

THE ONLINE SEARCHER'S COMPANION

Suranaree University of Technology



31051000562856

WILLIAM H FORRESTER
JANE L ROWLANDS

Contents

Introduction	1
Chapter 1 The pre-search process	5
Introduction	5
What sort of information will be found?	5
The pre-search stage	7
Summary.	24
Chapter 2 Basic search techniques	25
Introduction	25
Search request	25
Boolean operators	26
The adjacency operator.	31
Truncation	32
Summary.	34
Chapter 3 Advanced search techniques	35
Introduction	35
Free text vs. controlled terms	35
Descriptors	36
Field qualifiers	41

Limiting searches	42
SDI and saving search strategies	45
Summary.	46
Chapter 4 Full-text searching	47
Introduction	47
General considerations	48
Searching tips and techniques	48
Search operators for FT Profile	57
Summary.	58
Chapter 5 Basic Internet searching	61
Introduction	61
Internet-based online host systems	62
Searching the web	68
Summary.	87
Chapter 6 Quantity vs. quality (recall vs. precision)	89
Introduction	89
Improving the recall of your search strategy	90
<i>Improving the precision of your search strategy</i>	92
Summary.	94
Chapter 7 Worked examples	97
Introduction	97
Sample searches	98
Sample search A	98
Sample search B	101
Sample search C	103

Sample search D	105
Sample search E	107
Summary	109

Appendix 1 History of computers, online searching, and the Internet **111**

Introduction.	111
History	111
Major sources used	124

Appendix 2 Modems **125**

Introduction.	125
What is a modem?	125
How do modems connect with each other?	126
Flow control.	130
What other communication parameters are required?	131
Internal or external modems.	133

Appendix 3 Books and journals on online/Internet searching **137**

Introduction.	137
Books on online searching.	138
Books on searching the Internet.	139
Journals on online /Internet searching	140

Appendix 4 Major online database host services **145**

Introduction.	145
Major online host services	145

Index **151**