Für Sie gesurft – Neue (und alte) Tipps aus dem WWW

EMISA-Edition, Folge 21

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Mit dieser Ausgabe geht die Rubrik jetzt in die zweite Dekade. Auch diesmal möchte ich Ihnen wieder ein paar Websites vorstellen, die mir (und anderen) in letzter Zeit aufgefallen sind. Wie immer weise ich darauf hin, dass die Inhalte sämtlicher hier beschriebenen Webseiten urheberrechtlich geschützt sind, allerdings ist nach einschlägiger Meinung das Copyright nur relevant für die Verwendung in anderen Webseiten bzw. wenn Gestaltungselemente für andere Designs übernommen würden, was beides nicht der Fall ist. Insofern betrachte ich das Beschreiben von Seiten in der hier vorgenommenen Form weiterhin als Werbung für diese.

Ich beginne heute mit Software für Unternehmen, die ja wie Privatleute dabei sind, immer mehr auf Web 2.0-Technik zu setzen. SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) ist zwar als Schlagwort schon fast wieder abgegriffen, aber die Bereitstellung von Software-Applikationen in dem, was man landläufig inzwischen "Cloud" nennt, nimmt weiter zu. In diese Kategorie fällt auch CubeTree: "With CubeTree, employees can share ideas across their organization, get feedback from people with whom they wouldn't normally interact, find thought leaders, form ad hoc groups that cut across organizational boundaries. In addition to empowering employees, CubeTree also includes policy controls that give HR and IT administrators the ability to ensure the product complies with corporate policies. CubeTree is delivered as a software service and is designed for enterprises ranging from start-ups to Global 500 companies."

Mit CubeTree kann man nicht nur firmenintern Wikis oder Blogs unterhalten, sondern man kann – auch das ganz im Trend der Zeit – Drittsysteme wie Delicious, Google Calendar, Salesforce, TripIt oder Twitter einbinden. Interessenten können auf der Webseite die Eigenschaften der Software gleich mit der aus CubeTree-Sicht wichtigsten Konkurrenz vergleichen, als da (aus deren Sicht) wäre: Yammer, Socialtext und Jive. Die Preise liegen zwischen 0 und 5 US\$ pro User und Monat.

In eine etwas andere Richtung geht **ProtonMedia** als virtuelle Kollaborationsplattform für Unternehmen: "ProtonMedia is the leading provider of virtual world technology for the enterprise. Our flagship product ProtoSphere is a secure, private virtual world environment for collaboration and learning. As the premier virtual world platform for the enterprise, ProtoSphere features a suite of communications and social networking tools designed to overcome linear communications and create a networked, learning organization. ProtoSphere 2.0, now under development, is a second-generation social collaboration platform for highly effective online teaming. ProtoSphere creates engaging team environments that measureably improve the productivity and organizational effectiveness of globally dispersed teams. ProtoSphere provides all the tools teams need to collaborate socially online, including holographic virtual spaces with interactive avatars and bots, document and application sharing, VoIP audio conferencing, text chat, presence awareness, video streaming, blogs, wikis, feeds, role playing simulations, content workflow, and enterprise social networking."

Das System kommt mit einer Reihe interessanter Features; es kann z.B. 3D-Objekte mit Dokumenten verlinken, verfügt über ein integriertes soziales Netz und kann im Rahmen von ProtoSphere private Treffräume bereitstellen (s.u.).



http://www.cubetree.com/

Read more buzz on CubeTree >

CubeTree Brings you Deal Rooms one place for all the vital information





ProtoSphere-Screenshot

Eine weitere virtuelle Kollaborationsplattform, die kürzlich auf den Plan getreten ist, ist **Glasscubes**. Diese richtet sich primär an kleinere Unternehmen: "Glasscubes was created following a frustrated search for an online tool that was suitably priced for a small company but offered intranet and simple CRM functionality. Unable to find something that specifically suited, Glasscubes was born! Simplicity is the key to Glasscubes success, offering small to medium sized companies collaboration with colleagues and clients anywhere in the world with an internet connection. Glasscubes can become the central hub of any business, large or small."

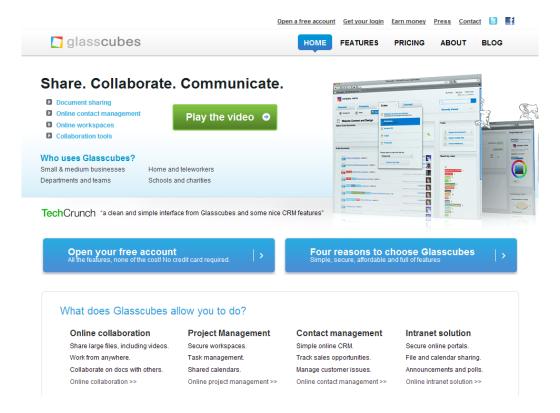
Auch hier ist die Liste der Features lang: Aufgaben, Diskussionsforen, Kontakteverwaltung, Dokumentenversionierung, Benachrichtigungen, Ankündigungen, Umfragen, Kalenderfunktion, Suche und einiges mehr. Preislich kann man hier kostenlos mit 3 Usern starten (Trial-Version für 28 Tage ohnehin kostenlos) und sich bis auf 149 US\$ pro Monat "all-inclusive" steigern.

Speziell für das EMISA-Klientel dürfte der nächste Hinweis Interessant sein: "BPM BlueWorks is the place for business leaders and business analysts to discover and explore business-relevant content to help them understand, experience, and accelerate business process management (BPM). Our goal is:

- Educate you on BPM strategies, trends, capabilities, and best practices
- Empower through collaborative business design tools and accelerators
- Enable collaboration among the community to help you learn from others.

We welcome you to BPM BlueWorks and encourage you to actively participate in growing and shaping the community. ... BPM BlueWorks provides you with opportunities to learn what's new in BPM. Discover business process strategies and trends so that you can make the smartest investment decisions for your company. Read up on the latest methodologies and best practices for designing and linking business strategies, capabilities, and processes to be more productive and efficient with evolving business demands, or share your own experiences with the community by submitting content. ... BPM BlueWorks provides you with opportunities to collaborate and connect with other business leaders,

business analysts, and process experts through our blogs. Tap into the wisdom of your peers, learn from others, and get expert advice on your projects.



http://www.glasscubes.com/



https://apps.lotuslive.com/bpmblueworks/

Gegen die Datenflut im Web und die Tatsache, dass persönliche Daten, einmal eingegeben, nie wieder verschwinden und auch nachträglich Ziel von zahlreichen Attacken sein können, hilft das Forschungsprojekt Vanish der University of Washington in Seattle: "Our research seeks to protect the privacy of past, archived data — such as copies of emails maintained by an email provider — against accidental, malicious, and legal attacks. Specifically, we wish to ensure that all copies of certain data become unreadable after a user-specified time, without any specific action on the part of a user, and even if an attacker obtains both a cached copy of that data and the user's cryptographic keys and passwords. Vanish is a research project aimed at meeting this challenge through a novel integration of cryptographic techniques with globalscale, P2P, distributed hash tables (DHTs). We initially implemented a proof-of-concept Vanish prototype that uses the million-plus-node Vuze BitTorrent DHT. We have since found that the current Vuze DHT implementation is not adequately protected to support an application such as Vanish. We are now studying ways of improving the suitability of existing DHTs such as Vuze to Vanish and other security-oriented applications. We are also investigating architectural changes for these applications to make better use of existing global-scale DHTs."



Update, 9/20/2009:

On Sept. 20, 2009 we released a new version of the Vanish research prototype. This prototype implements several new defenses that we wrote about in our two papers on Vanish. These defenses address a specific vulnerability reported by other researchers earlier this week. However, the implications of this update are much broader; the new prototype illustrates the independence of the Vanish architecture and concepts from the underlying storage infrastructure. The source code for the new prototype is available here.

As with our original prototype, we stress that we are releasing the prototype for research purposes. The Vanish prototype should only be used for experimental purposes, and we encourage researchers to analyze and improve upon it. The study of new systems, attacks, and defenses is how the field of computer security progresses, and we are looking forward to future analyses of Vanish. Finally, we strengthen our original advice of being cautious if you wish to use Vanish for any purpose other than research.

http://vanish.cs.washington.edu

Auch zum Thema Suchmaschinen gibt es wieder einmal Neues zu berichten: "Answers.com is the place where reference information and Q&A content come together to deliver the best answers on the Internet. It's built upon a combination of two answering styles: ReferenceAnswers is a one-stop shop that aggregates dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases and more, offering millions of topics available for fast-fact lookup as well as deep research. WikiAnswers is an advanced Q&A platform powered by the collaborative efforts of a global knowledge community... with a wiki-twist." Dies bedeutet im Einzelnen Folgendes:

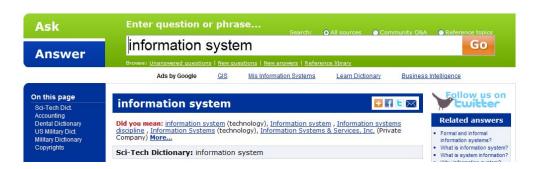
	ReferenceAnswers	WikiAnswers
What is it?	The world's greatest answer engine.	Community-collaborated Q&A, the wiki way.
Why use it?	For a quick definition or fact check or for deeper research. Look up Michael Jackson and get a page of information from various leading reference resources.	Ask a question on any topic and get a cooperatively written, human-generated answer. Or answer other people's question!
How do you use it?	Just enter a word, phrase or name. There are other ways to use it too, including: • MobileAnswers • 1-Click Answers™ •and more.	Ask a question in the search box. Browse the unanswered questions. Read and improve other people's answers.
Where do the answers come from?	ReferenceAnswers includes over 250 trusted titles from prestigious publishers — along with our patented database technology — to give you the most comprehensive page available on a subject.	WikiAnswers has over 5 million answers from our Q&A community. We're all knowledgeable about some topics and curious about others The exchange of questions and answers happens here, where people contribute what they know and ask what they don't.

Ich habe Answers ausprobiert mit nachfolgend gezeigter Frage ("what is an information system?"):

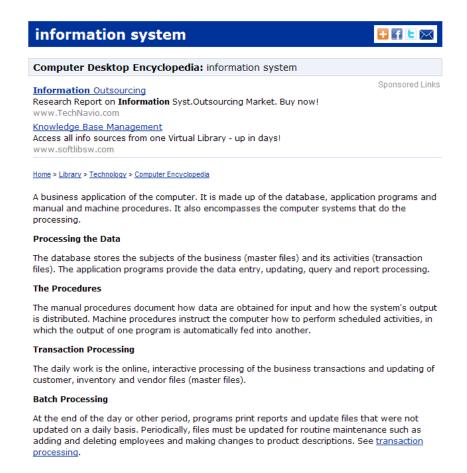


http://www.answers.com/ (mit eingegebener Frage)

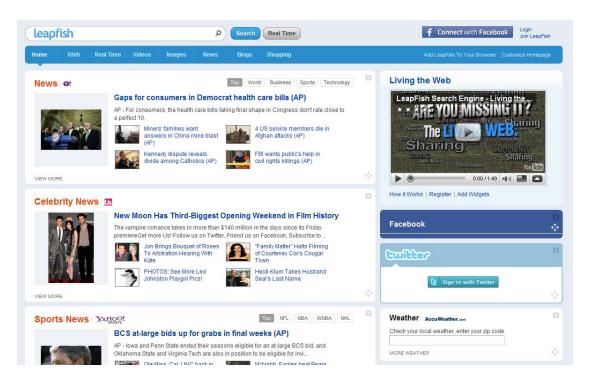
In einem ersten Schritt wurde die Frage immerhin schon richtig eingeordnet:



Durch Wahl der ersten Option (Bereich technology) kam dann eine ganz brauchbare Antwort zustande:



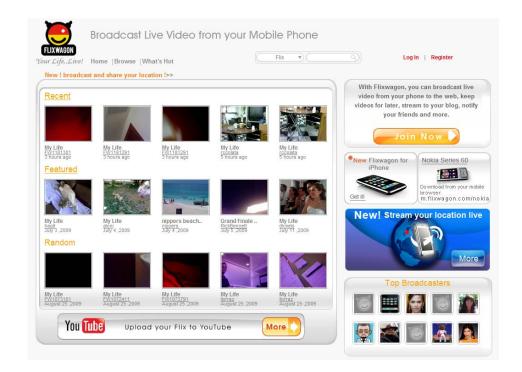
Wer das Web nur zum Suchen und Einkaufen benutzt, hat heute nicht mitbekommen, was man sonst noch alles damit anstellen kann. Eine Möglichkeit, das dem Nutzer nahe zu bringen, ist die Verwendung von LeapFish, dessen Entwickler sich das "lebendige Web" auf die Fahnen geschrieben haben: "The Web has evolved. It used to be a place where people came to just search for simple information. Now it's a place where people come to also share information. Information today that is multi-media and more complex. Information today that is real-time and social – recommended by people who know, and people you know. We call this new place The Living Web, and we've designed an evolved engine to help you get the most from it – a service to help you live the new web. Although we have many ways to search and share information, the current experience is fragmented, ineffective, and ultimately inefficient. On the search side, there are a growing number of disconnected sites for traditional search, niche interests, audio, video, imagery and more. On the sharing side, there is a universe of segregated social networks, blogs, real-time content, multi-media portals and more. This growing disconnection and segregation is the challenge we've decided to embrace. By providing a single, connected, multi-media experience for both searching and sharing traditional and real-time content, we're hoping to make the new web easier, more integrated and efficient. We believe our new web experience benefits everyone online. Existing portals and services benefit from a new found search integration that offers them more user engagement. Consumers benefit with access to more of the information the new web has to offer, that was previously tucked away. But most of all, it benefits you, those living the web by searching and sharing the freshest, most relevant and most interesting content available anywhere."



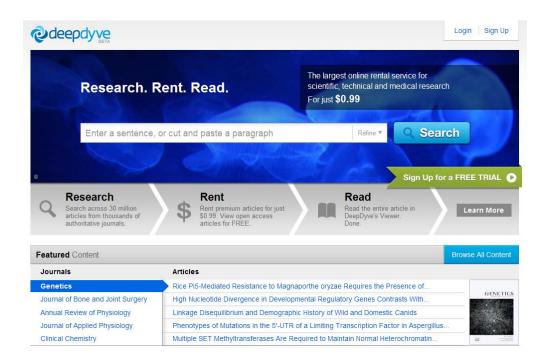
http://www.leapfish.com/

Mit zunehmender Funktionalität unserer Handys wächst auch das Bedürfnis, sich seinen Freunden oder Kollegen live mitzuteilen. Twitter hat das mit Kurznachrichten vorgemacht, andere sind mit Fotos, die ich vom Handy aus direkt auf eine Webseite hochladen kann, gefolgt; die nächste Stufe heißt Video. Hier kommt **Flixwagon** ins Spiel: "With Flixwagon you can broadcast live videos from your mobile phone directly to the Internet. Broadcasters can also manage their stored videos, share them with others, and much more. Using our web service, viewers can search, view and share live broadcasts and stored videos. With Flixwagon you can broadcast your life...LIVE!"

Ein weiteres Medium, das zunehmend ins Internet wandert, ist das Buch. Nun ist für den Wissenschaftler nicht immer ein ganzes Buch interessant, sondern oft nur bestimmte Artikel. Für diese Kategorie von Anwendungen gibt es den Ausleihdienst **DeepDyve**: "DeepDyve was started by two scientists who had previously worked on the Human Genome Project and in a variety of biotech companies. Their work required extensive research and access to countless data sources, yet the tools available for finding Web-based information were frustratingly limited and time-consuming. Furthermore, much of the research materials they sought were extremely expensive and beyond their companies' budgets. In 2005, DeepDyve was founded to make scientific, technical and medical research more easily discoverable and accessible. DeepDyve's online research rental service delivers on this mission. Anyone interested in published research can now gain access to over 30 million articles from thousands of authoritative journals for as little as \$0.99 per article."



http://flixwagon.com/



http://www.deepdyve.com/

In eine ähnliche Richtung geht das **Internet Archive** (das die Wayback Machine unterhält, die absolut nichts vergisst) mit seinem **BookServer**-Project: "The widespread success of digital reading devices has proven that the world is ready to read books on screens. As the audience for digital books grows, we can evolve from an environment of single devices connected to single sources into a distributed system where readers can find books from sources across the Web to read on whatever device they have. Publishers are creating digital versions of their popular books, and the library community is creating digital archives of their

printed collections. BookServer is an open system to find, buy, or borrow these books, just like we use an open system to find Web sites. The BookServer is a growing open architecture for vending and lending digital books over the Internet. Built on open catalog and open book formats, the BookServer model allows a wide network of publishers, booksellers, libraries, and even authors to make their catalogs of books available directly to readers through their laptops, phones, netbooks, or dedicated reading devices. BookServer facilitates pay transactions, borrowing books from libraries, and downloading free, publicly accessible books."



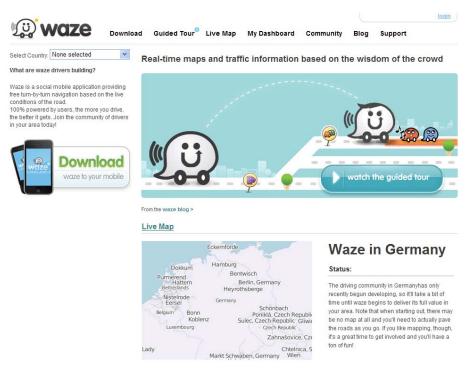
http://www.archive.org/bookserver

Mit zunehmender Verschmelzung der Medien kommt ja auch immer mehr Fernsehen über das Internet; während wir Fernsehen am Rechner ja schon länger kennen (über Plattformen wie Zattoo oder Joost), erleben wir gerade die erste Auflage Internet-fähiger Fernseher in den Elektronikmärkten der Republik. Für Internet-Radio sind Verzeichnisse schon seit Längerem in Gebrauch (z.B. iTunes, ClipInc oder surfmusic.de); jetzt folgen TV-Guides für das Internet, darunter: "Clicker is the complete guide to Internet Television. Our mission is to make it simple for you to find the right show, right now. ... Clicker catalogs all broadcast programming online, along with TV-quality Web originals, from these silos and delivers them in one seamless, organized experience so you can easily discover what's available to watch (and what isn't) online, where to watch it, and what's worth watching. ... To make it fast and easy to find a show you want to watch right now, Clicker is one part directory, one part search engine, one part wiki, one part entertainment guide, and one part DVR. ... Clicker contains more than 450,000 episodes, from over 6,000 shows, from over 1,200 networks, tens of thousands of movies, and 50,000 music videos from 20,000 artists. Staying on top of what programs are available online and offline, organizing them for you, and recommending gems for you to discover is what Clicker is all about."



http://www.clicker.com/

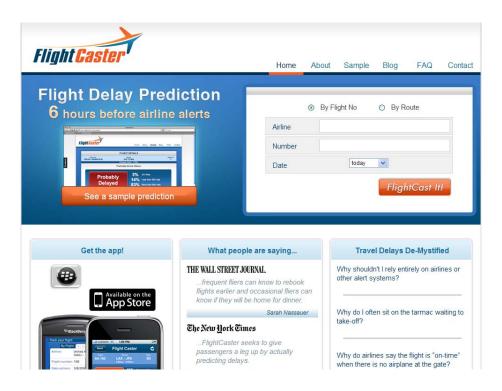
Für Autofahrer wird das Thema Crowdsourcing dank **Waze** allmählich ebenfalls interessant: "Waze is a social mobile application providing free turn-by-turn navigation based on the live conditions of the road. 100% powered by users, the more you drive, the better it gets." Also ein typisches Beispiel für das, was man "soziale Software" nennt. "Map and traffic updates are automatically collected and generated as users drive with waze activated, but drivers can also actively report and update other users with what's happening on the road including accident alerts, police traps, weather hazards, cheap gas offers and more. And the best part? Because the map and all of its content is driver-generated, waze is completely free for users." Inzwischen ist Waze auch für deutsche Straßen verfügbar, wenngleich die Waze-Startseite den Eindruck vermittelt, dass Autofahren in Deutschland noch relativ neu sei.



http://world.waze.com/

Für Vielflieger gibt es dann noch ein neues Tool, das über Verspätung informieren kann, nach Angabe von **FlightCaster** sogar schneller, als Airlines selbst das können: "FlightCaster predicts flight delays. We use an advanced algorithm that scours data on every domestic flight for the past 10-years and matches it to real-time conditions. We help you evaluate alternative options and help connect you to the right person to make the change. ... As heavy travelers ourselves, we were sick of being at the mercy of the airlines to give us information. FlightCaster empowers travelers to proactively avoid delay situations rather than waiting until it is too late. Information is power in travel, providing travelers more options and solutions to flight delays and cancellations. ... We are not regurgitating information from the airline or FAA. You can get that from many many other sources. Instead, we're creating the next generation of flight information by using applied mathematics to provide real predictive power. While we cannot predict every scenario, such as a freak mechanical failure, our algorithms can find 95%+ of delays. Delay prediction is a bit of an art form and while we think we're masters of that art, please allow room for error."

Die auf der Webseite gezeigten Reaktionen der New York Times oder des Wall Street Journal sind vielversprechend, aber das auch als Applikation für das iPhone verfügbare Programm ist vorläufig leider auf inneramerikanische Flüge beschränkt. Hoffentlich wird das bald anders.



http://www.flightcaster.com/