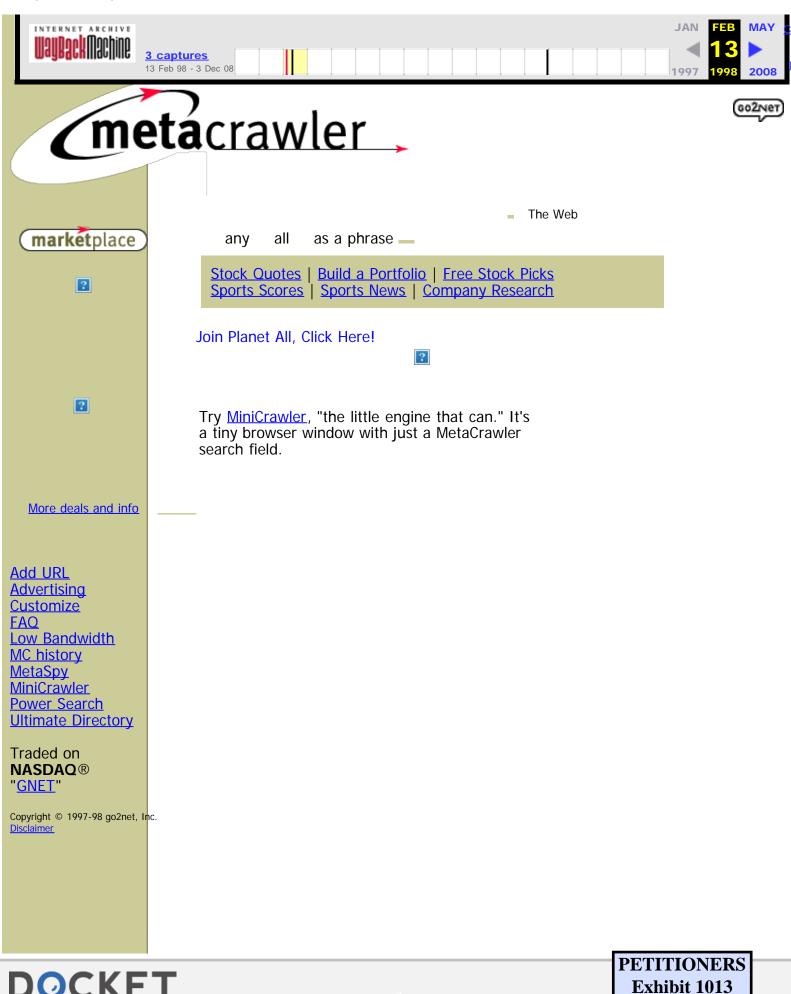
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The MetaCrawler FAQ

- 1. <u>How do I contact go2net about jobs, advertising or other MetaCrawler-related</u> <u>issues?</u>
- 2. How do I find out about go2net, Inc. investor relations?
- 3. How do I submit my URL to MetaCrawler?
- 4. Can I put a MetaCrawler form and logo on my page?
- 5. How can I get MetaCrawler as my default search engine in IE4.0?
- 6. <u>Is there a way to make the MetaCrawler results from my form page behave correctly in a frames environment?</u>
- 7. What is MetaCrawler?
- 8. Why use MetaCrawler?
- 9. <u>How does MetaCrawler work, technically?</u>
- 10. Why are you passing through ads? The old MetaCrawler didn't do that.
- 11. Why can't I get all results on one page any more?
- 12. How can I refine MetaCrawler searches?
- 13. How can I keep abreast of MetaCrawler developments?
- 14. Known problems

How do I contact go2net about jobs, advertising or other MetaCrawlerrelated issues?

Please contact go2net at any time with your questions and comments. Your feedback is important.

Email <<u>advertising@go2net.com</u>> to obtain details about advertising on go2net's MetaCrawler.

Use <<u>mgmt@go2net.com</u>> for questions about integrating your search engine into the MetaCrawler service.

Use <jobs@go2net.com > if you are a programmer interested in working on the MetaCrawler, or if you wish to apply for another go2net position. For a listing of jobs currently available, see our job opportunities page.

If you find bugs, design flaws or have other problems, first check the list of known problems below. If that does not answer your question, send email to <<u>search@go2net.com</u>>, including a description of the browser and the operating system under which the problem occurred. Also use this address for general comments and suggestions.

If you have an interest in go2net's site from a technical standpoint, or want to report bugs or technical difficulties, contact <<u>webmaster@go2net.com</u>>.

Our mailing address, phone and fax numbers are:

go2net, Inc. 999 Third Avenue

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Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 447-1595 phone (206) 447-1625 fax

How do I find out about go2net, Inc. investor relations?

For information regarding investor relations, you can visit our <u>investor relations page</u> or email us at <u>investor-relations@go2net.com</u>.

Can I put a MetaCrawler form and logo on my page?

Yes! Please insert this HTML into your WWW page to provide a direct MetaCrawler search. If you wish to use the MetaCrawler logo, it is available <u>here</u>.

Is there a way to make the MetaCrawler results from my form page behave correctly in a frames environment?

Yes there is. Please insert this HTML into your WWW page in order to make MetaCrawler's results come back into the entire browser.

What is MetaCrawler?

MetaCrawler is a World Wide Web search service developed in 1994 at the University of Washington by Erik Selberg, Oren Etzioni and Greg Lauckhart. It is now operated by go2net, Inc., an Internet content and technology company based in Seattle, Washington. In February 1997, go2net acquired the MetaCrawler from its original developers and is currently working on various improvements.

MetaCrawler differs from other search services in that it does not maintain any local database. Rather, it relies on the databases of various Web-based sources. MetaCrawler sends your queries to several Web search engines, including Lycos, Infoseek, WebCrawler, Excite, AltaVista, and Yahoo.

MetaCrawler queries the other search engines, organizes the results into a uniform format, ranks them by relevance, and returns them to the user. Of course, this means that MetaCrawler is slightly slower than other engines, but is more likely to obtain accurate results for your query.

Why use MetaCrawler?

MetaCrawler has many useful features which other services either do not have or are unable to provide. These include:

Complete Coverage

Because the Web is so large and changes so quickly, no one search engine can keep up. By utilizing many, MetaCrawler's potential for finding information is much greater. Using the MetaCrawler, you're able to see one page which contains all of the references from each service. This way you won't miss anything!

Consistent Searching Syntax

MetaCrawler offers a powerful search syntax, so you don't have to learn a different query language for each engine. In addition to the basic "any words", "all words", and "as a phrase" options, MetaCrawler recognizes a special search syntax that allows you to describe your desired results very specifically.

Service Vote Rankings

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MetaCrawler combines and normalizes the confidence scores given to each reference by the services that return it. Thus, when MetaCrawler returns a reference, it sums the scores given by each service and presents them in a "voted" ordering, with the score (from 1 to 1000) presented in bold type next to each result.

Why are you passing through ads? The old MetaCrawler didn't do that.

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commercial service, and did not pass through the advertisements of the underlying engines. As it was a non-commercial endeavor, most search engines allowed the MetaCrawler to have access to their databases. However, some engines refused to serve results to MetaCrawler at one time or another. This is why a few major search engines are not currently utilized in our metasearches, though we are hoping to soon incorporate all the quality engines we do not already utilize.

In addition to operating the MetaCrawler itself, go2net is in the course of establishing relationships with each of the supported engines, so that they can operate a viable business and we can continue to operate the MetaCrawler. Without these relationships, MetaCrawler could not continue to exist. It is go2net's goal to create mutually beneficial relationships with the best engines on the Net, so that the MetaCrawler will have a rock-solid foundation. Sooner or later, any Internet tool that utilizes other resources has to address these issues.

We will continue to work with other search engine operators to benefit both our services, rather than attempting to capitalize on their generosity until it is exhausted.

Why can't I get all results on one page anymore?

We recognize the usefulness of having many results on one page. However, we must also balance our search output with the need to meet our commitments to the underlying engines in terms of passing through their advertisements. In light of this, we have set the default number of search results per page at 20. This can be adjusted up or down on the <u>power search</u> page. Advertisements are included in proportion to the number of results on a given page. We appreciate the great quantity of user feedback we received on this issue, and we are continuing to work to create more useful results.

How can I keep abreast of MetaCrawler developments?

There is an announcements-only, low traffic mailing list where you can hear about developments in the MetaCrawler. To join, email <<u>majordomo@go2net.com</u>> with

subscribe metacrawler-announce

in the message body.

Known problems

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When I search "as a phrase", my results don't always contain the exact phrase. Some of the search engines MetaCrawler utilizes do not rigorously obey the "as a phrase" condition. We are currently debating how best to solve this problem; we would like to avoid reducing the scope of the metasearch on "as a phrase" queries, but it is under consideration.

I try to customize, but it won't save my settings.

1) You must go to www.metacrawler.com to obtain a customization cookie; older addresses like metacrawler.cs.washington.edu will still get you to the MetaCrawler, but cookies will not function.

2) You must have cookies enabled in your browser.

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Advertising @ go2net

go2net strives to offer the best advertising and sponsorship opportunities on the Internet. We offer co-branding and promotional packages for our sponsorship partners. We also offer highly-targeted keyword packages via Metacrawler.

go2net prides itself on customizing advertising packages to suit your strategic business needs. Whether it be a broadcast approach to increase brand awareness or a targeted approach using keyword packages, our advertising sales staff will work with you to help develop the appropriate strategy.

If you are interested in advertising in any of the following areas: <u>MetaCrawler front</u> page, MetaCrawler run-of-site, MetaCrawler keywords, <u>MetaSpy</u>, <u>StockSite</u>, <u>PlaySite</u>, <u>go2vision</u>, or <u>Useless WWW Pages</u>, please email us directly at:

advertising@go2net.com

Please specify in your email:

- the areas of the site in which you would like to advertise (MetaCrawler front page, MetaCrawler run-of-site, MetaCrawler keywords, MetaSpy, PlaySite, go2business, go2vision, Useless WWW Pages)
- 2. if interested in keywords, the keywords you would like to purchase
- 3. your name, address, telephone number, and fax number

Information on our ad banner specifications.

Thanks!

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With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

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E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.