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Queensland Primary Materials on the Internet

During December the full text of selected Queensland Supreme Court and Court of Appeal judgments from 1998 were added to Austlii (<http://www.austlii.edu.au>) and the full text of Bills and Explanatory Notes were added to the Office of Queensland Parliamentary Counsel site (<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPCHOME.htm>)

Search Engine Showdown

<http://imt.net/~notess/search/index.html>

This site is compiled by Greg Notess, a university reference librarian, who is also a notable contributor to professional journals on the topic of the Internet and databases. The detailed synopsis of the features of search engines is of interest to information professionals and the search strategies which are included would be useful for developing training programs. 'News' link gives an account of new developments and the entire site is updated regularly in the form of short alerts or by in-depth reviews. If further reading is required, the bibliography leads to full text versions of recent journal articles

US Legal Links @ Lawchek

<http://www.lawchek.com>

Lawchek has developed this all inclusive access point for the legal community and to give the general public

a basic understanding of US law. It is set out in a logical manner by jurisdiction, either federal or state, and comprises case law, codes and court rules. Searching can be refined by a menu driven search facility and it is possible to search globally as required. There are directories of related information such as court reporters, expert witnesses, law schools, technology and publishers and questions via email are welcomed

CaseBase

http://www.smithbernal.com/casebase_frame.htm

Smith Bernal, the official reporters to the British Courts of Appeal, offer this free database of all judgments rendered within the Courts of Appeal (Civil and Criminal Divisions) and Crown Office (QBD) since April 1996. The database currently contains over 20,000 full text judgments, and new records are added 30 days after approval, increasing the archive by over 600 cases each month. Two search options are available: a Specific Search using four key criteria (Case Name, Date, Case Number, and Division) or a Scrolling Search, which allows users to browse cases within a division by chronological order. Subject searching is not possible

Guide to European Legal Databases

<http://www.llrx.com/features/europe.htm>

A New York university reference librarian has prepared this consolidation of resources which includes tips for using search engines and strategies to aid research into European law. The annotated list of web sites by individual country is extensive and there has been a response from users offering suggestions of sites which could be added to the list. Databases of European Union resources forms the other major part of this web site.

UNESCO Electronic Document Management System

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis>

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/unesbib.html>

The first address offers full text access to speeches, conferences, resolutions and decisions from UNESCO since 1995, while the second leads to a bibliographic database of UNESCO documents and publications. Searching is sophisticated in expert mode where numerous fields and options are available. This site could be worth noting by law librarians who often need to venture beyond the local legal environs.

LIINZ to be Decommissioned

It was recently announced that the Legal Information Institute of New Zealand (LIINZ) will be decommissioned from 27 December 1998. The University of Waikato Law Library (<http://www.waikato.ac.nz/lawlib>) will maintain a list of other New Zealand legal sites.



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