

Into the depths of theWeb

DeepWeb Technologies gives users access to information on the Internet that Google and other popular search engines can't find

By Cindy Bellinger

For The New Mexican

If you think everything you're looking for can be found through Internet search engines, think again. Statistics show that only 10 percent of the Internet's available information can be found through Google and other engines.

"The rest of what is available can be retrieved through deepWeb searches," said Abe Lederman, president of DeepWeb Technologies. "All documents that reside behind the surfaceWeb, like the Library of Medicine, use this new technology." And Lederman and his group are in the forefront of that new technology. After working at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lederman went into business for himself, garnering a research grant from the federal Department of Energy to investigate ways to penetrate the millions of documents out there. The grant was for \$1 million, which the group spent during three years in research and development.

"As soon as we made it available, we got strong responses," said Lederman, who says vast databases are held by universities, libraries and research centers. He cited the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Defense as a few of the government agencies that use DeepWeb Technologies.

Valerie Allen, who is the program manager for Science.gov in Oakridge, Tenn., said, "Abe pulls together the searching part of looking for information and brings up that information in a very short time. Deep Web makes it possible to search through records and very large databases that other search engines aren't able to get to." Allen says Lederman's technology puts quality into searches by narrowing the results. Put in a topic and DeepWeb Technologies will sift through thousands of documents and bring up the most pertinent. One example he gave was résumé databases. "Instead of going to 20 résumé sites, our technology will go through them all for you and filter out the specifics of what you're looking for." Lederman, who earned several computerscience degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and has been a software engineer for 25 years, says he's worked with information retrieval for 18 years. "It's still in the early stages. More and more people are depending on the Internet for knowledge and information that's up to date. We mine, aggregate and rank content from difficult-to-access regions of theWeb," he said.

Located above the CD Café on Guadalupe Street, the business occupies a 3,500 square-foot space and is growing quickly.

Lederman oversees 12 employees and says the firm is still hiring.

Because DeepWeb Technologies needs to stay competitive, all benefits are offered, he said. “We have to be able to hire the best. We recruit from all over the country.” Carl Sylvia, chief engineering architect, has worked for Lederman for two years.

“The work is challenging. We provide sophisticated searches and analysis. We can hide the complexities of searches and make it easy for the user,” he said.



Shih Fa Kao / The New Mexican

Abe Lederman started Deep Web Technologies in 2002. The company works with clients, such as the Department of Energy, the Science.gov Alliance and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities.

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