveling with the secretary that as the crucial talks got under way, U.S. Arms control advisers were instructed not to discuss the substance of the American proposals with the press. It has been reported previously that some of the proposals – such as those dealing with President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" space shield against enemy missiles -- represent a hardening of the U.S. Position. Nevertheless, U.S. Officials have been optimistic about the possibility of progress on arms control during the talks, which are scheduled to end Wednesday. Reagan, who is believed to want an agreement before he leaves office in 1989, said last week that a breakthrough on an accord eliminating intermediate-range missiles (INF) in Europe was a distinct possibility. Reuter

more like this [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

4 - article id: 14763 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

HOUSE COMMITTEE SLASHES "STAR WARS" FUNDING

WASHINGTON, April 7 -The House Armed Services Committee slashed President Reagan's funding request for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), approving 1.7 billion dlrs less than he had proposed for the anti-missile program. The committee, during its consideration of the 1988 defense authorization bill, also cut by more than half Reagan's request for a rail system for strategic missiles. The proposals must be adopted by the full House and Senate before becoming law. The committee approved 3.5 billion dlrs for SDI, a land- and space-based anti-missile defense program commonly known as "Star Wars." The amount was 1.7 billion dlrs less than the administration request of 5.2 billion dlrs. The Reagan administration has requested a total of 312 billion dlrs for defense in 1988, but congressional leaders have said that will be cut as part of a budget-trimming effort to reduce the huge federal deficit. In other action today, the committee approved 250 mln dlrs for a rail system for inter-continental ballistic missiles, but did not specify which missile system. Supporters have said



missiles on such a rail network would be less vulnerable to attack than those in fixed underground silos. The administration requested 590 mln dlrs specifically for a rail-mobile system for the 10- warhead MX missile. But many congressmen, including House Armed Services Chairman Les Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat, favor a smaller mobile missile dubbed the "Midgetman." Reuter
[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

5 - article id: 14754 - high rank: 5

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

SENATE REPORT - REAGAN PLANS EARLY SDI DEPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, April 7 -The Reagan administration is secretly developing plans for an early deployment of President Reagan's controversial "Star Wars" anti-missile system, according to a Senate study. "Near-term deployment is an absurd and dangerous course for America," said Sen. Bennett Johnston in a statement issued with the report. "It would force us to break the bank, throw out the ABM treaty and commit us to an arms race in space." The Reagan administration is engaged in an internal debate over the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), as the land and space-based anti-missile system is called, and may decide later this month to reinterpret the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty to justify an acceleration of SDI research to include development and space testing. Johnston, of Louisiana, and fellow Democrat William Proxmire of Wisconsin, whose staff prepared the report, accused the administration of covertly seeking early deployment as a political ploy to commit the United States to strategic defenses even after Reagan leaves office in 1989. "This report exposes the fact that without a presidential directive or congressional consent, the SDI program ... is being changed to pursue a near-term deployment of strategic defenses," Proxmire, chairman of the powerful Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, said. "In other words, they're covertly reorienting the SDI program without congressional approval." Reuter

[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Note: By simply applying **Needlebot's Similar Pages tool ([with](#) keywords)** to the hit at position #10 in the original results list, (see page 7), we were able to retrieve six highly relevant results, (five of which are shown above), related to the Star Wars project. This above example demonstrates how Needlebot's Similar Pages tool ([with](#) keywords) can help users to find multiple highly relevant results even when their original choice of keywords is not optimal.

Needlebot's Similar Pages tool ([without](#) keywords) can now be used to find additional highly relevant hits that are no longer restricted by the constraint that they must contain the keyword "**star**". In the next example, we will click on the *more the like this [without](#) keyword* link beneath hit #2, (see page 8), to retrieve additional highly relevant results that contain the same *topics* as this selected document. (See page 10).



Improved Results using Needlebot's Similar Pages Tool (without keywords)

Example 1c: User seeks hits related to Reagan's missile defense program (Star Wars)

Database: **Reuters 1987**

Keywords Searched: **star** – followed by Similar Pages tool (without keywords)

1 - article id: 7535 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

U.S. SAY SOVIET UNION HAS EXCEEDED MISSILE PACT

WASHINGTON, March 19 -President Reagan accused the Soviet Union of exceeding a traditional restrictive reading of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty, but said the U.S. saw no reason yet to follow suit. "We believe that the Soviet Union has been going even beyond a liberal interpretation of the treaty," he said at a news conference. There has been speculation the U.S. Administration was moving toward a looser reading of the treaty in order to permit the development of the "Star Wars" anti-missile system, but Reagan said no decision has yet been made. REUTER

[more like this](#)

2 - article id: 2842 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

OFFICIAL SAYS REAGAN AGAINST EARLY SDI DEPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, March 6 -A senior Defense Department official said he believed President Reagan has decided against an early deployment of the controversial anti-missile defense system known as "Star Wars." But the official, Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Perle, told a luncheon Reagan could decide within a few weeks to adopt a less restrictive interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty to justify a move towards wider "Star Wars" testing and development. "I think the president has made a decision not to proceed with an early deployment of SDI," said Perle, referring to the Strategic Defense Initiative, as Reagan's antimissile project is formally called. Reuter

[more like this](#)

Hits number 3 and 4 point to the same page.

3 - article id: 2730 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

SOVIET NEGOTIATOR REPORTS ARMS TALKS BREAKTHROUGH

PARIS, March 6 -Chief Soviet arms negotiator Yuli Vorontsov said Soviet-American talks on cutting medium-range nuclear missiles had made a breakthrough. Vorontsov said he expected a treaty would be ready for signing within three to four months following the latest talks in Geneva. He told a news conference here "all the elements point to optimism" and only technical work on treaty language remained outstanding. REUTER

[more like this](#)

4 - article id: 2734 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

SOVIET NEGOTIATOR REPORTS ARMS TALKS BREAKTHROUGH

PARIS, March 6 -Chief Soviet arms negotiator Yuli Vorontsov said Soviet-American talks on cutting medium-range nuclear missiles had made a breakthrough. Vorontsov said he expected a treaty would be ready for signing within three to four months following the latest talks in Geneva. He told a news conference here "all the elements point to optimism" and only technical work on treaty language remained outstanding. Reuter

[more like this](#)

These two additional relevant hits that do not contain the word "star" were found by Needlebot's Similar Page tools (without keywords)

5 - article id: 17290 - high rank: 5

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

SOVIETS TO PRESENT TREATY ON MISSILES - SOURCES

GENEVA, April 27 -The Soviet Union will present a draft treaty today calling for elimination of all U.S.-Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe, an official source in the Soviet arms negotiating team told Reuters. The draft treaty will be handed over to the American team negotiating on medium-range missiles during talks at the U.S. Diplomatic mission in Geneva this afternoon, the source said. The United States presented its draft treaty, which would also scrap the so-called "Euromissiles," during a previous round of negotiations in early March. REUTER

[more like this](#)



Needlebot's Conceptual Search Tool (Paragraph Search)

Example 2: User seeking documents related to the AIDS virus

Needlebot's Conceptual Search tool found 10/10 AIDS related hits even though the search paragraph did not contain the keywords: "AIDS", "HIV", "Human Immune Deficiency Syndrome" or "virus"

Database: **Reuters 1987**

Paragraph Searched: *A mysterious epidemic is causing increasing concern in the United States. It has claimed around 100 lives so far in the US and up to 90% of the victims are gay. Three studies show that the immune systems of victims are attacked, leaving them vulnerable to attack by germs which most people normally shrug off.*

1 - article id: 7335 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

STRONG POINT INC HAS IMMUNE SYSTEM FORMULA

IRVINE, Calif., March 19 -<Strong Point Inc> said its Pharmaceutical Technologies Inc unit has developed a formula for stimulating immune system function and repairing immune system damage, thereby protecting vulnerable body structures against Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The company said while the product, called IMMUNOL-IM, is not a cure, treatment or prevention, it repairs, rebuilds and stimulates the immune system, enabling the body to protect itself and repair damage. Strong Point said it plans to begin studies in Europe within 45 days and to make IMMUNOL-IM available in the U.S. as soon as possible, pending appropriate government clearances. Reuter

[more like this](#)

2 - article id: 15497 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

BIOSYSTEMS RESEARCH TESTS TECHNOLOGY FOR AIDS

CUPERTINO, Calif., April 9 -<Biosystems Research Inc> said its new technique for a treatment for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome showed good results on subjects who were treated. Called biostimulation, the non-drug approach to the treatment of those with AIDS and AIDS related complex involves exposure to low-level magnetic and electrical stimulation in combination with phototherapy from the visible light spectrum, the company said. Biosystems said it tested its technique in two studies with eight subjects since January 1986, for periods of five to 60 weeks. It said the treatments have not produced any adverse effects in the subjects. Reuter

[more like this](#)

3 - article id: 11992 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

HOWARD BAKER AIDE EXPECTED TO GET TOP JOB

WASHINGTON, April 1 -The White House is expected today to name Thomas Griscom, a longtime aide to chief of staff Howard Baker, as President Reagan's communications director. Officials said an announcement was expected to be made during Reagan's trip to Philadelphia where the president is to make a speech to a group of doctors on the deadly disease AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Griscom, 37, was brought into the White House by former Senator Baker to help with the transition after Baker was named chief of staff following the resignation of Donald Regan in the wake of the Iran arms scandal. He will take the job vacated by Patrick Buchanan, a high-profile conservative, who served two years as communications director. Reuter

[more like this](#)

4 - article id: 19736 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

NATIONAL PATENT <NPD> TO START AIDS DRUG TRIAL

NEW YORK, June 29, -National Patent Development Corp and Bar-Ilan University of Israel said that their joint venture corporation, Scientific Testing Inc, will begin a clinical trial in the U.S. of its immuno-augmenting compound, AS101, for the treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The study will be conducted at the Institute of Immunological Disorders (MD Anderson Hospital, Houston, Tex) under the direction of Dr Peter Mensell, pursuant to an investigational new drug application filed with the Food and Drug Administration, the company said. The study, expected to begin in four to six weeks, is designed to test the effects of AS101 on about 30 AIDS patients, National Patent said. It added that AS101, a proprietary synthetic compound invented by Bar-Ilan University doctors, has shown immuno-augmenting, anti-viral and anti-tumor activity in preclinical animal testing, and immuno-augmenting activity in a limited number of AIDS patients in phase one foreign clinical tests. Reuter

[more like this](#)



5 - article id: 18349 - high rank: 5

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

ALLERGY GETS GRANT TO DEVELOP INTERLEUKIN KIT

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., June 2 -Allergy Immuno Technologies Inc said it received federal funding to develop a diagnostic kit for measuring Interleukin-2 and Interleukin-2 receptor. Interleukin is a naturally produced substance important in maintaining the body's immune system. Reuter

[more like this](#)

Note: Needlebot's Conceptual Search tool (paragraph search tool) retrieved 10/10 AIDS related documents even though the search paragraph, (see page 11), does not contain keywords usually associated with the disease such as: “AIDS”, “HIV”, “Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome” or “virus”. Needlebot then displays these highly relevant hits at the top of the search result list for easy access by the user.

The above example demonstrates the power of Needlebot's conceptual search technology to allow the user to find highly relevant documents without having to waste time thinking about what the ideal keywords should be for that particular search, (as is usually the case with traditional keyword-based search engines).

Furthermore, with traditional keyword-based search tools, even when the user has provided the correct keywords, highly relevant documents that contain synonyms of these specific chosen keywords are often missed completely. The above example demonstrates that Needlebot's conceptual search technology does not suffer from this limitation.



Examples using the Reuters 1996 database



Original Results from Needlebot's Keyword Search Tool

Example 3a: User seeks hits related to Reagan's missile defense program (Star Wars)

Even when a more specific search phrase such as "Star Wars" is used, traditional keyword-based search engines can still display a mixture of relevant and irrelevant hits

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Keywords Searched: **Star Wars**

1 - article id: 91312 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: PRODUCTION/SERVICES; CORPORATE/INDUSTRIAL; GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; ARTS, CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT

USA: Updated classics are hot for holiday toys.

NEW YORK 1996-10-02Tea sets, Mr. Potato Head and anything Barbie, Batman or Spiderman are expected to top children's holiday toy lists this year, as updated versions of classics push aside some recent movie tie-ins as the items most in demand. It's different this year -- there's no big hit, no Power Rangers or no one major toy brand out there that children will be clamouring for, said Christopher Byrne, editor of the trade journal Market Focus: Toys. Rather, he said, parents may want to consider some tried and true oldies but goodies. Play never really changes, he said. It's just how it gets expressed. Parents will spend about \$231 per child on toys this year, about the same they spent in 1995, Byrne said. There won't be an increase in spending, but parents will be spending smarter. Adults may want to seek out toys that stress creativity and expression, especially when it comes to girls toys, which have lacked ingenuity and variety in the past few years. New toys of value this year aimed at girls include Kidsview's Tea Bunnies, colourful dolls which live inside decorated tea cups. Sets include Tea Bunnies Fancy Dessert Tea Party (\$19.99) and Tea Bunnies Wedding Tea Party (\$29.99). Byrne also likes Tyco Toys Kitchen Littles (\$6.99 and up), with doll-sized food, pans and cooking utensils. For future shoppers, Melanie's Mall, by Cap Toys (\$1.50 to \$29.99), allows children to play-act in what may become a favourite teenage hangout. Electronics are of continuing appeal to children, Byrne said, specially when high-tech meets classic. Some examples are the CD-Roms, Mr. Potato Head Saves Veggie Valley (\$29.99) and the Barbie Design Maker Studio (\$49.95). Here, Mattel has extended the age of the typical Barbie doll player (ages 4 through 7) by introducing a computer programme for slightly older children, allowing them to design and manufacture Barbie's new outfits. Electronic toys for toddlers are increasingly popular. Tyco's Tickle Me Elmo (\$28) is a plush version of the Sesame Street character. When a child tickles Elmo, he aughs and says that's funny. A toy like this is interactive, which is what kids always want, Byrne said. Kids don't change. What has changed, however, is children's love affair with some movie-tie ins. The popularity of toys based on The Lion King, Aladdin and The Little Mermaid has not been repeated in Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame. The latest Disney animated film does not inspire the same types of play patterns that the other Disney hits did, and, therefore, there is a wealth of Hunchback items lingering on toy store shelves across the country. Byrne said the Disney animated film Toy Story is being released soon on home video, and parents might want to be aware of a lot of toys, and demand, related to that. Also, Warner Brothers Space Jam, starring basketball hero Michael Jordan and classic cartoon character Bugs Bunny is being released shortly. It should be a big hit, Byrne said, indicating that toy tie-ins may follow suit. Toys relating to the alien battle film Independence Day are losing some of their steam. However, still riding a wave of renewed popularity from the 1995 release on home video is the Star Wars trilogy. Galoob's Star Wars Micro Machines (\$9.99) will appeal to collectors, as will action figures from ever-popular Batman, Superman and Spawn. Activity toys are going to be popular, Byrne said. Examples of some valuable toys include Tyco's Sesame Street Activity Sets (\$7.99 and up) and Grandma's Surprise: A Box in a Book (\$29.99), which helps kids make one-of-a-kind banners. Homemade goodies can be made with Chocolate Holiday Moulding Kit (\$19.99) and they can create designs with animal shapes with Topline Toys You Can't Paint With That (\$14.99). - - - You can write to Judith Schoolman at Reuters, 199 Water Street, 10th floor, New York, N.Y. 10038, or e-mail her at Judith.Schoolman(at)Reuters.com.

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2 - article id: 104232 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: NOTOPICS

USA: FEATURE - Updated classics are hot for holiday toys.

NEW YORK 1996-10-02Tea sets, Mr. Potato Head and anything Barbie, Batman or Spiderman are expected to top children's holiday toy lists this year, as updated versions of classics push aside some recent movie tie-ins as the items most in demand. It's different this year -- there's no big hit, no Power Rangers or no one major toy brand out there that children will be clamouring for, said Christopher Byrne, editor of the trade journal Market Focus: Toys. Rather, he said, parents may want to consider some tried and true oldies but goodies. Play never really changes, he said. It's just how it gets expressed. Parents will spend about \$231 per child on toys this year, about the same they spent in 1995, Byrne said. There won't be an increase in spending, but parents will be spending smarter. Adults may want to seek out toys that stress creativity and expression, especially when it comes to girls toys, which have lacked ingenuity and variety in the past few years. New toys of value this year aimed at girls include Kidsview's Tea Bunnies, colourful dolls which live inside decorated tea cups. Sets include Tea Bunnies Fancy Dessert Tea Party (\$19.99) and Tea Bunnies Wedding Tea Party (\$29.99). Byrne also likes Tyco Toys Kitchen Littles (\$6.99 and up), with doll-sized food, pans and cooking utensils. For future shoppers, Melanie's Mall, by Cap Toys (\$1.50 to \$29.99), allows children to play-act in what may become a favourite teenage hangout. Electronics are of continuing appeal to children, Byrne said, specially when high-tech meets classic. Some examples are the CD-Roms, Mr. Potato Head Saves Veggie Valley (\$29.99) and the Barbie Design



Maker Studio (\$49.95). Here, Mattel has extended the age of the typical Barbie doll player (ages 4 through 7) by introducing a computer programme for slightly older children, allowing them to design and manufacture Barbie's new outfits. Electronic toys for toddlers are increasingly popular. Tyco's Tickle Me Elmo (\$28) is a plush version of the Sesame Street character. When a child tickles Elmo, he augh and says that's funny. A toy like this is interactive, which is what kids always want, Byrne said. Kids don't change. What has changed, however, is children's love affair with some movie-tie ins. The popularity of toys based on The Lion King, Aladdin and The Little Mermaid has not been repeated in Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame. The latest Disney animated film does not inspire the same types of play patterns that the other Disney hits did, and, therefore, there is a wealth of Hunchback items lingering on toy store shelves across the country. Byrne said the Disney animated film Toy Story is being released soon on home video, and parents might want to be aware of a lot of toys, and demand, related to that. Also, Warner Brothers Space Jam, starring basketball hero Michael Jordan and classic cartoon character Bugs Bunny is being released shortly. It should be a big hit, Byrne said, indicating that toy tie-ins may follow suit. Toys relating to the alien battle film Independence Day are losing some of their steam. However, still riding a wave of renewed popularity from the 1995 release on home video is the Star Wars trilogy. Galoob's Star Wars Micro Machines (\$9.99) will appeal to collectors, as will action figures from ever-popular Batman, Superman and Spawn. Activity toys are going to be popular, Byrne said. Examples of some valuable toys include Tyco's Sesame Street Activity Sets (\$7.99 and up) and Grandma's Surprise: A Box in a Book (\$29.99), which helps kids make one-of-a-kind banners. Homemade goodies can be made with Chocolate Holiday Moulding Kit (\$19.99) and they can create designs with animal shapes with Topline Toys You Can't Paint With That (\$14.99). - - - You can write to Judith Schoolman at Reuters, 199 Water Street, 10th floor, New York, N.Y. 10038, or e-mail her at Judith.Schoolman(at)Reuters.com.
[more like this with](#) or [without](#) keywords

3 - article id: 3603 - high rank: 3
 Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DEFENCE
ISRAEL: Israel successfully test fires anti-missile missile.

JERUSALEM 1996-08-20 Israel successfully test fired a U.S.-financed Arrow 2 anti-missile missile over the Mediterranean on Tuesday, officials said. They said the Arrow 2, launched from the coastline in central Israel, apparently hit its target which was fired four minutes earlier at about 3 p.m. (12 GMT) from a ship. Initial data indicates that the missile performed as planned, a Defence Ministry statement said. The results indicate that the Arrow's sensors locked in on the target, its warhead was activated and the target was hit. It was a big success said Moshe Keret, director-general of Israel Aircraft Industries in charge of the project. Keret said official confirmation as to whether the target was actually destroyed would take a few hours. Tuesday's flight was the third of the Arrow 2 but the first intercepting a missile. Keret said additional test launches would be carried out. Asked if the launch would allay Israeli fears after reports that Syria had recently test fired an advanced Scud-C missile capable of hitting Israeli cities, Keret told Israel army radio: Maybe not in the immediate future but when the system will be operational, maybe in about two years, that will certainly be an important and central layer in the defence system of the state of Israel. Tension has been rising between Israel and Syria over stalled Middle East peace talks since the May election of Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu. Development of the Arrow was launched in the late 1980s and U.S. funding was approved as part of the Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. Most components of that initiative have since been scrapped but the 1991 Gulf War, in which Iraq fired dozens of Scud missiles at Israel, gave the Arrow new impetus with the United States ploughing nearly \$500 million for initial development. The project cost is estimated at \$1.2 billion. Israel spent several years developing and testing the Arrow 1 which it hoped would do a better job at hitting incoming missiles than the U.S. Patriot missiles, with a range of 10 km (six miles), deployed in Israel during the Gulf War. The target missile used in Tuesday's test-launch was a modified Arrow 1 missile with a radar cross section and payload to match that of a Scud missile, said the U.S. Army Program Executive Office Air and Missile Defence in a statement. The Arrow program is a joint U.S./Israel effort to develop an interceptor missile for the Arrow Weapons System. The information gained from the program has potential application for several U.S. missile defence programs, the statement said.
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Needlebot's Similar Pages tool can be used to refine the results to display documents that contain the same topics as a chosen hit

4 - article id: 25071 - high rank: 4
 Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DOMESTIC POLITICS
USA: Clinton says U.S. must lead in world affairs.

CHICAGO 1996-08-29 President Bill Clinton said on Thursday the United States could not be the world's policeman but there were times when it must act abroad to protect its interests and values. In a speech accepting the Democratic nomination for a second term as president, Clinton said: There are times when only America can make the difference between war and peace, freedom and repression, life and death. We cannot save all the world's children -- but we can save many. We cannot be the world's policeman -- but where our values, and our interests are at stake, America must act -- and America must lead. Clinton devoted only a few moments of his hour-long speech to foreign policy. Following are some of his comments: -- Cuba must join the family of Democracies. -- The United States would continue its strong partnership with a democratic Russia. -- Some of Europe's new democracies (in eastern Europe) would be brought into NATO, so their freedom is never in doubt again. -- Measures to further reduce nuclear arsenals, banish poison gas, and ban nuclear tests must be enforced and ratified. -- Funding for modernising U.S. weapons would be increased by 40 percent by the year 2000 to keep the U.S. armed forces the best-trained and best-equipped in the world. -- The United States would develop sensible defences against missile attack. But in reference to ambitious proposals by his Republican opponent Bob Dole, Clinton said: We must not -- now or by the year 2000 -- squander \$60 billion on an unproved, ineffective Star Wars programme that could be obsolete tomorrow.
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5 - article id: 25370 - high rank: 5
 Reuters Topics: MARKETS/MARKETING; CORPORATE/INDUSTRIAL
AUSTRALIA: RTRS-Fox sees huge alien-related revenue.

SYDNEY 1996-08-30 News Corp Ltd's Hollywood studio 20th Century Fox could reap revenues of around US\$700 million from its hit film Independence Day, Peter Chernin, chairman of Fox Filmed Entertainment, said on Friday. Right now we are a little bit over US\$450-\$460 million worldwide box office and that's about \$275-\$280 million in the U.S. and about \$130 million or \$140 (million) internationally,



Chernin told Reuters on Friday in Sydney. I guess we are going somewhere \$350 (million), \$400 (million) internationally and to about \$300 (million) in the U.S., Chernin said. Independence Day, which has invaded cinemas across the United States making it the biggest blockbuster of the summer there, is about an devastating attack on earth from aliens from outer space and how the world. But Chernin said he was unsure how much the film would contribute to News Corp's bottom line profit. There are a lot of variables, because a lot of it has to do with timing. When it comes in, it gets accounted when it comes in so it will fall into this financial year, video will play a large part, there is a lot money in it, Chernin said. However, Chernin said Independence Day was unlikely to become the biggest grossing film. I assume in the U.S. we will end up somewhere at number five, we won't beat Jurassic (Park), we won't beat E.T., I don't think we will beat (Forrest) Gump and we won't beat Star Wars, Chernin said. I think we are seventh or eighth right now and we are going to number five, he said. He said the film has only opened in four key international markets so far, Australia, South Korea, Mexico and Britain. We haven't opened in Japan, which will be huge, and also in other major markets, Germany, France, Italy and Spain, he said. Chernin, who is in Sydney to announce a deal with Australian-backed independent film maker Icon Productions, said the launch of Independence Day on Thursday was a huge success. Yesterday it looks like we did between US\$1.6 million and \$1.7 million in just one day in Australia, Chernin said. He said it beat the previous Australian box office record of \$900,000. Although Chernin was unsure how much profit the film would make, he added: It's a lot of money -- we are happy about it. -- Kevin Morrison

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Note: The above results show that, even when a more specific search phrases such as “**Star Wars**” is used, traditional keyword-based search engines can still display a mixture of relevant and irrelevant hits.

Needlebot’s Similar Pages tool (with keywords) can help overcome this problem by finding documents that contain similar *topics* as a relevant selected hit, e.g. hit #3 on page 15. The improved results for this particular case are shown on page 17.



Improved Results using Needlebot's Similar Pages Tool (with keywords)

Example 3b: User seeks hits related to Reagan's missile defense program (Star Wars)

Needlebot's Similar Pages tool (with keywords) displayed the hits related to the Star Wars missile defense system at the top of the improved search results list

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Keywords Searched: **Star Wars** – followed by Similar Pages tool (with keywords)

1 - article id: 3603 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DEFENCE

ISRAEL: Israel successfully test fires anti-missile missile.

JERUSALEM 1996-08-20 Israel successfully test fired a U.S.-financed Arrow 2 anti-missile missile over the Mediterranean on Tuesday, officials said. They said the Arrow 2, launched from the coastline in central Israel, apparently hit its target which was fired four minutes earlier at about 3 p.m. (12 GMT) from a ship. Initial data indicates that the missile performed as planned, a Defence Ministry statement said. The results indicate that the Arrow's sensors locked in on the target, its warhead was activated and the target was hit. It was a big success said Moshe Keret, director-general of Israel Aircraft Industries in charge of the project. Keret said official confirmation as to whether the target was actually destroyed would take a few hours. Tuesday's flight was the third of the Arrow 2 but the first intercepting a missile. Keret said additional test launches would be carried out. Asked if the launch would allay Israeli fears after reports that Syria had recently test fired an advanced Scud-C missile capable of hitting Israeli cities, Keret told Israel army radio: Maybe not in the immediate future but when the system will be operational, maybe in about two years, that will certainly be an important and central layer in the defence system of the state of Israel. Tension has been rising between Israel and Syria over stalled Middle East peace talks since the May election of Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu. Development of the Arrow was launched in the late 1980s and U.S. funding was approved as part of the Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. Most components of that initiative have since been scrapped but the 1991 Gulf War, in which Iraq fired dozens of Scud missiles at Israel, gave the Arrow new impetus with the United States ploughing nearly \$500 million for initial development. The project cost is estimated at \$1.2 billion. Israel spent several years developing and testing the Arrow 1 which it hoped would do a better job at hitting incoming missiles than the U.S. Patriot missiles, with a range of 10 km (six miles), deployed in Israel during the Gulf War. The target missile used in Tuesday's test-launch was a modified Arrow 1 missile with a radar cross section and payload to match that of a Scud missile, said the U.S. Army Program Executive Office Air and Missile Defence in a statement. The Arrow program is a joint U.S./Israel effort to develop an interceptor missile for the Arrow Weapons System. The information gained from the program has potential application for several U.S. missile defence programs, the statement said.

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2 - article id: 51148 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DEFENCE

ISRAEL: FEATURE-Israeli missile defence comes with big price tag.

TEL AVIV 1996-09-12A successful test of the Arrow missile last month put Israel one step closer to developing a defence against enemy missiles, but its projected cost of only \$1.6 billion could be just a flight of fancy. Project officials say an operational version of the missile, funded jointly by Israel and the United States, will be ready in 1998, 10 years after the programme was launched. The budget estimate published by Israeli Defence Ministry would cover expenses through 2005 when Israel expects to field enough batteries to intercept missiles fired at any part of its territory. Getting to that stage of the project on \$1.6 billion is a ridiculous estimate. The Arrow will cost many times that figure, said Reuven Pedatzur, a political scientist who has researched the feasibility of the Arrow missile. The Arrow began as an adjunct of the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative, or Star Wars, but took on a life of its own when Iraq fired dozens of Scud missiles at Israel in the 1991 Gulf War. The Iraqi missiles caused few casualties but the psychological effect on Israel's civilian population and the ineffectiveness of U.S. Patriot missiles in intercepting the Scuds made the missile defence project a top priority. The Arrow's radar system, developed by a subsidiary of Israel Aircraft Industry, is designed to track missiles fired at Israel and guide the Arrow, travelling at nearly three km (two miles) per second, to within four metres (13 ft) of an incoming missile. Somewhere between 10 km (six miles) and 40 km (25 miles) above the ground, the Arrow is supposed to intercept the incoming missile. Pedatzur, a reserve air force pilot who spent three years studying the Arrow project, said development and production of the radar, missiles and a command and control system that will coordinate the operations of multiple missile batteries would top \$6 billion. I don't know where he gets these figures. They are completely unfounded, said David Ivri, director-general of the Defence Ministry and a prime mover in the missile defence project. Ivri told Reuters Israel was spending roughly \$100 million a year on developing the Arrow, with \$40 million of that money coming from the United States. Security sources estimate the two countries have poured \$500 million into the project since 1991. Israel receives \$1.8 billion in annual U.S. military aid. An agreement between the two countries gives the United States access to the Arrow's research and development data. Ivri said the \$100 million a year would allow Israel to meet its 1998 target date for the current programme and subsequent projects. Israel, he said, would initially deploy two missile batteries to protect the populous central and northern regions of the country. Ivri would not say how

many missiles each battery would contain. The Defence Ministry published the \$1.6 billion estimate for the first time last month after years of media speculation, but it did not provide an itemised budget. Pedatzur said project officials deliberately undercalculated the cost. Had they given the real numbers, the people who make the decisions would have realised this project is impossible to finance. They want to ensure that the project continues, he told Reuters. Pedatzur compares the Arrow with Israel's illfated Lavi fighter plane. Israel spent \$1.5 billion on the Lavi programme before cancelling it in 1987 over speculation that development alone would reach \$2.6 billion. The number of Arrow missiles Israel will finally deploy is a key issue in the argument over budget estimates. According to Jane's defence magazine Israel would need more than 1,200 Arrows to defend against a combined Arab arsenal of 2,000 to 3,000 medium-range missiles. The price of each Arrow is expected to top \$2 million so that amassing a full arsenal alone would put Israel over the \$1.6 billion budget estimate for the whole Arrow programme. Pedatzur said the large difference between the cost of the Arrow missile and a Scud missile, estimated at \$500,000, would encourage Arab states to stockpile more and more missiles while Israel would be unable to match the pace. Project backers say in response that Israeli aircraft would destroy much of the Arab arsenal in a future conflict before the missiles are ever launched. Defence officials say Pedatzur is obsessed with disproving the Arrow's feasibility but he is not alone in questioning the feasibility of the programme. People on the inside, mainly from the air force, have raised some of the same questions he (Pedatzur) raises about the programme, said a retired senior officer who refused to be named. But as long as it appears that Arrow has a chance to succeed, no one on the inside is going to go public with the criticism, he said.

[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Needlebot's Similar Pages tool produced improved results displaying hits related to the Star Wars missile defense system

3 - article id: 73572 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DEFENCE; INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

USA: U.S. Russia reach partial anti-missile accord.

NEW YORK 1996-09-23 The United States and Russia on Monday approved the first phase of a new agreement on anti-missile systems and called for negotiations on a second and final phase to start next month. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said after talks with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov the two sides had reached a milestone in their attempt to work out which systems will be permitted under a 24-year-old arms treaty. The issue has bedevilled U.S.-Russian arms talks since the Star Wars days of the 1980s, with Moscow suspicious that the United States was trying to develop an anti-missile shield that would make the whole Russian strategic arsenal useless. The Clinton administration has been resisting pressure from Republican opponents to develop a nationwide missile defence system in defiance of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, which forbids one. The arms agreement was announced after three and a half hours of talks which apparently registered little progress on NATO expansion, Iraq or Bosnia. Christopher and Primakov are attending the current United Nations General Assembly session. U.S. President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin last year asked negotiators to work out which systems were strategic, and hence limited by the ABM treaty, and which were smaller-scale theater systems which are not limited. Experts from the United States, Russia and the Soviet successor states of Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine worked out draft accords in June on lower-speed systems. What we did today was to confirm that the United States and Russia accept those documents ... and are prepared now to move ahead as quickly as possible to complete the final agreement, Under Secretary of State Lynn Davis said. A joint statement said deputy foreign ministers would sign the part one agreement at the end of October. The United States and Russia meanwhile proposed that part two negotiations should start on Oct. 7. The phase one agreement specifies that all theatre missile defence systems with interceptor speeds up to three km (1.8 miles) per second are permitted under the ABM treaty, unless they are tested against targets with speeds over five km (3.1 miles) per second or ranges greater than 3,500 km (2,175 miles), Davis told reporters. She said the Patriot system, used against Iraqi Scud missiles in the Gulf War, its successor system and other lower-speed systems the United States has under development had all been determined to be compliant with the ABM treaty. Christopher told a joint news conference with Primakov: This important progress assures that we can effectively defend against theatre ballistic missiles, while ensuring the integrity of the ABM treaty. Primakov said that the successful conclusion of the second phase -- on higher speed systems -- undoubtedly can move ahead the process of ratification of the START-2 U.S.-Russian strategic missile treaty by the Russian parliament. Russian deputies have dragged their heels over START, which will radically reduce strategic arsenals and has been ratified by the U.S. Congress, partly out of concerns over possible U.S. violations of the ABM treaty. There was no sign of progress at the Christopher-Primakov talks on the thorny issue of NATO expansion. Primakov said there were still different approaches to the question. NATO wants to name at a summit next year the first former Warsaw Pact countries to be admitted to the Western alliance. But Russia, despite some recent signs of flexibility, still objects to NATO's borders being moved up to its own. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns indicated that the two countries continued to disagree over Iraq. Moscow sharply criticized U.S. missile strikes on Iraq this month after Baghdad's forces entered Western-protected northern Iraq. Primakov did reiterate the Russian position against unilateral actions, Burns said. Christopher said he had asked Primakov to convey his and Clinton's concern for the health of Yeltsin, who has admitted he needs heart surgery. But Burns said U.S. officials learned nothing new about the Russian president's condition.

[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

4 - article id: 25071 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DOMESTIC POLITICS

USA: Clinton says U.S. must lead in world affairs.

CHICAGO 1996-08-29 President Bill Clinton said on Thursday the United States could not be the world's policeman but there were times when it must act abroad to protect its interests and values. In a speech accepting the Democratic nomination for a second term as president, Clinton said: There are times when only America can make the difference between war and peace, freedom and repression, life and death. We cannot save all the world's children -- but we can save many. We cannot be the world's policeman -- but where our values, and our interests are at stake, America must act -- and America must lead. Clinton devoted only a few moments of his hour-long speech to foreign policy. Following are some of his comments: -- Cuba must join the family of Democracies. -- The United States would continue its strong partnership with a democratic Russia. -- Some of Europe's new democracies (in eastern Europe) would be brought into NATO, so their freedom is never in doubt again. -- Measures to further reduce nuclear arsenals, banish poison gas, and ban nuclear tests must be enforced and ratified. -- Funding for modernising U.S. weapons would be increased by 40 percent by the year 2000 to keep the U.S. armed forces the best-trained and best-equipped in the world. -- The United States would develop sensible defences against missile attack. But in



reference to ambitious proposals by his Republican opponent Bob Dole, Clinton said: We must not -- now or by the year 2000 -- squander \$60 billion on an unproved, ineffective Star Wars programme that could be obsolete tomorrow.
[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords

Note: The previous example shows how by simply applying Needlebot's **Similar Pages tool** (**with keywords**) to the hit at position #3 in the original results list, (see page 15), we were able to retrieve all four of the highly relevant results, (shown above), in the database that are related to the Star Wars missile defense project. This above example demonstrates how Needlebot's Similar Pages tool (with keywords) can help users to find multiple highly relevant results even when their original choice of keywords has multiple meanings.



Needlebot's Conceptual Search Tool (Paragraph Search)

Example 4a: User seeking documents related to the 1996 IRA Lisburn bombing

The top hits from Needlebot's Conceptual Search tool are highly relevant even though the search paragraph does not contain the keywords: IRA, Irish Republican Army or Sinn Fein

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Paragraph Searched: *Two loud explosions rang out near the British army's Northern Ireland headquarters at Lisburn near Belfast on Monday and police said there were reports of injuries. I believe there were injuries, a spokesman for the Royal Ulster Constabulary police said. Police said they were investigating the blast and it was not clear if it had been caused by a bomb. They said they had received no bomb warnings, which are usually given by the guerrilla groups fighting for and against British rule of the province. An army spokesman reported black smoke in the vicinity of the Lisburn base but had no immediate information on the cause and location of the blast. The Lisburn barracks houses a large part of Britain's 18,000-strong army presence in Northern Ireland. Last week police found a car bomb packed with explosives in Belfast. A breakaway Irish republican group fighting British rule claimed responsibility for planting the device, which failed to detonate*

1 - article id: 99274 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; WAR, CIVIL WAR

UK: Blast near British army base near Belfast.

BELFAST 1996-10-07Two explosions were heard near the British army's Northern Ireland headquarters at Lisburn near Belfast on Monday and police said there were reports of injuries. I believe there were injuries, a spokesman for the Royal Ulster Constabulary police said. Police said they were investigating the blast and it was not clear if it had been caused by a bomb. They said they had received no bomb warnings, which are usually given by the guerrilla groups fighting for and against British rule of the province. An army spokesman reported black smoke in the vicinity of the Lisburn base but had no immediate information on the cause and location of the blast. The Lisburn barracks houses a large part of Britain's 18,000-strong army presence in Northern Ireland. Last week police found a car bomb packed with explosives in Belfast. A breakaway Irish republican group fighting British rule claimed responsibility for planting the device, which failed to detonate.

[more like this](#)

2 - article id: 99284 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DEFENCE; WAR, CIVIL WAR

UK: Army says 20 soldiers hit in N.Ireland blast.

BELFAST 1996-10-07The British army said that 20 of its soldiers were wounded on Monday by a double car bomb at its Northern Ireland headquarters in Lisburn, south of Belfast. It said another 11 civilian workers were injured. It was the first authoritative breakdown of casualty figures.

[more like this](#)

3 - article id: 99302 - high rank: 3

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; DOMESTIC POLITICS; WAR, CIVIL WAR

UK: Major calls bombs barbaric and unspeakable.

LONDON 1996-10-07British Prime Minister John Major said the bombers who struck a Northern Ireland army base on Monday were barbaric and unspeakable. I think what they have done is barbaric, he told BBC Television after the two bomb attacks that injured about 20 people in Lisburn, south of Belfast. To have placed a bomb without warning to kill or maim innocent men and women and then to place a second bomb where those people already injured and maimed might be caught as they sought medical attention, or to kill the people giving them medical attention, is just unspeakable, he added. No group has claimed responsibility for the blasts.

[more like this](#)

4 - article id: 99325 - high rank: 4

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; WAR, CIVIL WAR

UK: Several hurt in blast at British N.Ireland base.



BELFAST 1996-10-07 Several people were injured when two suspected bombs exploded inside Britain's Northern Ireland army headquarters at Lisburn, near Belfast, on Monday. Police said the explosions occurred inside the perimeter of the British base and security sources said they believe the explosions were caused by bombs. Ambulances rushed to the scene and black smoke hung over the base, some 10 miles (16 km) south of Belfast, where a large proportion of the 18,000 British troops in Northern Ireland is based. Police said no bomb warning was given by any of the province's rival guerrilla groups. Northern Ireland has been largely immune from violence since rival guerrilla groups called ceasefires in 1994 but the Irish Republican Army (IRA) went back to war against British rule with attacks on British mainland targets in February.

[more like this](#)

5 - article id: 83160 - high rank: 5

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; WAR, CIVIL WAR

UK: UK police charge four guerrilla suspects.

LONDON 1996-09-28 British police said on Saturday they were charging four men with conspiracy to cause an explosion under the country's anti-terrorism laws. The four men were arrested last Monday after raids in London that netted 10 tonnes of explosives. One man was shot dead by police during the raid and a sixth man has been released. Police said the men would appear before a magistrates court on Monday. They said Patrick Kelly, Brian McHugh, James Murphy and Michael Phillips have been charged with conspiring to cause an explosion likely to endanger life and possession of explosives. The haul of explosives, together with weapons and bomb-making equipment, was seen as a crushing blow to Irish Republican Army morale. It also ended speculation that the guerrillas were preparing to call a new ceasefire in their campaign against British rule of Northern Ireland.

[more like this](#)

Note: The top four hits in the results list produced by **Needlebot's Conceptual Search tool** (paragraph search tool), are highly relevant documents related to the 1996 IRA bombing in Lisburn. The next few hits on the first page of the results list contained documents related to other 1996 IRA incidents including the 1996 London dockland bombing.

Note that the conceptual search paragraph used in this example, (see page 20), did not contain many of the keywords usually associated with these incidents such as: "IRA", "Irish Republican Army", "Protestant Loyalist gunmen", or "Sinn Fein".

The above example demonstrates the power of Needlebot's conceptual search technology to allow the user to find highly relevant documents without having to spend time thinking about what the ideal keywords should be for that particular search, (as is usually the case with traditional keyword-based search engines).

Furthermore, with traditional keyword-based search tools, even when the user has provided the correct keywords, highly relevant documents that contain synonyms of these specific chosen keywords are often missed completely. The above example demonstrates that Needlebot's conceptual search technology does not suffer from this limitation.



Needlebot's Conceptual Search Tool (Paragraph Search)

Example 4b: User seeking documents related to legalizing abortion in Guernsey

Note: The Reuters 1996 database does not contain any documents related to the 1996 abortion law in Guernsey but our technology still returned some very interesting results including hits about abortion laws in the US and S.Africa as well as hits for the related themes of euthanasia and hunger strikes laws

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Paragraph Searched: *Guernsey has voted to legalize abortions, removing a law passed in 1910. As the law currently stands, women found guilty of having an abortion on the Channel Island faces life imprisonment. But in practice, women who want a termination travel to the mainland for the operation. This situation led the island's parliament to vote overwhelmingly to bring its laws up to date. It has agreed in principle to allow abortions up to 12 weeks into pregnancy if a woman has the consent of two doctors. The vote follows months of campaigning by "pro-choice" activists and two days of debate by local politicians.*

1 - article id: 57909 - high rank: 63

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; HEALTH; DOMESTIC POLITICS

SOUTH AFRICA: Post-apartheid S.Africa moves on abortion reform.

CAPE TOWN 1996-09-18The South African government, tackling one of the toughest moral issues of post-apartheid reform, proposed a draft law on Tuesday that would allow abortion on demand for women. But, reflecting sensitivity on the issue, the proposed thresholds for allowing abortions were far more conservative than those approved by the government earlier this year. The Termination of Pregnancy Bill published by Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma sees abortion on demand up to the 12th week of pregnancy and, under strict conditions, up to the 20th week. A pregnant girl under the age of 18 is advised to consult parents and family members, but may not be refused an abortion if she decides to go ahead without doing so, the bill says. Abortion has divided South Africa for decades, with the conservative white Afrikaner minority most strongly opposing reform. Current laws disallow abortion except after rape or where there is a clear danger to a woman's mental or physical health and about 1,000 legal abortions are performed in South Africa every year. But unofficial estimates are that an estimated 120,000 women procure illegal abortions each year. The proposals were broadly in line with recommendations by a parliamentary committee last year for revision of the long-standing ban. But the thresholds proposed are significantly more conservative than those put forward by the committee and approved by the cabinet in July. After weeks of often-acrimonious debate, the multi-party committee suggested abortion on demand for 14 weeks and subject to moderate conditions up to the 28th week. The cabinet backed the proposal in July, at its first meeting after the June 30 withdrawal of former president F.W. de Klerk's Calvinist National Party (NP) from President Nelson Mandela's unity government. De Klerk has listed opposition to abortion and a campaign for a return to capital punishment amongst key issues for his party, in opposition for the first time in nearly five decades. The bill published on Tuesday tightens the conditions under which an abortion can be performed after the 12th week listing physical or emotional risk, rape, sexual abuse and severe social or economic consequences as reasons to allow it. South Africa's Medical Research Council says close to 50,000 women report to hospitals every year with incomplete backstreet abortions and about 425 of them die as a result. The bill says men should have no role in a final decision, proposing: No consent other than that of the pregnant woman, unless she is incapable of giving consent, shall be required for the termination of pregnancy. The operation must be carried out by a doctor or midwife in a registered facility. If passed into law by parliament, the new legislation will make it a criminal offence to bar anyone access to such a facility.

[more like this](#)

2 - article id: 26085 - high rank: 173

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT; INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SWEDEN: Swedish Queen calls for end to child sex slavery.

STOCKHOLM 1996-08-31Sweden's Queen Silvia, who recently caused a storm by publicly criticising Sweden's soft child pornography laws, on Saturday called for global action to rescue children from sex slavery. Closing the first World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Queen Silvia urged all sectors of society to join forces on regional, national and international levels. We owe this to the children that have been abused, tortured and even killed by sex offenders and to the children who are at risk of becoming victims, said the queen, patron of the conference. This modern form of slavery has to be stopped. The five-day conference, overshadowed by a horrific child sex scandal unfolding in Belgium, focused on ways to deal with child prostitution, the sale of children for sexual purposes and child pornography. The queen, who attacked Swedish politicians in an uncharacteristic outburst last month for not yet criminalising the possession of child pornography, kept her comments global. Much has been achieved during this congress but the most important work remains to be done, Queen Silvia told the conference that attracted 1,341 government and non-governmental representatives from some 130 countries. We know as long as there is any child who is being sexually exploited, there is work to do. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has estimated that every year another one million children worldwide are forced into the sex trade. The congress, organised by UNICEF, End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT), the NGO Group on the Rights of the Child, and the Swedish



government, has drawn up a declaration and agenda for action by the turn of the century. No decision has yet been made for a follow-up conference but organisers said several countries had already expressed willingness to host a similar event in a few years time. Child abuse is an issue that the German-born Queen Silvia, 52, who has three children herself, takes to heart. Last year she shocked a international women's meeting when she announced she had seen some child pornography, seized from the homes of Swedish paedophiles, and it had disgusted her. Sweden lags behind other countries with its child pornography laws although they are currently under review. Although Sweden has changed dramatically since the 1970s when it allowed the commercial production of child pornography, possession is still not considered a crime. Sweden protects possession of child pornography under a constitutional law designed to guarantee freedom of speech and to outlaw possession requires constitutional amendments. A survey by the University of Minnesota in the United States, presented at the conference, found that 127 countries out of 165 questioned legislated against child pornography. Of these 46 had specific laws prohibiting child pornography and 81 had a general law prohibiting all forms of pornography. But 26 countries, including South Africa, had no laws prohibiting any form of pornography. Twelve countries left sections of the survey blank.

[more like this](#)

3 - article id: 26088 - high rank: 174

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT; BIOGRAPHIES, PERSONALITIES, PEOPLE**

SWEDEN: Swedish Queen calls for end to child sex slavery. [CORRECTED 06:53 GMT]

STOCKHOLM 1996-08-31Sweden's Queen Silvia, who recently caused a storm by publicly criticising Sweden's soft child pornography laws, on Saturday called for global action to rescue children from sex slavery. Closing the first World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Queen Silvia urged all sectors of society to join forces on regional, national and international levels. We owe this to the children that have been abused, tortured and even killed by sex offenders and to the children who are at risk of becoming victims, said the queen, patron of the conference. This modern form of slavery has to be stopped. The five-day conference, overshadowed by a horrific child sex scandal unfolding in Belgium, focused on ways to deal with child prostitution, the sale of children for sexual purposes and child pornography. The queen, who attacked Swedish politicians in an uncharacteristic outburst last month for not yet criminalising (corrects from decriminalising) the possession of child pornography, kept her comments global. Much has been achieved during this congress but the most important work remains to be done, Queen Silvia told the conference that attracted 1,341 government and non-governmental representatives from some 130 countries. We know as long as there is any child who is being sexually exploited, there is work to do. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has estimated that every year another one million children worldwide are forced into the sex trade. The congress, organised by UNICEF, End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT), the NGO Group on the Rights of the Child, and the Swedish government, has drawn up a declaration and agenda for action by the turn of the century. No decision has yet been made for a follow-up conference but organisers said several countries had already expressed willingness to host a similar event in a few years time. Child abuse is an issue that the German-born Queen Silvia, 52, who has three children herself, takes to heart. Last year she shocked a international women's meeting when she announced she had seen some child pornography, seized from the homes of Swedish paedophiles, and it had disgusted her. Sweden lags behind other countries with its child pornography laws although they are currently under review. Although Sweden has changed dramatically since the 1970s when it allowed the commercial production of child pornography, possession is still not considered a crime. Sweden protects possession of child pornography under a constitutional law designed to guarantee freedom of speech and to outlaw possession requires constitutional amendments. A survey by the University of Minnesota in the United States, presented at the conference, found that 127 countries out of 165 questioned legislated against child pornography. Of these 46 had specific laws prohibiting child pornography and 81 had a general law prohibiting all forms of pornography. But 26 countries, including South Africa, had no laws prohibiting any form of pornography. Twelve countries left sections of the survey blank.

[more like this](#)

4 - article id: 66704 - high rank: 1

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; HEALTH; DOMESTIC POLITICS**

SOUTH AFRICA: S.African parliament opens abortion debate.

CAPE TOWN 1996-09-20South Africa's parliament set the scene on Friday for the toughest moral debate of its 30-month democracy, canvassing views on a disputed proposal to allow abortion. Abe Nkomo, chairman of the parliamentary committee on health, said his group would hold public hearings on the proposal in October and hoped to shepherd the bill into law before the end of the parliamentary session in November. Though his committee's debate is likely to deal with the details of the plan to end South Africa's near total ban on abortion, Nkomo said he would consider submissions on whether to allow abortion at all. We don't want to repeat the nightmare of the past, when things were steamrollered through parliament. We want the people to feel that they have made their input and have been taken on board, he told a news conference. We are going to produce, as a result of these hearings, the thinking of the people. South Africa's Medical Research Council says close to 50,000 women report to hospitals every year after botched backstreet abortions from which over 400 die. About 1,000 abortions are approved every year for rape victims or women whose health is seriously threatened by pregnancy, but unofficial estimates are that about 120,000 women procure illegal abortions every year. Nkomo said the government would not consider a referendum to test public opinion and said the ruling African National Congress had not yet decided whether to join other parties and allow members a free vote. National Party health spokesman Willie Odendaal said his white-led Calvinist party would do everything in its power to reverse the move towards legal abortion on demand. The NP believes that both pre-born and post-born South African citizens have the same constitutional basic human right to life, he said. The Termination of Pregnancy Bill tabled by Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma this week plans free abortion on demand up to 12 week into pregnancy and under broadly defined conditions for a further eight weeks.

[more like this](#)

5 - article id: 58181 - high rank: 200

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT**

COLOMBIA: Colombian police report arrest of "Death Doctor".

BOGOTA Colombia 1996-09-17Colombian police reported the arrest on Tuesday of a bogus surgeon known by his alias as the Doctor of Death. A statement from the Judicial Police said Alexander Velez Bohorquez, who was arrested in the capital late on Monday, was wanted



on at least one count of murder for botching an abortion that claimed the life of an 18-year-old earlier this year. Velez, dubbed the Doctor of Death, worked out of several clinics in the Bogota area, the statement said. It did not elaborate, but the crime pages of Bogota dailies often carry reports about unlicensed doctors and dentists caught in the act of performing lifethreatening surgery.

[more like this](#)

6 - article id: 88410 - high rank: 34

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT; HEALTH

USA: Kevorkian supporters applaud Supreme Court decision.

DETROIT 1996-10-01 Advocates on both sides of the assisted-suicide debate in Dr. Jack Kevorkian's home state applauded Tuesday the Supreme Court's decision to hear arguments on the controversial practice. But Geoffrey Fieger, attorney for the country's best-known assisted-suicide crusader, does not think the nation's high court will rule in favour of the right-to-die movement. Fieger told reporters Tuesday he is concerned that conservative members of the nation's high court may use the opportunity to thwart Kevorkian's efforts. It would have been better if the Supreme Court did not hear this issue, said Fieger. Opening the way for a landmark decision, the high court said Tuesday it will review laws in New York and Washington states that ban a mentally competent, terminally ill person from dying with a doctor's help. The cases do not involve Kevorkian. The retired pathologist, who lives in the Detroit suburb of West Bloomfield, has fanned the debate on a national scale by helping at least 41 people from across the country die since 1990. Janet Good, founder of the Hemlock Society of Michigan, a right-to-die advocacy group, said she is glad the Supreme Court has finally decided to take up the issue. It's about time. The people of this country in all the polls have said what they want, and I'm confident the Supreme Court will follow the lower courts, said Good. Good, who has been at Kevorkian's side when he helped people die and is herself terminally ill with pancreatic cancer, said she is also happy that Kevorkian is not involved in the cases. This is an issue that goes beyond Kevorkian, she said. Kevorkian's arch rival, Oakland County, Michigan, Prosecutor Richard Thompson, said he welcomed the Supreme Court's decision. He expressed confidence the court will find there is no constitutional right for doctor-assisted suicide. It would drastically transform the physician-patient relationship, and change the medical profession from healers into killers, Thompson said in a statement. Thompson lost his primary bid for re-election last month, partly because of his two unsuccessful attempts to put Kevorkian behind bars. A total of three juries have acquitted Kevorkian on assisted-suicide charges relating to five deaths. American Medical Association Chair Dr. Nancy Dickey said in a statement she is pleased the Supreme Court will make a declaration on what she called a misguided and unethical practice. Another Kevorkian foe, Cardinal Adam Maida, Archbishop of Detroit, said he is concerned about what the court may rule. Our experience with Supreme Court rulings has shown us that the moral values of life and death are often ignored in the debate over legal precedents, he said in a statement. Diane Trombley, a spokeswoman for Right To Life-Lifespan of Metro Detroit, predicted the court's ruling will not settle the matter. She noted the controversy that still rages more than 20 years after the decision legalising abortion.

[more like this](#)

7 - article id: 60458 - high rank: 139

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; HEALTH

USA: RU 486 pill could transform U.S. abortion debate.

WASHINGTON 1996-09-18 A chemical compound discovered in a French laboratory more than a decade ago could transform the abortion debate in America, an issue so explosive and sensitive that it has caused fissures in American politics and murders at American clinics. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday deemed approvable mifepristone, better known as RU 486, the French abortion drug. That means the FDA believes it is safe and effective, but the non-profit Population Council must provide the FDA some more information on labeling and manufacturing, conditions that the Population Council said it expects to fulfill. However, some abortion rights activists have concerns about whether all the obstacles -- technical and especially financial -- can be overcome to get the drug swiftly to market given all the political overtones of the abortion debate. There's no manufacturer standing ready and able to make it available for American women next week, next month, or even, I believe, next year, said Janet Benshoof, president of the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy. If you've just found out you're pregnant -- start picking names. Yet both sides in the abortion debate that has raged in the courts, in state legislatures, in national political campaigns and in the clinics regard FDA approval as a watershed that will make it easier for women to get an abortion early in pregnancy. The 1973 Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court ruling protecting abortion rights has stood repeated legal challenges. But although abortion is legal throughout the United States, access is very uneven. In most big cities, abortion is available, although some states have imposed waiting periods or restrictions on minors. But in more than four out of five U.S. counties, no doctors perform abortions. Many medical students, including future obstetricians, do not learn how to do them. Clinics have been vandalized and bombed. Patients have been accosted and harassed. Doctors and clinic workers have been murdered. But a pill means a woman does not have to go to a clinic. Early in her pregnancy -- the Population Council is seeking approval for the drug through the seventh week -- she just has to go to the doctor's office and swallow some pills that will block a hormone essential to pregnancy. It is by no means as simple as taking an aspirin. The patient requires close medical supervision and may experience discomfort. In most cases she will require a return visit to the doctor's office a few days later to take a second drug to start contractions to expel the embryo. But no protesters lingering outside with posters and pamphlets can tell who is getting an abortion, and who is just going in to her doctor for a stomach ache or sore throat. I believe it will help reduce clinic violence, said Eleanor Smeal, president of the Feminist Majority. And we already know that many more doctors will be willing to administer mifepristone than do surgical abortions. Anti-abortion rights groups have fought hard against the drug, accusing President Bill Clinton and FDA commissioner David Kessler of politicizing the drug approval process to advance an abortion agenda. The Clinton administration helped negotiate the unusual arrangement in which a non-profit group, instead of the pharmaceutical maker, sponsored the drug before the FDA and coordinated the clinical trials. For us it doesn't really change anything -- National Right to Life Committee works by educating people about abortion, said the anti-abortion group's spokeswoman Michele Arocha Allen. We are seeing yet another way to kill unborn children, this time by using their mothers as guinea pigs as well, she said, arguing that long-term effects of the drug have not been adequately studied. Other anti-abortion groups were more blunt. Pro-life activists around the world consider RU 486 to be the modern day equivalent to the Zyklon-B gas used by Hitler, Operation Rescue said in a statement.

[more like this](#)

8 - article id: 75575 - high rank: 86



Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; HEALTH; DOMESTIC POLITICS

USA: U.S. Senate expected to sustain abortion bill veto.

WASHINGTON 1996-09-25The Senate was expected to sustain President Bill Clinton's veto of the so-called partial birth abortion bill on Thursday, amid signs abortion rights supporters are increasingly edgy about the emotional issue. Both Democrats and Republicans said on Wednesday they expected the Senate to uphold Clinton's veto, although a handful of lawmakers who initially voted against the bill may change position on the contentious election-year issue. The House of Representatives narrowly voted to override the veto last week. The bill passed the Senate 54-44 in December, well short of the two-thirds majority needed for a veto override. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott called the vote an uphill battle, but added it could get to be a lot closer than people thought as lawmakers switched sides. Partial birth abortion, technically called dilation and evacuation, is sometimes used in later-term abortions. Under the technique a foetus is partially delivered feet first until just the head remains in the birth canal. The brains are then suctioned out and the skull collapsed. The legislation - the first time Congress has moved to ban a specific abortion technique -- represents a turning point in the abortion debate from generalities to a graphic focus on the details of specific techniques. The emotional debate; intense opposition by the Catholic Church, which sent millions of postcards to Congress; and recent news articles showing it may be used more often than originally claimed, seem to be having an impact. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, who voted against the original bill, said he had promised fellow Democrats he would try to work out a compromise measure after Thursday's vote. Daschle said he had no objection to banning the procedure for elective abortions where there was no health problem, but wanted to ensure it would be available when medically needed. We have no reservations about prohibiting the practice for purposes of just mere convenience, but we do believe that there are very vital, very important health issues that have to be addressed, said Daschle, a South Dakota Democrat. I have made a commitment ... to see if we can't work out language that would be suitable on all sides, and come back and pass this bill 100-0 next year, he said. Abortion opponents call the health exception a loophole to let the abortions continue and quote a coalition of physicians who contend there is no medical reason for the procedure. Further, they point to recent newspaper articles indicating the technique may be used more frequently than previously believed and in second-trimester abortions where there is no health problem with the woman or foetus. We aren't coming back next year and working out (any) compromise, said Andrea Sheldon, director of government affairs for the Traditional Values Coalition. Abortion rights groups initially estimated the technique was used about 500 times a year, mainly in cases of severe foetal abnormalities. Many senators who voted against the ban in December are becoming uncomfortable as they see their rationale unravel, said Douglas Johnson of the National Right to Life Committee. When Clinton vetoed the bill in April, he said he had concerns about the procedure but could not sign it because it did not include constitutional protections for a woman's health. The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League challenged news reports saying the total was higher. We're getting all caught up in the numbers ... and we're allowing the other side to distract us, said NARAL president Kate Michelman who called the bill an unprecedented intrusion into medical practice that would endanger women's health. According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, nearly 90 percent of the 1.5 million U.S. abortions each year take place in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

[more like this](#)

9 - article id: 9957 - high rank: 76

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; HEALTH; DOMESTIC POLITICS

AUSTRALIA: World's first voluntary euthanasia law survives.

SYDNEY 1996-08-22The world's first voluntary euthanasia law survived a challenge in Australia's Northern Territory parliament on Thursday when opponents failed in a bid to repeal the assisted suicide legislation. The territory's parliament defeated the Right to Human Life bill 14 to 11 in a free vote after a five-hour debate. The law, which came into effect on July 1 but has not yet been used, survived a court challenge last month and still faces challenges in the national parliament and Australia's High Court. The assisted suicide law allows terminally-ill patients to end their life by lethal injection or pill as long as they meet strict conditions. Territory opposition backbencher Neil Bell, who introduced the right to life bill, said he was disappointed with the vote, but that the matter was far from resolved. There's a lot of people out there who are concerned and a lot of other people who don't understand it, Bell told Reuters by telephone from Darwin, the territory's capital. Doctors have been warned they may face murder charges if they assist a patient to die and the law is subsequently repealed. The territory's Supreme Court last month rejected a challenge brought by a coalition of doctors, church and aboriginal leaders, ruling the law was within the territorial parliament's power. The euthanasia law still faces a challenge in Australia's national parliament where a government backbencher intends to introduce legislation in the next few weeks to override the law. A challenge is also expected in Australia's High Court with euthanasia opponents seeking a ruling on the legislation's constitutional validity. Northern Territory Chief Minister Shane Stone said on Thursday he expected the challenge in the national parliament could succeed.

[more like this](#)

10 - article id: 12477 - high rank: 48

Reuters Topics: GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS; WAR, CIVIL WAR

FRANCE: Hunger strikers vow to maintain Paris protest.

PARIS 1996-08-23The 300 Africans holed up in a Paris church since June said on Friday they planned to maintain their occupation, following Prime Minister Alain Juppe's refusal to grant them blanket permission to remain in France. Spokeswoman Madjiguene Cisse, one of the 300 in the Saint-Bernard church, said the decision to keep up the protest had been urged by the 10 of them who are on the 50th day of a hunger strike to pressure the government into granting them all residence permits. The decision came after Juppe announced in a television message that France's highest administrative court, the Council of State, had endorsed his government's view that the 300 Africans were not legally entitled, as a block, to residence permits. But Juppe said the government still intended to review their right to remain in France on a case-by-case basis and had no intention of using deportation to break up families or expel seriously ill individuals. Following Juppe's videotaped statement, protesters said they had received several calls warning that police were preparing to eject them early on Friday, although hundreds of sympathisers have surrounded the Saint-Bernard church to protect them. Juppe said the Council of State fully backed his view that the group of protesting immigrants lacked the right to stay in France under 1993 laws tightening conditions for residence. It would be against the law to give blanket residence permits to this or that group. We are going to continue a review of individual situations, he said. However he added: It never crossed our mind to expel someone who is seriously ill, separate a mother from



her children, break up a couple, or expel parents of children who were born in France or are French citizens. In a possible face-saving way out of their impasse, Cisse, in an interview with Reuters, hinted that the 10 hunger strikers might end their fast should the government give them a written guarantee that they were entitled to residence permits because their refusal to eat had left them seriously ill. Many of the protesters say they once had residence rights and were plunged into illegality by hardline 1993 laws pushed through by then interior minister Charles Pasqua at a time of mounting anti-immigrant sentiment. Lawyers say loopholes in the laws, which also tightened conditions for citizenship, have created a legal nightmare. Juppe said the law would nonetheless be enforced. But the far-right National Front party, which advocates sending home all immigrants, taunted Juppe for weakness. Words yes, but where is the action? a Front statement said. Signalling their determination to force the government into what would amount to a humiliating retreat, the protesters have called a new rally for next week after a march through Paris drew 5,000 demonstrators on Wednesday. The hunger strikers have been drinking sweet tea and taking vitamin pills, but two are said to be in a serious condition.

[more like this](#)

Note: The Reuters 1996 database does not contain any documents related to the 1996 abortion law in Guernsey described in the search paragraph (see page 22). However, the above example demonstrates the ability of **Needlebot's Conceptual Search tool** to return documents that describe several related topics such as:

- Abortion laws in S. Africa (see hit #1 on page 22; and hit # 4 on page 23)
- Abortion laws in the U.S. (see hit #7 on page 24; and hit # 8 on page 25)
- Euthanasia laws in the U.S. (see hit #6 on page 24)
- Euthanasia laws in Australia (see hit #9 on page 25)
- Hunger strikers in France protesting immigration laws (see hit #10 on page 25)

It is interesting to note that most of the results listed above are clearly related by the fact that they contain the same general theme: i.e. *laws governing the right to end a life* – a topic that is clearly included in the original target search paragraph.

The above example demonstrates the power of Needlebot's conceptual search technology to go beyond the realm of simple keyword-based searches and instead, give the user the option of finding documents that may span different topics but contain the same general themes.



Improved Results using Needlebot's User Profiles Tool (User Profile: Crime)

Example 5a: User seeks hits related to the Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski

All 49 hits in the database are initially returned when a simple keyword search is performed for the term "Theodore" but only 1 hit on the first page was related to the Unabomber. However, when the "Crime" User Profile was selected, all 7 highly relevant documents in the database appeared on the first page

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Keywords Searched: **Theodore**

Selected User Profile: **Crime**

1 - article id: 100101 - high rank: 48

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT**

USA: U.S. High Court denies Unabomber suspects appeal.

WASHINGTON 1996-10-07The Supreme Court Monday rejected an appeal by accused Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski seeking to prevent the Justice Department from prosecuting him because of government leaks to the news media. Kaczynski, who has been charged in a number of the mail bombings attributed to the so-called Unabomber because universities and airlines were the first targets, also asked the justices to order a lower-court hearing to go over the evidence supporting his claims. But without comment or dissent, the high court denied the appeal by the former mathematics professor turned recluse who was arrested in April at his remote Montana cabin. In his Supreme Court appeal, Kaczynski claimed the leaks poisoned the entire population of grand jurors within the United States against him. A Justice Department prosecutor told a court hearing in California last month that Kaczynski, 54, kept detailed journals in which he admitted each of the 16 bombings since 1978 that killed three people and injured 23 others. On June 18, a federal grand jury in Sacramento, California returned a 10-count indictment against Kaczynski charging him with four separate bomb attacks that killed two persons and injured two others. Kaczynski has pleaded not guilty to those charges, which carry a maximum sentence of the death penalty. Later in June, the Justice Department announced that four new indictments had been unsealed charging Kaczynski in three more bombings in Utah, Tennessee and Michigan in the 1980s. In October, Kaczynski was charged with the 1994 mail bomb attack that killed advertising executive Thomas Mosser at his home in New Jersey. Justice Department prosecutors plan to go forward first with the Sacramento case, although a trial date has yet to be set. Kaczynski remains in jail without bond. The Supreme Court's rejection of Kaczynski's appeal marked the third time he has lost on those arguments. U.S. District Judge Charles Lovell in Montana had rejected Kaczynski's claims that his chances of setting a fair trial had been hurt by the spate of government leaks to the media during the search of his cabin. Then a federal appeals court in California denied Kaczynski's appeal. The Justice Department urged the Supreme Court to turn down the appeal, saying review was not warranted on procedural and substantive grounds. Department lawyers said Kaczynski's claims lacked merit and added that he cannot establish that he was prejudiced by the disclosures. They said Kaczynski's requested remedy would be too drastic, barring all prosecution against him. Among the items found in Kaczynski's cabin were an original copy of the Unabomber's rambling anti-technology manifesto, a typewriter used to write it, a bomb, a partially completed bomb and bomb making parts, FBI officials have said.

[more like this](#) [with](#) or [without](#) keywords [add to profile](#) **CRIME**

2 - article id: 46670 - high rank: 2

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT; WAR, CIVIL WAR**

USA: Alleged Unabombers family wanted him committed.

NEW YORK 1996-09-11The family of alleged Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski was so concerned about his mental state in 1991 that they tried to get him committed to a mental hospital, his brother and sister-in-law said in their first television interview. In the interview to be aired on Sunday on CBS's 60 Minutes, David Kaczynski, who turned his brother in to the FBI in April, said he and his wife, Linda Patrik, failed because it is extremely difficult to have someone committed. The couple added they knew nothing at the time about a link between Theodore Kaczynski and the Unabomber, who in a 17-year letter bombing campaign killed three people and injured 23 others in a self-declared war against technology. Patrik said she and her husband went to a psychiatrist who advised us that Ted was mentally disturbed, seriously disturbed -- that not only was he disturbed but that there was the possibility of violence. That stuck in my mind and it's stuck in my mind all these years. She said they were also told it was very difficult to have someone committed. so we did the next best thing that we could think of. They contacted one of Theodore Kaczynski's doctors in Montana, where he lived in a remote cabin, and asked the doctor to refer to therapy. We were told he had to be a danger -- a demonstrable danger to himself or others to have him committed, David Kaczynski said. He said he became suspicious about his brother early this year after newspapers published a 35,000-word anti-technology manifesto from the Unabomber. In it, he spotted many of his brother's ideas. Also interviewed on the programme was the Kaczynskis mother Wanda, who said the family would not profit from the \$1 million reward offered for the Unabomber's capture. We are not going to profit one cent from that, she said.

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3 - article id: 54146 - high rank: 28

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT**

USA: U.S. wants prompt start to Kaczynski trial.

SACRAMENTO Calif. 1996-09-14 The U.S. government wants the trial of Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski to begin at the end of March next year, according to court documents. In papers filed in U.S. District Court in Sacramento on Friday, federal prosecutors proposed that all pre-trial motions in the complex case be filed by November 20 and asked that the trial itself should begin on March 31, 1997. Prosecutors said it was especially important that any defence arguments about Kaczynski's sanity or competence to stand trial be raised early enough to avoid delay to the trial caused by psychiatric evaluations and related hearings. The defence has not said if it will raise such arguments. The timetable will be discussed at the next hearing in the case, set for September 20 in the California state capital before U.S. District Judge Garland Burrell. The defence response to the government's proposed timetable was not immediately known, but defence attorney Quin Denvir said in June he thought it very unlikely the trial would start in less than a year because defence attorneys have to go through a mountain of evidence turned over by the government. Kaczynski, 54, a Harvard-educated former mathematics professor turned mountain hermit, is accused of being the shadowy Unabomber who killed three people and injured 23 during an anti-technology bombing campaign between 1978 and 1995. Kaczynski was arrested at his remote cabin in Montana in April and was transferred two months later to Sacramento where he has been charged with four of the bombings, two of them deadly. He has pleaded not guilty. In a status report on the case, prosecutors said they had turned over extensive evidence to defence attorneys. By law, prosecutors are required to share the evidence they have with the defence before trial. Prosecutors said they had turned over evidence relating to not only the four bombings that Kaczynski is charged with but also 13 additional bombings and other actions with which he has not been charged.

Prosecutors said in the court papers that evidence found in Kaczynski's Montana cabin included a fully functional bomb. The government said investigators had opened more than 2,000 files on people who were investigated during the 17-year Unabomber probe, one of the most intensive in FBI history. Voicing concern about the privacy of innocent people who were investigated, prosecutors proposed strict conditions on sharing this information with the defence to prevent the names of those investigated from being made public. Prosecutors disclosed that they have asked that Kaczynski voluntarily provide handwriting, hair and blood samples, saying the samples were needed to complete the forensic review of certain physical and documentary evidence. If the government and defence could not agree on providing the samples, prosecutors said they expected to file a court motion to try to force Kaczynski to provide the samples. The federal charges against Kaczynski can carry the death penalty, although the government has not yet said if it will seek the death penalty against him. Kaczynski is held in an isolation cell at the Sacramento County jail.

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4 - article id: 100028 - high rank: 47

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT**

USA: Supreme Court opens term denies Kaczynski appeal.

WASHINGTON 1996-10-07 The U.S. Supreme Court opened its new term on Monday, denying Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski's request that his case be thrown out and rejecting a challenge to the Whitewater special prosecutor's authority. Reviewing a wide range of controversies, the high court also rejected a challenge to a 1994 federal law that guarantees access to abortion clinics and declined to take up sex-harassment cases involving schools and the workplace. The nine justices returned to the bench after a three-month recess, hearing oral arguments in three important cases while also disposing of most of the 1,600 appeals that piled up during the summer. The court got an early start to its 1996-97 term last week by entering the nationwide right-to-die debate and agreeing to decide if mentally competent, terminally ill patients may seek help from their doctors to commit suicide. On Monday it issued more orders, but did not add to the cases it has already agreed to decide during its new term. In perhaps the most widely publicised case, the high court rejected arguments by Kaczynski, the former mathematics professor turned recluse, seeking to bar his prosecution because of government leaks to the news media. Kaczynski, 54, allegedly carried out 16 mail bombings that killed three people and injured 23 since 1978. He had sought in his appeal a lower-court hearing to go over the evidence supporting his claims. Kaczynski, who is awaiting trial in California and has pleaded innocent, claimed the leaks poisoned (against me) the entire population of grand jurors within the United States. In another key case, the Supreme Court rejected appeals by former Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker and two business associates challenging Whitewater special prosecutor Kenneth Starr's authority to bring charges against them. The justices let stand a lower-court ruling that upheld Starr's jurisdiction to prosecute any offence he uncovers in his wide-ranging investigation of the failed Whitewater land deal in Arkansas, in which President Bill Clinton, then the state's governor, and his wife were partners in the 1980s. On the bench, the justices heard arguments on whether cable television companies can be forced to carry local broadcast stations -- a rule the cable industry has attacked as a form of illegal censorship. They also heard arguments in a case from Mississippi on whether a mother whose parental rights have been terminated may be required to pay more than \$2,000 in court costs before being allowed to appeal. In other action Monday, the court: --let stand a ruling that Congress has the power to adopt a 1994 law making it a crime to use force, threats of force or physical obstruction to interfere with abortion clinic staff or their patients; --rejected three separate appeals urging it to declare that the federal civil rights law covers sexual harassment in the workplace involving employees of the same sex; --turned down an appeal, supported by the Justice Department, seeking to hold schools liable under a federal law for failing to stop sexual harassment of female students by male students.

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5 - article id: 78842 - high rank: 42

Reuters Topics: **GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT**

USA: Officers in King beating face no further prison time.

LOS ANGELES 1996-09-26 A federal judge ruled Thursday that the two white policemen convicted in the videotaped 1991 beating of black motorist Rodney King will not be sent back to prison. Former Los Angeles police sergeant Stacey Koon and ex-officer Laurence Powell have been free from federal custody since December, but had to be formally resentenced to conform with a recent Supreme Court ruling in an appeal. The Supreme Court last June upheld the relatively lenient 30-month prison terms imposed by U.S. District Court Judge John Davies in 1993, but had ordered the judge to hold another hearing in case he wanted to reconsider the sentences. That was needed because the Supreme Court had set aside an appeals court ruling calling for Koon and Powell -- who were found guilty of violating King's civil rights



-- to receive more prison time. At Thursday's hearing, Davies reinstated his original sentence, allowing the men to remain free. Prosecutor Lawrence Middleton had sought more prison time plus fines, contending that the punishment they received was too light and that Koon had profited from his notoriety to the tune of close to \$10 million. We're satisfied, Koon's attorney, Ira Salzman, said outside court. But he accused prosecutors of meanness for making a last-ditch effort to impose further punishment. Koon, Powell and two other officers were acquitted of the beatings in state court in April 1992, touching off three days of rioting in Los Angeles that left 54 people dead and more than \$1 billion in damage. Koon and Powell were later convicted in a federal trial, while former officers Timothy Wind and Theodore Briseno were found not guilty. Under federal sentencing rules, Koon and Powell faced a potential sentence of 70 to 87 months, but Davies departed from the guidelines and imposed 30-month prison terms. Black community leaders denounced the sentence as far too lenient for the defendants roles in the videotaped attack, which was shown repeatedly on national television and sparked outrage against police brutality. Davies at the time cited several factors in justifying his downward departures from the sentencing guidelines, including his view that King had resisted arrest and was partly responsible for his own beating. Davies also said the officers were susceptible to abuse by others inmates in prison, that they had been subjected to state and federal prosecutions and that they had lost their jobs and livelihood. Acting on a request from prosecutors, a federal appeals court ruled that Davies should not have departed from the guidelines and, by implication, that the two should have drawn longer sentences. But the Supreme Court disagreed, ruling that most of the reasons Davies used to impose shorter prison terms were legally sound. In a final effort to change the judge's mind, Middleton said Thursday that the men should at least be fined. He contended that Koon had earned millions of dollars from sales of his book and contributions to a legal fund used to pay for his defence in three trials. King, who won \$3.8 million in damages from the city of Los Angeles and has continued having regular run-ins with the police, was not in court Thursday. But Koon and Powell sat behind their attorneys, showing no emotion when the judge announced his decision.

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Note: When a simple keyword search was performed for the keyword “**Theodore**” all 49 documents in the 1996 Reuters test database that contain this chosen search term were found. However, only one of the 7 documents related to the Unabomber, Theodore Kaczynski, appeared in the first page of results.

However, when **Needlebot’s User Profiles** (personalized search tool) was used with the “**Crime**” Profile selected, all 7 of these highly relevant documents appeared on the first page of results, (see pages 27-29).

The above example demonstrates how **Needlebot’s User Profiles** (personalized search tool) can be used to efficiently find multiple highly relevant documents that are likely to be of interest to the individual user who selected that particular user profile.

Note also that the user can store multiple user profiles related to different areas of interest. For example, if the user had selected the “**Movie Buff**” user profile instead while searching on the keyword “**Theodore**”, then the results would change to reflect the user’s current interests and would display those hit related to movies first. (See page 30).



Improved Results using Needlebot's User Profiles Tool (User Profile: Movie Buff)

Example 5b: User seeks news articles related to actors named Theodore

When a different User Profile, such as the "Movie Buff" profile is selected, the displayed results change to reflect the user's current interests. Hence, the 2 documents in the database that are related to movie news about actors named Theodore are displayed first.

Database: **Reuters 1996**

Keywords Searched: **Theodore**

Selected User Profile: **Movie Buff**

1 - article id: 39610 - high rank: 15

Reuters Topics: **MARKETS/MARKETING; CORPORATE/INDUSTRIAL; GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; ARTS, CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT**

USA: Seagrams "Bulletproof" tops U.S. box office.

LOS ANGELES 1996-09-08Bulletproof, a critically panned buddy comedy starring Damon Wayans and Adam Sandler, opened at the top of the U.S. box office with a gross of just \$6.0 million, according to studio estimates released Sunday. Most of the movies in the top 10 suffered large falls in the traditional post-Labor Day holiday slump. Last week's number one, The Crow: City of Angels, slid to seventh-equal with an estimated \$2.8 million. Bulletproof is released by Seagram Co Ltd's Universal Pictures, and is the studio's first number one movie since The Nutty Professor which opened June 28. According to a Variety poll of critics in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington DC, four liked Bulletproof, 10 did not and four were mixed. The new Whoopi Goldberg movie, Bogus, which also stars Gerard Depardieu, opened in 11th with \$1.9 million. It is released by Time Warner Inc's Warner Bros. The actress last movie, Theodore Rex, bypassed theaters and went straight to video. The Variety poll of critics showed five liked Bogus, 12 did not and 12 were mixed. The one bright light at the box office was The Spitfire Grill, which has been showing in limited release for the past two weekends. It launched successfully into wide release this weekend with a \$3.6 million gross. This landed it in fifth position, from 36th last weekend. The movie is released by Castle Rock Entertainment, a unit of Turner Broadcasting System Inc, and Columbia Pictures, a unit of Sony Corp. Kevin Costner's Warner Bros. golfing comedy Tin Cup was second for the third week in a row, this time with \$4.8 million. Its gross to date is \$42 million. Walt Disney Co's First Kid remained in third, where it opened last week. It made \$4.3 million this weekend for a total of \$13.6 million. Warner Bros. A Time To Kill was steady in fourth with \$3.9 million. Its total is \$97 million. Following are the rest of the top 10, with last weekend's position in parenthesis. 6 (7) Independence Day \$2.9 million 7=(6) Jack \$2.8 million 7=(1) The Crow: City of Angels \$2.8 million 7=(5) The Island Of Dr. Moreau \$2.8 million 10(8) A Very Brady Sequel \$2.3 million Independence Day is released by News Corp.'s 20th Century Fox. Jack is released by Disney, whose Miramax Films unit released The Crow: City of Angels. The Island Of Dr. Moreau is released by New Line Cinema, a unit of Turner Broadcasting. A Very Brady Sequel is released by Viacom Inc.'s Paramount Pictures.

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2 - article id: 39421 - high rank: 14

Reuters Topics: **MARKETS/MARKETING; CORPORATE/INDUSTRIAL; GOVERNMENT/SOCIAL; ARTS, CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT**

USA: "Bulletproof" penetrates top spot at U.S. box office.

LOS ANGELES 1996-09-08Bulletproof, a critically panned buddy comedy starring Damon Wayans and Adam Sandler, opened at the top of the U.S. box office with a gross of just \$6 million, according to studio estimates released Sunday. Most of the movies in the top 10 suffered large falls in the traditional post-Labour Day holiday slump. Last week's No. 1, The Crow: City of Angels, slid to seventh place with an estimated \$2.8 million. Bulletproof is released by Universal Pictures and is the studio's first No. 1 movie since The Nutty Professor, which opened June 28. According to a Variety poll of critics in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington DC, four liked Bulletproof, 10 did not and four were mixed. The new Whoopi Goldberg movie, Bogus, which also stars Gerard Depardieu, opened in 11th with \$1.9 million. The actress last movie, Theodore Rex, bypassed theatres and went straight to video. The Variety poll of critics showed five liked Bogus, 12 did not and 12 were mixed. The one bright light at the box office was The Spitfire Grill, which has been showing in limited release for the past two weekends. It launched successfully into wide release this weekend with a \$3.6 million gross. This landed it in fifth position, from 36th last weekend. Kevin Costner's golfing comedy Tin Cup was second for the third week in a row, this time with \$4.8 million. Its gross to date is \$42 million. First Kid remained in third, where it opened last week. It made \$4.3 million this weekend for a total of \$13.6 million. A Time To Kill was steady in fourth with \$3.9 million. Its total is \$97 million.

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Summary

The previous set of examples, performed on Reuters databases, demonstrate the ability of Needlebot's proprietary, patent-pending technology to dramatically improve existing search capabilities in closed document collections by producing superior search results and providing users with a new and attractive menu of search features.

In particular, Needlebot's advanced **Similar Pages** search tool could be easily integrated into any existing Enterprise search engine to provide users with a unique and extremely powerful conceptual search capability that was previously unavailable.

Needlebot's advanced **Similar Pages** search tool can also be used to further refine the initial list of search results given by either Needlebot's **User Profiles** tool or Needlebot's **Conceptual Search** tool, by clicking on the *more like this* link next to a selected relevant hit.

Please note that a similar set of examples has also been conducted on other test databases. Needlebot has retrieved, indexed and fingerprinted about 40,000 URL's from the Internet using popular search keywords, and about 6,500 publicly accessible pages crawled through Oracle's website at www.oracle.com. The results and documentation from these additional test case examples are also available to interested parties upon request.

For further information please contact Doug Gregory, Needlebot's Chief Executive Officer, at (973) 627-2019 (work) or (973) 476-1978 (cell) or via e-mail at doug.gregory@needlebot.com