

the **index** Review

VOLUME 8

ISSUE 1

WINTER 2000

A PUBLICATION FOR DEFENSE ATTORNEYS, INSURANCE COMPANIES & SELF-INSURED S

THE IDEX TICKER

Expert involvements
added in the third
quarter of 2000
■ 15,833 ■

Frequency of successful
searches this year
■ 78.2% ■

Total database records
as of Sept. 16, 2000
■ 722,350 ■

Number of defense
offices in the network
■ 3,240 ■

WATCH FOR
THE NEW
index.com

IDEX and the Internet: A Comparison

The burgeoning expanse of the cyberworld continues to reveal new resources for the legal researcher. While this is exciting and often helpful, it may be time for a reality check. The Internet may not have what you need; data may not be in a useful format and it may not be accurate. After all there is little, if any, quality control of the Internet. Quoting Law Technology Product News, "For certain types of information, the Internet cannot match the offerings of the commercial services.... A common problem in litigation is finding [information on] a witness.. Although the Internet would appear to provide endless resources to assist in this task...the Internet falls far short when compared to commercial services." (April 1998, "Don't Cancel Your Database Accounts")

Inexpensive development and negligible operational costs are two of the reasons for the plethora of new Internet sites and extranet networks. The reality is that you get what you pay for. In the case of many new collaborative extranets, what you get may not be very much. Consider how the IDEX Defense Network compares.

Data dumping

Most collaborative Internet/extranet sites do what is called "data dumping," collecting and storing whatever is contributed with no correction or verification. No filtering of the information occurs. By contrast, the IDEX staff of research professionals actually identifies the expert, taking into consideration any discrepancies in an individual's name, specialty or location. This weeds out references to experts with similar names as well as locates references which otherwise may

have been overlooked. The research specialist matches the individual on whom the information is requested with the appropriate case or transcript data available and performs disciplinary and literature searches, if desired. At IDEX the most sophisticated supercomputer, the human brain, filters and analyzes all of the appropriate data to organize it under one listing in a format that will be most helpful to you. When you receive an IDEX report on a specific expert this filtering process has already been done, saving you an incredible amount of time and resources.

Is the Internet really free?

"FREE" information on the Internet may not be so "free" after all. Consider the hours spent sorting through the thousands of useless "hits" after completing an Internet search. The cost of an employee's or your own time must be calculated into the equation. As one legal librarian in Atlanta stated, "I can spend hours looking for articles which an individual may have written. If someone else can do the search for \$30.00, that amounts to about 20 minutes of my time!" She has realized that using a legal research company to outsource the task will ultimately save her client a great deal of money.

Amount of data

There is an enormous amount of information on the Internet. However, can you find exactly what you need when you need it and is the data organized in a useful format? IDEX has been in the business of tracking expert witness testimony for over 16 years. The network consists of over 3200 member offices contributing case information that is compiled

(Continued on page 3)

Gregory B Adams
Agency Relationships
Columbia, SC

Christopher Andrews
Engineering
Queensland, Australia

James Avault
Crawfish Aquaculture
Baton Rouge, LA

Phillip Barnes
Insurance
Austin, TX

Larry Batton
Appraisal
Charlottesville, VA

Mitchell Berlant
Builder
Warren, NJ

N.G. Berrill
Clinical Psychology
Great Neck, NY

Louis A Bloomfield
Physics
Charlottesville, VA

Frank E. Bolin
Engineering
Hewitt, TX

Eric Carlson
Phlebotomy
Long Island, NY

Emmett Carter
Financial
Oklahoma City, OK

Anthony Casendino
Architecture
Boston, MA

Luvonia Casperson
Economics
Shreveport, LA

Patricia Chappell
Medical Technology
Johnstown, PA

Dennis R Clark
Accounting
Helena, MT

Mark C Clements
Attorneys Fees
Dallas, TX

Elisa Coletta
Rehabilitation
Pawtucket, RI

Robert M. Cropper
Podiatry
Sarasota, FL

William C Cutlip
Actuarial
Verona, WI

Elizabeth Delell
Epidemiology
Birmingham, AL

Susan Dye
Life Care
Murraysville, WV

Glenn Fortenberry
Vocational
Brandon, MS

Donald Harvey
Accounting
Valparaiso, IN

Mark T Hobbs
Fraud
Columbia, SC

Henry C Hodges
Tire Inspection
Carson City, NV

Harry Hollien
Communications
Gainesville, FL

Leonora Horton
Nursing
Charleston, SC

Richard S Larkin
Real Estate
Brookfield, WI

James T Lee
Phenomenology
Minneapolis, MN

Juan Manfredi
Sales Tactics
Miami, FL

Raymond J Martin
Construction
Long Island, NY

Neil F Mathews
Chiropractic
Trenton, NJ

Subrata Saha
Bioengineering
Clemson, SC

Ziad M. Salameh
Structural Engineering
Germantown, WI

Pepper Schwartz
Sociology
Seattle, WA

Gordon Stubbs
Aircraft Consulting
Williamsburg, VA

Dennis E Totzke
Anaerobic Waste
Brookfield, WI

Chi Wai Wong
Acupuncture
New Hyde Park, NY

Alan Zipp
Accounting
Rockville, MD

Most Wanted

While IDEX completes more than 5,000 searches every month, occasionally we have no information on an expert. If you are familiar with any of these witnesses, please contact IDEX.

Barbara Fried
Blind Rehabilitation
Kingston, NY

Lawrence P Gelfond
Economics
Denver, CO

Sandra B Goldhaber
Social Work
Wheat Ridge, CO

Howard Goodfellow
Air Quality Modeling
Mississauga, Ontario

Al Garrod
Ergonomics
Greensboro, NC

Mitchell Graska
Recreational Vehicles
Houston, TX

Paul Griglio
Engineering
Lake Orion, MI

David L Kaplan
Biochemistry
Medford, MA

David A Kennett
Economics
Poughkeepsie, NY

James A Kerr
Geology
Golden, CO

Michael Kleinberger
Biomechanics
Laurel, MD

Michael Kotlicky
Optometry
Bethesda, MD

Thomas Kurcharek
Plant Pathology
Tallahassee, FL

Kelly Lance
Home Health Care
Draper, UT

Thomas A. McGraw
Oral Surgery
Durham, NC

C Edward Nowe
Aircraft Consulting
Lake Lake, FL

Kristin C Oberg
Pharmacy
Boston, MA

Alan Press
Insurance Underwriting
New York, NY

L Jackson Roberts
Clinical Pharmacology
Nashville, TN

C. Philip Ross
OSHA
Laguna Niguel, CA

Herman Sabath
Industrial Hygiene
New York, NY

i•dex (i'-deks), v.
1. to obtain the testimonial history of expert witnesses to be faced in a legal proceeding. 2. to search for articles written by or about experts and/or articles concerning key topics. 3. to search for court cases similar to a current court case. 4. to locate expert witnesses necessary to build a court case.

i•dex (i'-deks), n.
An organization for the defense serving attorneys, insurance companies and self-insureds in providing information critical to the desired outcome of legal proceedings.

EXPERTS NEEDED

If you know of an expert who can meet these requirements, please call IDEX at 1-800-521-5596. We'll pass along the information to the member who requested our help.

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER

specializing in gas stations. Any location.

TEXAS EXPERT

on Sick Building Syndrome and chronic fatigue.

EXPERTS NEEDED (con't)

BUILDING

or roof inspector, south Florida.

SECURITY SYSTEMS

Expert on security systems. Nationwide.

OSHA EXPERT

from the Northeast.

CHICAGO-BASED

child psychiatrist familiar with sign language.

Has IDEX helped you
in a recent case which
you'd like featured in
The IDEX Review?
Send it to us.

IDEX Pro Files

Peggy Broadway has been with IDEX since 1997, working her way up to the position of supervisor of our document department. Peggy and her department are responsible for scanning, storage and retrieval of the nearly 20,000 documents in our library. She encourages members to e-mail documents directly to her, peggy@idex.com, for storage here.



Peggy Broadway

The daughter of an Air Force Master Sergeant, Peggy has lived in Illinois, Kansas, Texas, Florida and Montana, as well as England and Germany. She loves to read, watch movies and play with her two dogs; Nightmare and Royal. Her favorite vacation destination is her parents' cabin in the mountains of Montana, where she disappears for a few weeks every summer. ☼

IDEX and the Internet (Continued from page 1)

in a database approaching 800,000 records. With almost 90,000 experts in the network's database, IDEX finds case involvements on 75%-80% of the experts requested. For many years, IDEX has added thousands of new records each month from requests and equally as many from a variety of other sources including published data, court reporting connections and other outside sources. In contrast, extranet services rely solely on participants' voluntary contributions to build their databases. We are aware of no other source that can compare to the quantity and quality of the data on expert testimony available from IDEX.

Much of the case information IDEX archives may never be found in other commercial databases or floating on the Internet. IDEX becomes aware of an expert's involvement early in the discovery process. Most claims settle. The expert may have provided a letter of opinion, a report, or perhaps a deposition prior to the settlement of the case. Often this type of case information may never be published, and therefore rarely found on the Internet. As a result, IDEX may be your best source of settled case information.

Real people providing personal service

Few Internet/extranet companies have staff available to help with customer service questions, much less with research issues.

The IDEX research staff is another key difference between IDEX and the Internet/extranets. You are busy. IDEX offers personal, customized research services to assist you. When you need the IDEX staff to conduct research for disciplinary actions, article searches or expert referral searches, they are ready to help.

In summary

Internet searches may provide you with a volume of unrelated information requiring hours to filter down to the appropriate data you really need. Research requests placed in the capable hands of IDEX will generally produce quality information in a manageable format within two business days, for less cost.

The goal of the IDEX defense network is to properly identify the expert in your action, to pull together information on that expert from many sources, and to connect you with defense attorneys who have the explicit information as well as the tacit knowledge you need to prepare your defense. ☼

IDEX Holiday Schedule

We will be closed:

Monday and Tuesday, December 25 & 26, 2000
Monday, January 1, 2001

IDEX

<http://www.idex.com>
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Overland Park, Kansas
66282-2426

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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KANSAS CITY, MO

- HEAD OF LITIGATION
- PARALEGAL MANAGER
- LIBRARY
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Remember, an IDEX membership is company-wide! Please route to others that may need to gather information on experts.

Members participate in electronic document archive

IDEX wishes to thank all those network members who are taking advantage of the Electronic Document Archive. There have been over 1500 documents submitted on ASCII disks which have been added to the document library, bringing the total of documents archived (hard copy and ASCII) to over 20,000. IDEX members are provided the opportunity to search our website for immediate copies of depositions or trial transcripts with a few clicks of the mouse as a result of these ASCII contributions to the network.

Access the IDEX website at www.idex.com and enter your name and member number. Search the IDEX database for the expert's name to pull a summary of the documents available through the network. Some will only be available through a request for copies; while others will indicate **available on-line** and you have the ability to download the document instantaneously.

Document management benefits members by:

- FREE archive and retrieval of your electronic documents
- Availability via the Internet or on disk from IDEX
- Making documents available for other defense counsel

The next time you take the deposition of an expert or obtain a trial transcript, submit an ASCII copy to the network. This not only allows other defense attorneys easy access to that valuable information, but also provides a beneficial archive tool for your own firm.

Join other members in making expert transcripts available to all IDEX members by submitting an ASCII disk. If you are interested in enrolling in the program, or should you have questions please call (800) 521-5596. ☞

Learn from the experts...about the experts..

IDEX staff members travel all over the country conducting in-house training programs for our network members. These sessions provide a great opportunity for your defense team to come together and discover how IDEX can support them in their search for information on and about expert witnesses.

In-Service topics to be covered include:

- Overview of the IDEX Defense Network and database
- Testimonial history (case history) of plaintiff and defense experts
- Electronic document archive available on-line
- Searching for medical and scientific literature
- Background searches on experts (including articles by or about experts and disciplinary actions)

Call 1-800-521-5596 for more details regarding a complimentary inservice.

Now scheduling in these locations...

January - San Diego and Silicon Valley area

February - North and South Carolina ☞

**Wishing all our IDEX members a
happy and healthy New Year!**