

Tom's Tips - Lessons of a Job Seeker

9/26/2009 (rev 4 – stay tuned more coming)

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The Job Search.....



.....where to start

Getting Started: 30-60-90 Day Plan

- You can not boil the ocean – you need start somewhere

30 Day Plan

The First 30 Days

Take the time to figure out "Who am I" versus "what I do or did.

Get professional email address (personal URL domain is the best)

Order Business Cards – Vistaprint.com cheapest

Post resume to job boards – all "main sites" as well as industry/association sites

Secure Digital Footprint on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, your own URL

Review completely the www.careerdfw.org site for groups and associations to join and attend

Search strategy

Create 30 second introduction (I am, I do, I help, I need)

Start your target company search

Get/start Job Log to keep track of your opportunities

Choose your method of keeping current with your contact database (Outlook is one way)

Sign up for unemployment through TWC

Create your scripts for calls for new introductions, informational interviews, cold calls into target companies etc)

60 Day Plan

60 Days

Joint an accountability group

Identify groups that you wish to continue to network with

Continue to find new groups and associations to meet new people to network with

Join associations that not only are in your area of expertise but compliment your target companies

Register for interim consulting (http://www.glgroup.com/)

Volunteer Somewhere – it's good for you and good for them!

Target list of companies identified and refines (see http://www.thomasjackson.info/) Sale Fish for help

Update your footprint weekly on all sites (job boards, LinkedIn, Facebook etc) – People need to find you!

Link to people you meet and grow your network

Begin to become an expert on LinkedIn – participate and answer questions, recommend people, use the job search function!

Target the recruiters in your sector on LinkedIn and create a contact plan of action

Use these "Tips and Tricks" routinely now

Important - optimize your page to be found when someone wants to find someone in your field!

Get more from

http://www.getforms.o

90 Day Plan

90 Days					
Say Thank You Always!					
Reset priorities – what are you doing right and wrong – alter course if needed					
Set quota and goals of contacts per day					
Increase your networking!					
Follow up should be routine by now – 10-12 touches per day (voice and email)					
Research Blogging – Is it for you? Great way to get seen!					
Target informational interview contacts and schedule calls					
Don't PANIC!					
Fine tune and adjust – stay connected to your accountability group					
Stay the path that you have planned but identify what you need to learn more about					
Target those areas of need and research how to expand your knowledge					
Why isn't what I'm doing working? Talk to people and see what they are doing					

The Internet

- It can be a "Black Hole" or a "Portal"

- Social Networking

76% plan to invest more in employee referrals (68% in 2008)

72% plan to invest more in recruiting through social networks

75%+ plan to <u>invest less</u> in more costly sources (job boards, third-party recruitment and campus recruitment)

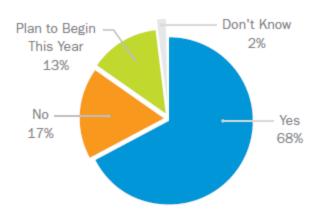
80% of companies use or are planning to use social networking to find and attract candidates this year

95% will use LinkedIn (80% in 2008)

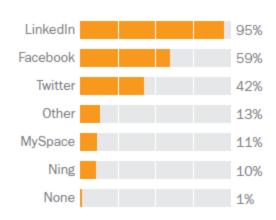
59% will use Facebook (36% in 2008)

42% will use Twitter

1. Do you or your company use social networking or social media to support recruitment efforts?



Which social networking sites do you or your company use to find candidates? Check all that apply.



- Social Networking

77% of respondents said they use social networks to reach passive candidates

66% of respondents hired a candidate through social networks and they were quality

15% of respondents tapped employees social networks for hiring

HR people use social networks to research candidates

76% use LinkedIn

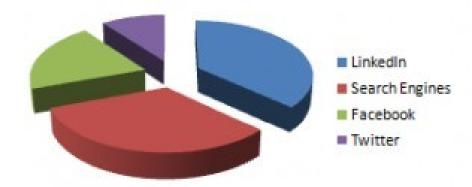
67% use search engines (Google)

44% use Facebook

21% use Twitter

24% of candidates disclose their social networking presence when applying

% of Companies Using Social Networks as Background Checks





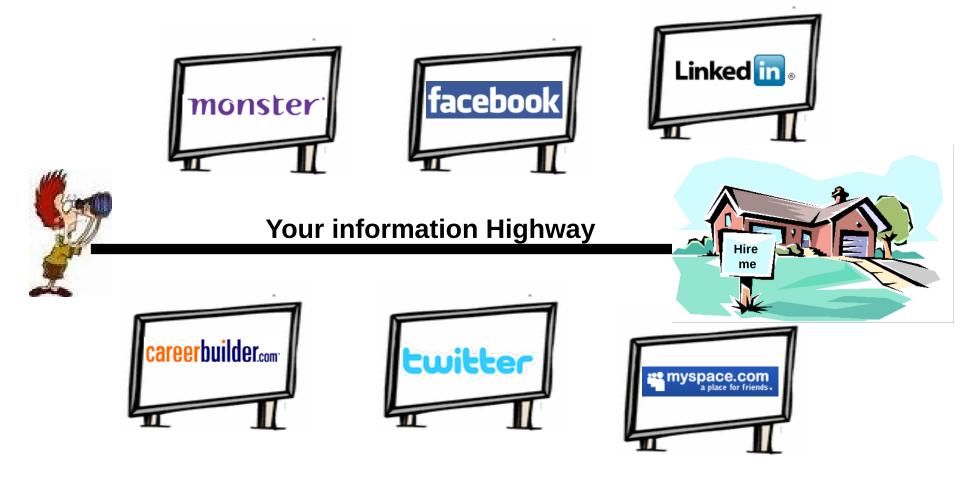
Help Recruiters find you!

- •Mail your resumes?
- •Online resumes?
- •Network your resume?
- •Social network your resume?





- Companies are looking for talent on the Internet
- Job seekers are looking for Companies on the Internet
- Neither makes it easy to find one another



- Do not just use the Internet. Have a strategy
 - •Create a Personal-Brand: <Name>/<What you do>
 - •Use Online Job Boards AND Social Networking sites
 - •Nest your Links/URL Put Linkedin URL on Facebook URL, etc



- Keep your Job Sites updated.
- •Recruiters pull only recent data.
- •Make small changes or updates daily to LinkedIN and use the LinkedIN groups.
- Keep relevant

- •Which site is the best? Great question no real answer.
- •The job search landscape changes rapidly. Almost every 90 days there is a new site or technique (ie Twitter)
- •Companies are looking for ways to lower there job search cost (ie Monster versus LinkedIN)

Quick word on LinkedIn and other sites

- •Do not get overwhelmed. Use the other Job Boards and Social Networking sites as billboards.
- •Pick one main site for all your contacts, professional information and connections. My choice is LinkedIn. It serves all three very well. I do ask a network contact to join me on LinkedIn, Facebook, MySpace, Plaxo, Spoke, etc...
- •Pick one site (LinkedIN) use the other sites to help people find you and then direct them to LinkedIN.
- Control your space.



Networking - Join a Group

Networking

Network Groups

Network groups are an essential component of your search (and most are FREE). They provide an opportunity to get out of the house, provide support, offer exchange of ideas and best of all networking ---- and count as a Job Search for the TWC (make sure you sign in at the meetings and write down the moderators name)

Dallas/Ft Worth has numerous groups. Go to one, learn about others.

- www.careerdfw.org great site with online calendar of most every network meeting in DFW
- www.careerconnection.com oldest newtork group in Dallas (\$10/month dues)
- http://www.jfsdallas.org/career-employment.asp
- www.nationalcareerfairs.com

Networking groups are great. However, be careful and do not become a networking groupie. Keep a your priorities straight – BALANCE and PRIORITIES are key

Yahoo Groups

An excellent benefit of most networking groups. The various Yahoo groups provide members the opportunity to post files and share job leads with one another – most jobs are not even posted.

(TIP: you need a yahoo email for just these groups – you can get anywhere from 50 to >100 emails a day. It is best to select daily digest to keep your email under control).

Business Cards

Before you embark on your network meetings get business cards made.

- www.vistaprint.com (250 free cards, you pay shipping)

Have your name, job position/title your interested in, phone, email, linkedin url. Make sure they are easy read and not on glossy paper – ink smudges on glossy paper and people can not take notes on your card.

Resumes

- Everyone has one.....

Resumes

Resume Writing

Do not pay to have one written! Use one of the resume writing resources from the networking groups like careerdfw.org.

- Dirk Spencer (look him up on LinkedIn EXCELLENT. He gives free seminars)
- Career Transition Workshop (lots of recruiters, ideas and resume reviews)

My Tips

For what they are worth (I am still looking for a job too).

- If using Office (Word) 2007 downsave your resume to Office 2003 or 2002. Not everyone has Office 2007 and this can cause problems when trying to open or print your resume.
- Remove Number of Years of Experience
- Remove graduation date
- Remove address
- Put phone and email at the upper right corner
- First section should be;
 - Career Summary (2-3 sentences highlighting your xx year career)
 - Career Highlights (4-5 proof point bullets)
 - Skill Summary (6-12 Skill words relevant to your job search)

Then you can customize these three to match the job you apply for very easily.

- If looking for at a smaller size company include RANGE.
 - I sold from \$1m to \$1b in revenue
 - I manage teams ranging from 2 people to 100 people
 - I manage budgets from \$100k to \$100m
- -Avoid KOD (Kiss of Death) words. These are words that will get your resume omitted on the job boards or screened out by the recruiters. Learn them and avoid them. Dirk Spencer has a list and you can find similar ones on Google. Nobody is hiring a "Seasoned Professional" anything.

LinkedIn

- Get your contact information out there

LinkedIn

LinkedIn is a very-very easy to use. However, the awesome power of this tool is often overlooked.

- 1)Get your contact information on LinkedIn (Phone number and email a must)
- Few people put there email and phone number on their summaries without doing this your email is very hard to uncover.
- 2)Fill in the PERSONAL SETTINGS and CONTACT SETTINGS at the bottom of your profile. If you do not your email is hidden. The PERSONAL SETTINGS also populate your V-CARD with the same information 3)Update DAILY this will keep your name at the top of the PEOPLE SEARCH. Especially helpful if you have a common name.
- 4)Use LinkedIn applications to further embellish your site: books read, what you are doing, linking presentations or documents.
- 5) VERY IMPORTANT!!!!
- Make sure that your TITLE is used and used frequently through out your profile. If you are in Project Management use the words PROJECT, MANAGEMENT and PROJECT MANAGEMENT through out your profile (this is key word density).
- Here is the test. On your profile, upper right corner, to the right of the search button is the word <ADVANCED>. Select this and you will go to the advanced search engine. In the TITLE field type in the title you use on linked in, press search. See how many pages it takes to find you if you can be found at all. This is how the recruiters use linked in. If you are not on page 1 or 2 then select a person who is. Look at how many times there title key words are found. Change this and you will be page 1.

(Note: The more jobs you have had with that job title rates higher than just key words.)

LinkedIN Applications:

LI has a number of neat add-in applications you can select from on your Profile page – like Box.net. Box.net lets you attached documents to your profile for download (ie resume). Other applications can be found at the bottom of your linkedin page – look for the word TOOLS (there is a list)

-http://www.linkedin.com/signature?display=&trk=sig_want&memberId=9321442&trk= (LI has a page to create neat email signature lines with graphics that provide hyperlinks back to your LI profile)

LinkedIn Tips - You are #1

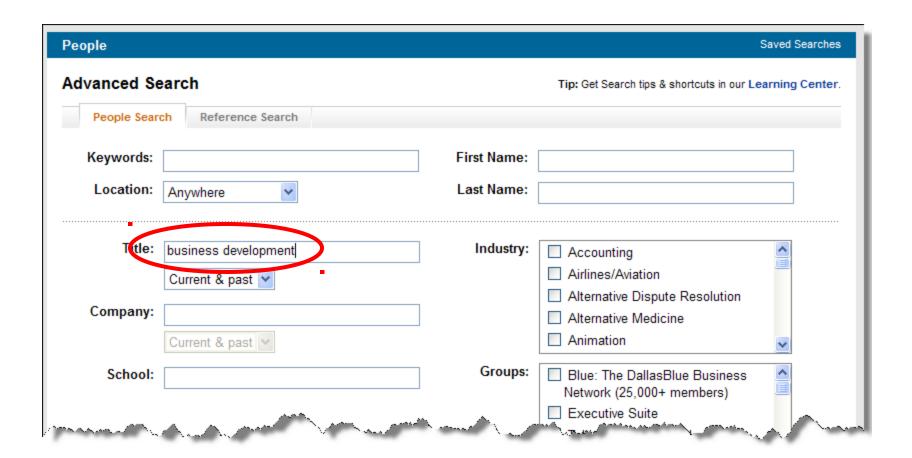
First jot down the title(s) you are using (ie Business Development) Then Click on the <Advanced> hyperlink





LinkedIn Tips

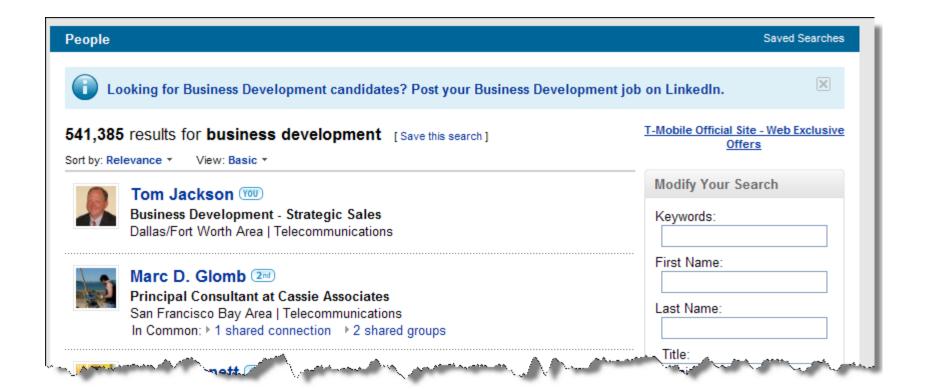
This is the main LinkedIn search page. Now you can play recruiter. Type in the title of the job you are hiring for (ie business development)



LinkedIn Tips

You will now see up to 10 pages of profiles. The ranking is based on key word density of the title search term. In this case 'Business Development'. If you are the recruiter are going to call (assuming your phone number is in your profile) the first five profiles that show up - or - screen the 541,385 results. No you will call Tom Jackson first.

Note: the same logic applies to the 'Keyword' section of the search. Make sure you narrow your keywords down to six or eight and not twenty or thirty. The game is density of keywords not presences of keywords.



LinkedIn Tips

To see how a person is ranking so high in the search click on their profile and the Title of Keywords you entered will be highlighted in yellow. Below is just the summary section of my profile and note the keyword density.

Public Profile

http://www.linkedin.com/in/thomasjacksonjr

Summary

Strategic Sales and Business Development executive with a global record of improving sales, revenues and customer satisfaction on a global scale. Experienced in commercial and consumer accounts ranging from \$10 million to over \$100 billion. Managed increasing revenues through new opportunities, sales strategies and strategic planning.

- Increase new business sales revenues
- Identify business development opportunitites
- Develop strategic business partnerships
- Cost reduce business operations
- Target strategic global business opportunities
- Create strategic business plans and markets
- Improve sales operational efficiency
- Improve Business Top Line growth
- Drive Business Bottom line revenues
- Develop strategic sales strategies

Targeted Strategic Industries:

Technology, Hi-Tech, Software, Telecom, Services, Manufacturing, Distribution, Channels, Consumer Electronics, Commercial Products, Defense Ranking from start ups to global corporations.

- Digital "Trot line"

Job Boards

There are numerous job boards out there. Pick wisely, talk to friends about which ones they use and if there are job boards for your specific industry. Keep in mind that to be effective you must update these job boards at least once a week. Recruiters do not search for all Project Manager resumes in Monster. They search for all Project Manager resumes posted in the last week (first off they would get millions of resumes and secondly you may have found a job in the last three weeks).

Job boards are like a trot-line. You set lots of hooks with bait in a good area and then leave them alone. After a week go back and re-bait.

Here are some that I use.

- www.indeed.com this is a job board aggregator that pulls in jobs from all other sites very good!
- www.simplyhired.com this is another site agrregator
- www.monster.com
- www.careerbuilder.com
- www.jobfox.com
- www.dice.com
- www.hotjobs.com
- www.jobing.com
- www.6figures.com
- etc.

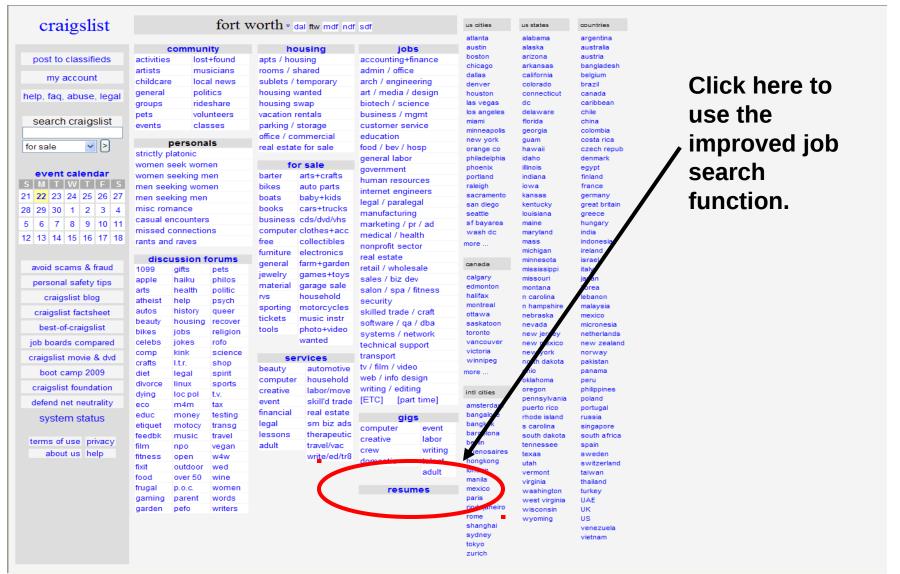
Pay Sites

I have only heard mixed reviews/results from friends that post to pay sites (ie Ladders). Keep in mind aggregation sites like Indeed.com will pull jobs from Ladders.com (some – not all their postings) and you can still apply – why pay.

Job Boards

Do not forget Craigslist. Sell your car – sell your self.

http://dallas.craigslist.org/ftw/



Top Job Titles - Key Words

Thanks to Monster Customer Service (June 2009) for the top 100 most searched Job Titles.

1. Sales	26. Engineer	51. Retail	76. Accounts receivable
2. Recruiter	27. Controller	52. Legal secretary	77. Senior accountant
3. Administrative assistant	28. Financial analyst	53. Customer service	78. Manufacturing
4. Accountant	29. Project manager	54. Call center	79. Sql
5. Receptionist	30. Marketing	55. Outside sales	80. Unix
6. CPA	31. C#	56. Bookkeeper	81. Architect
7. Customer service	32net	57. Inside Sales	82. HVAC
8. Accounting	33. Project manager	58. Auditor	83. Help desk
9. Java	34. J2EE	59. Autocad	84. Oracle DBA
10. Mortgage	35. Administrative	60. Tax	85. Clerical
11. Manager	36. Oracle	61. Registered Nurse	86. Purchasing
12. Executive Assistant	37. Construction	62. Buyer	87. Bilingual
13. Human Resources	38. Warehouse	63. C	88. help desk
14. Pharmacist	39. Inside sales	64. Spanish	89. Analyst
15. Accounts Payable	40. Business analyst	65. Japanese	90. accounts payable
16. Insurance	41. Paralegal	66. Underwriter	91. Technical writer
17. Payroll	42. RN	67. sales	92. Pharmaceutical
18. Staff accountant	43. Financial analyst	68. Account executive	93. Loan processor
19. Administrative assistant	44. Data entry	69. Technical writer	94. Occupational therapist
20. Physical therapist	45. Nurse	70. Medical	95. Qa
21. Outside sales	46. Peoplesoft	71. Cnc	96. Pharmaceutical sales
22. SAP	47. Restaurant Manager	72. Finance	97. Real Estate
23. business analyst	48. Loan officer	73. Staff accountant	98. Maintenance
24. Collections	49. Staffing	74. Civil engineer	99. Human Resources
25. Audit	50. executive assistant	75. Telemarketing	100. Entry Level

Weak Key Words

Generic overused terms....

- •Implementation My all-time least favorite word. It's a favorite of senators and others who make their living by not speaking clearly. Try saying "roll-out" or "set-up" instead.
- •Utilization Have you ever heard anyone use this word in a conversation, ever? Neither have I. Never "utilize" what you can simply "use."
- •Impact (used as a verb) Wisdom teeth are impacted. And I suppose meteorites can "impact" the moon. But in your resume and cover letter, use the verb "affect."
- •Impactful (allegedly an adjective) "Illiterate" is the image this word conveys. Say "high-impact" (better) or "effective" (best).
- •Facilitate Don't "facilitate" a meeting; "help lead" or "conduct" it instead.
- •Deliverables I'm pretty sure this term refers to "products" or "finished goods." But I could be wrong.
- •Interface I think it was Isaac Asimov who said: "When I'm interfacing with a woman, I'm kissing her, by God." This word can be the kiss of death to clarity. Instead of "interfacing" with people, "work" with them.

Bad Words

Dirk Spencer's least favorite terms

FLUFF FILLED PHRASES (We never search on these Phrases)

Results-Oriented: What results determine your orientation?

Proven Leader: Then lead yourself to a new job already, why aren't we following you? **Strong Interpersonal Skills**: Too bad you cannot write a resume that reflects those traits **Hands-on Technician**: Is there any other kind, the hand-off ones don't get much done **Seasoned Professional**: I can smell the Old-Spice © and overdone baby powder already **10, 20, 25, 30, 35 Years of Experience**: Too expensive or too rigid to learn new ways **Strong-"Insert Word" Anything**: Because the inverse or reverse (weak) is never recruited

JOB TITLES TO AVOID

Entrepreneur, Owner, Consultant or Variations on this Theme: Maverick, Rule Breaker, Does Not Take Direction Well, Loner, Side business will always draw your energy or be a distraction, not an enhancer Does not work well with others, not a team player, not their scale

Operator: Night owl who might not be around long

Franchisee: In-debt and under someone else's thumb when things get busy

Head Bottle Washer and CEO: Humor indicates a lack of seriousness or hides authority issues

Principal: Use ONLY if you were a principal with the one of the big 5, 4, 3 firms

HONEST IS GOOD - BEING VULNERABLE IS BAD

Self-Taught: No one wanted to show you, you cannot handle a classroom, you are not serious

Recent Death in the Family Forced Me to Start My Own Company: Too much information, potential drama queen (or king) in the making

Married, Three Kids, Wife's name is Mary, Agnes, Joan...: This is about them, not you and your lovely family

Hobbies: Irrelevant to THEM, THEIR need, unless it is in their industry

Ref: Dirk Spencer, Resume Psychology

Best Resume Action Words

Action words that help enhance your resume. Good news is there are more good words than bad.

- -http://www.seekingsuccess.com/articles/art110.php
- -http://www.resume-help.org/resume_action_words.htm

Communication	Management	Teaching & Helping	Financial	Technical	Creative	
Arranged Authored Collaborated Communicated Consulted Consulted Corresponded Debated Defined Discussed Drafted Edited Explained Interacted Interpreted Interviewed Joined Marketed Mediated Moderated Negotiated Persuaded Presented Presented Responded Translated Wrote	Management Administered Analyzed Appointed Approved Assigned Attained Authorized Chaired Coordinated Decided Delegated Directed Established Executed Led Managed Motivated Organized Oversaw Planned Prioritized Reviewed Scheduled Supervised	Advised Aided Answered Assisted Clarified Coached Contributed Demonstrated Educated Encouraged Evaluated Explained Facilitated Guided Helped Individualized Instructed Motivated Persuaded Resolved Simplified Supported Trained Tutored Volunteered	Administered Adjusted Allocated Analyzed Appraised Audited Balanced Balanced Budgeted Calculated Estimated Projected Qualified Reconciled Reduced Classified Collected Compiled Filed Organized Processed Recorded Scheduled	Adapted Applied Assembled Built Computed Debugged Designed Developed Engineered Installed Maintained Operated Programmed Remodelled Solved Standardized Upgraded Research Analyzed Collected Compared Conducted Criticized Detected Determined Diagnosed Examined Experimented Formulated Gathered Insvented Inspected Invented Measured Searched Tested	Acted Composed Created Customized Designed Developed Directed Established Fashioned Founded Illustrated Invented Modeled Originated Performed Shaped Solved Your Action Words	
<u>Newww.squawkfox.com</u>						

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Researching

- Who, What, When, Where of Company X

Researching Companies

Where to get information

Before you look at a company, submit a resume to a company, call a company or interview with a company. Find out something about that company. Why find out something (other than they have a job posting)?

- Learn about their products, new products, press releases, management changes, industry events this will help you in phone calls, interviews and maybe even pick up on a management name or two you should call.
- Learn about their competitors who they are, what they do and how you can help the company Some of the best ways are obvious: Company web page or Google.
- Most importantly it shows you are genuinely interested and it shows during an interview it makes it much easier to have a list of questions

Some ways may not be so obvious such as: RSS feeds, Dunn&Bradstree, ReferenceUSA....

- For RSS feeds I like **FeedDemon**, **Google** has one as well there are many other. RSS (really simple syndication) are news aggregators. Saving you the time of search the whole world wide web. You list the companies and topics of interest the RSS engines do the rest.
- ReferenceUSA is a great free tool. It has every company in the USA and tons of information (ie sales, revenues and contact names number, etc) ***following slides will cover this***

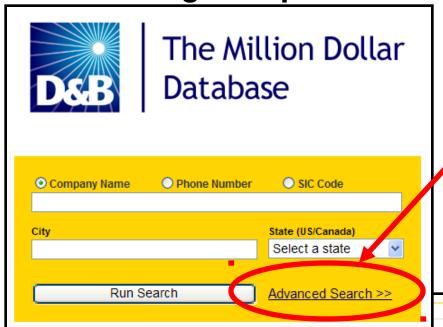
Researching Companies



To date I have found that when logging into Reference USA at a Library – it will take you to the D&B Million Dollar Database. In some situations it even references D&B instead of Reference USA. In short you want to be using D&B's database



Researching Companies



Until you know the name(s) of the companies you are looking for – go to the "Advanced Search" tab

The items in blue are searchable. I typically select MSA (encompasses more area than zip or area codes) and use NAICS codes.

Back to Basic Search

Use search fields below by clicking field name and then entering your criteria. From there, hit **Add to Criteria** button to return to this page and choose another field.

Company Criteria

- Company Name
- Parent Company Name
- Location Type
- Subsidiary Status
- Stock Ticker
- D-U-N-S® Number
- D&B® Prescreen Score
- Import/Export
- Public/Private
- Owns/Rents
- New Listing
- Year Established
- Bank Name
- Accountant Name
- Minority Owned
- Women Owned

Location Criteria TIP

- Continent
- Country
- State/Region
- City
- County
- MSA (Metro Area)
- Area Code
- ZIP Code

Industry Criteria

- SIC Code 2
- NAICS Code Product Categor
- Line of Business
- Mfg Indicator

Size Criteria

- Employment/Sales
- Employment Trend
- Plant/Facility Size
- Student Enrollment

Contact Criteria

- Job Function
- Job Title
- Executive Name
- Executive Biographies
- Fax Number
- Phone Number
- Toll-Free Number
- Web Address

Current Search Criteria Company All Location All Industry All Size All Contact All Click Individual Criteria to Remove from Current Search Run Search

Researching Companies

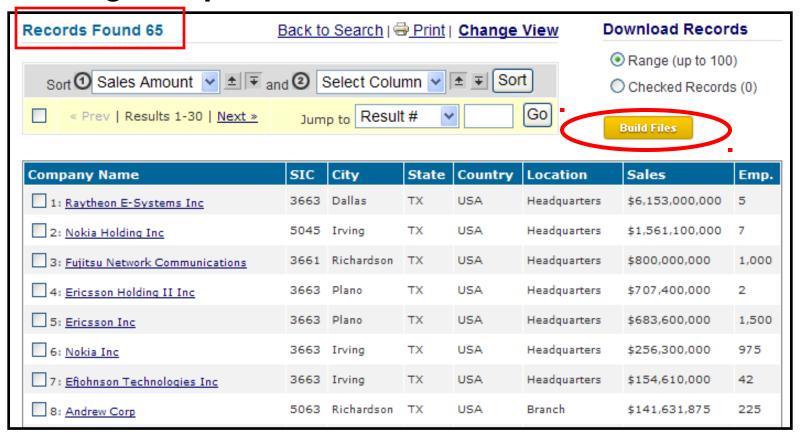
When you select "NACIS" codes from the Advanced Search window a listing all NAICS codes is displayed. You can click on any text in blue and it will expand to the next level (more refined) until you see text in black (that is the lowest level of detail for that category. You can select any number of

Note: the higher the level you click (ex: NAICS codes that 3-digits) the more results you get

NAICS codes.



Researching Companies



This is what a typical search result looks like. Remember, this is only a limited amount of data per company – the reports contain much more data. To download click the "Build Files" the output is .CSV (excel format)

Note: You are typically limited to downloading only 50 companies at a time. This means if the search results are 150 companies it will take you 3 downloads at 50 companies each to get all 150.

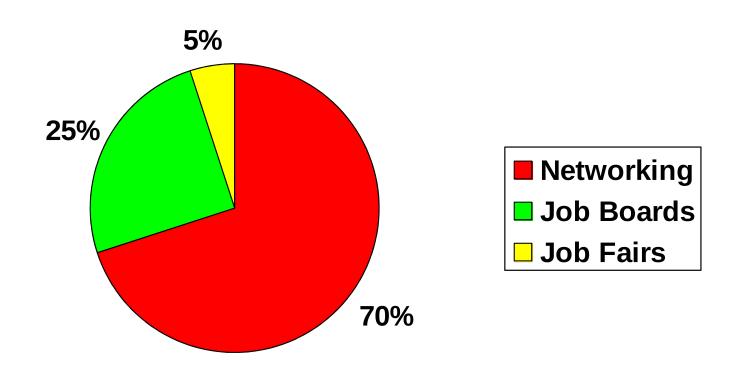
Get more from

Making the Call

- The Phone feels like it weighs 500lbs



Where the Jobs Are



Why is Networking so Powerful?

- •60% to 70% of all jobs are not posted
 - This excludes Job Boards and Job Fairs

(hint: over half of these are from social networking sites)

- •70%+ are found through what type of networking?
 - Asking friends, neighbors, family: 33%
 - Knocking on company doors: 47%
 - Calling companies: 69%
 - Hunting in packs (Network Groups): 84%

- Caller reluctance is Natural
- •Warm Call vs. Cold Call
- Expect Conditioned Resistance

Caller reluctance is Natural

- Good sales people 'developed' the ability to make calls.
- People do not like calling 'strangers' asking for something
- People fear rejection
- People hesitate at lack of control

Warm Call v Cold Call

- Good sales people never make a Cold Call.
- Warm Calls help reduce caller reluctance
 - Know the company(s)(hint: Target Company list)
 - Contact name (hint: LinkedIn)
 - Introduction
 - Common Background (hint: LinkedIn)
- Hot Calls are ideal
 - Someone calls are your behalf and makes the introduction.

Expect Conditioned Resistance

- Good sales people never sell.
- Good sales people get rejected. "No is when the selling starts"
- People "turn off" at the first sign of a "Hard Sell"
- When calling "Soft Sell"
 - DO NOT ASK FOR THE JOB or to send a resume
 - Ask for Help. People are conditioned to help/share
 - Informational call.
- If you get resistances do not fight thank them.
- There is no single script. All calls are situational and you must adjust.

Call Prep

- Have your scripts.
 - 1) If they answer
 - 2) If you roll to voice mail (phones today trap your number)
- Have company notes and how your background outlined.
- Do this the day before you want to be natural not rehearsed
- Remove your desk clutter, have pen and paper handy, cell phone on vibrate in a quite room. No distractions.
- You are in TRANSITION, not "out of work"

(hint: use a calling tree or call blueprint)

Calling Tips

- Smile even though you are on the phone.
- Greet everyone by name and with your name
- Call before 9am and after 5pm to avoid "gatekeepers"
- Do not call on Mondays, call on Thursdays or Fridays.
- Know what you are going to say. "Facts tell, stories sell"
- Do not speak when there is silence on the phone (3ms of phone silence feels like 5 minutes)
- KEEP YOUR CALL BRIEF!!!
- Send a Thank You Card!

Networking

- Number one fear of mankind is Public Speaking.
- Gain confidence: volunteer to speak on a topic, work that 30sec commercial, stand to ask a question in a network environment.
- Always be the first to introduce yourself to a stranger at a network meeting.
- Network with others from network groups. This is a great way to refine your "story".
- Confidence is key

Gatekeepers/Roadblocks: What not to say

If the gatekeeper wants to send you to HR, though, you have probably said something like the following:

"I am calling because I would like to send Mr. Smith my resume."

"I am calling because I am doing some networking on my career campaign."

"I am calling because I would like to talk to Mr. Smith about employment."

Do not ask for a Job and Have your script!!!

Call-Introductions

Calling a Networking Contact - Someone You Know

I have stepped back and looked at my career for the past 6 months and I have determined a few industries I believe would be a good fit for me. They are _____, ____, and _____.

Do you know anyone in those industries I could talk with for a few minutes to get some mentoring as I continue to research these industries?

Calling a Networking Contact - Someone You Don't Know

Hi _____, this is ____ (use your full name, title and company you are with, if you can).

I am calling because I am confidentially researching two industries right now for a potential future career transition.

Would you be open to setting a 10 minute meeting during which I could garner your expertise on the _____ industry?

Calling

There is NO substitute for making a phone call!! An email is not a phone call - neither is a letter. You must call someone to engage in conversation. You can only begin to create a dialogue if you are conversing.

Four Approaches

- 1) The "Joe Smith suggested I call you" approach(with a referral)
- "I was speaking with Joe Smith the other day and he suggested I contact you. I'm in the process of making some important career decisions and he felt you might be able to give me some valuable advice. My purpose in requesting a brief meeting with you isn't to ask for a position; I don't expect you to have or even know of an opening. My goal is to get some advice from you, and some insight into the marketplace."
- 2) The "we have something in common" approach (without a referral)
 I found your name and contact information on the Career connection database I'm in the process of making some important career changes and felt you might be Able to give me some valuable advice. My purpose in requesting a brief meeting with you isn't to ask for a position; I don't expect you to have or even know of an opening. My goal is to get some advice from you, and some insight into the marketplace."
- 3) The "Changing Career Direction" approach (without a referral)
- "I am in the process of making some important career decisions and I believe your Advice would be extremely helpful. I am trying to learn more about your industry or position to determine if it would be right for me. Your, insight and experience Could be very important as I make this decision. I would only need about 20 Minutes of your time. Might we set up a meeting for next Tuesday or Wednesday?
- 4) The "Advice on my job search strategy" approach (without. referral)
- "I am in the process of making a career change and hoped I might get an Opportunity to meet with you for about 20 minutes or so. My purpose in Requesting a brief meeting is not to ask you for a position; I don't expect you to Have or even know of any openings. I would like to share my strategy with you And hear any suggestion you might have. Is there a time that is convenient for you to meet with me next week?"

Ref: Dennis O'Hagan - CareerDFW

Calling – Overcoming Roadblocks

Front-loading your introduction to break the autopilot response

The Gatekeeper: Hello, Mr. Smith's office.

You: Hello, this is Mark Jackson from Ciley Corporation calling for Mr.

Smith please.

The Gatekeeper: Um, who may I say is calling again, sorry?

You: Again, this is Mark Jackson from Ciley Corporation calling for Mr.

Smith, please.

Getting past the Gatekeeper

You: Hi! This is ____ from ____, may I speak with Mr. Smith please?"

The Gatekeeper: "May I tell him what it is regarding?"

You: "It's regarding a project I am working on."

The Gatekeeper: "What kind of project?"

You: "A networking project."

Using articles to get past the Gatekeeper

The Gatekeeper: "Can I tell her what this is regarding?"

You: "Yes - It's regarding the new wind farm project in North Texas."

The Gatekeeper: "What about it?" (Only a small minority will push the envelope like this)

You: "I am working on a project and I would like to talk to her about it."

You see? And to add some rocket fuel to that, you would be wise to integrate something you saw or read into a compliment once you are talking to the contact:

You: "And by the way I was really impressed to read about your focus and dedication to research technologies."

Your Contact: "Oh, well thank you!"

Using Associations to get past the Gatekeeper

The Gatekeeper: "Can I tell him what this call is regarding?"

You: "Certainly. It's regarding the Texas Chapter of the Associated

General Contractors."

You can even add: "I understand he is President and I am contacting him regarding membership and my relocation to the

Chicago Area."

The Gatekeeper: "Okay! Hold on one moment, please..."

Calling – Overcoming Roadblocks

Negotiating possible roadblocks in a polite manner and ALWAYS use judgment.

- "I don't have time to see you."
- •I realize you are busy. That's why I am only asking for a few minutes.
- •Would it be more convenient for you could we do this over the phone?
- "Just send me your resume."
- •I would be glad to; however, at this stage I am only looking for any information and advice you could give me that would help me direct my job search.
- "I do not think I can be of any help to you."
- •Joe Smith told me that you know a lot about _____
- •I'm sure you know more than you give your self-credit for.
- •I'm sure you know more then I do about _____
- "Sorry we have no openings at present"
- I appreciate that, however, what I am currently looking for is information.
- "I get a lot of calls from job seekers."
- •I'm sure it's because of your knowledge and experience. That's why I'm only asking for a few minutes of your time.
- "Let me transfer you to the head of recruiting."
- •That would be very helpful, but would it be possible to spend a couple of minutes with you first to get some more specific advice and insight.
- "I don't hare any contacts to give you."
- What I am looking for at the moment is advice and information. Your Background and knowledge of the_____ field is what I'm really interested in at this time.

Ref: Dennis O'Hagan - CareerDFW

Voice Mail

Leaving a Message

"Hi Mr. Smith, this is Shane Beck from Hill Country Investments. It's Tuesday morning and I am calling because I am working on a project I would really like to garner your expertise on. I will be in the office all day today. My number is 212-555-1212. Thanks and I really look forward to speaking with you."

Leaving a second message

"Hi Mr. Smith, this is Shane Beck from Hill Country Investments. I reached out to you early last week but just wanted to leave another short message. It's Monday morning and I will be in the office all day today. My number is 212-555-1212. Thanks and once again, I really look forward to speaking with you."

Voice Mail

What NOT To Say on a Voice Mail message

Always be prepared to have a clear statement ready if the person you are calling does not answer and you go to voice mail. Do not hang up, you should always leave a voicemail. Remember that office phones have caller ID just like your cell phones. You do not want to have the "stalker phone number".

"Hey Susan, it's Stan. I think you'll agree that I'm perfect for the Director job we discussed three weeks ago. When I spoke with your CEO at our Alumni Conference last week, he mentioned what a great background I had for the role. Please call me back – I'm ready to get started on Monday!"

Susan isn't going to call back. Why?

No last name! No phone number!

"I think you'll agree that I'm perfect for the Director job." This is presumptuous. And the purpose of this voicemail is <u>not</u> to "seal the deal" – that will be a live conversation. The purpose should be to provide a pleasant reminder of your candidacy.

" ... three weeks ago." And just getting around to following up now? How serious is this guy Stan?

"When I spoke with your CEO at our Alumni Conference ..." – the recipient is thinking: great, you went to school with my boss. But this appeal to a higher authority is really very annoying. Are you vaguely threatening me? Implying you're going over my head?

The recruiter or hiring manager is well aware of whether their boss is a meddling sort or not. If not, your bluff is called. If so, they'll wait to hear directly from the boss about you – your application is going to the "hold" pile for now.

"Please call me back – I'm ready to get started on Monday!" Being available is good, sounding desperate is not.

Ref: May 2009 Ladders Article

Voice Mail

Having a voice mail message strategy is just as important as having a strategy for when someone answers the phone.

"Hi Susan, it's Jim Ablebody. Just calling to let you know how excited I am about the opportunity there at the Springfield Nuclear Power Plant. As I mentioned last week, I've spent 15 years in nuclear safety, so I feel there could be a great fit. You can reach me back at 867-5309, and, again, it's ... Jim. Ablebody."

What's right here?

Jim gave his phone number and repeated his full name (slowly) twice. No need to replay the message to get his information.

Jim is upbeat – "how excited I am," 'I feel there could be a great fit" – without being needy or pushy. "As I mentioned last week" – my advice on phone follow-up is: call one time per week for five weeks. That lets them know that you're consistently interested, without appearing desperate. And if you don't hear back after five weeks, it is time to move on.

"I've spent 15 years" – just a simple reminder, not an argument, for why you make sense for the job. It is a short, simple, polite message that brings Jim to the top of Susan's mind. That's good. Jim doesn't try to close the deal or get the job during this voicemail. He realizes that you can't do that. What Jim does accomplish here is to increase the odds that the next time the job is discussed, his name will come up. And the next time his name comes up, it will be in a positive light. And that's the most you should hope for from a voicemail.. Trying for a bigger result is ultimately just going to set you back.

Ref: May 2009 Ladders Article

Calling

Calling – Tree

Write out your scripts – if someone answers go to 1 if voice mail go to 2 (reduces brain lock)

Telephone Map	Response	Decision Maker	Response
Decision Maker 1	2	2	2
90 °	3	3	3
Introduction	1		
2	2	2	2
	3	3	3
	1	1	1
3	2		2
	3	3	3
	1	1	1
4	2	_ 2	2
	3	3	3
	Get more from	http://www.getforms.org	

Call – Blueprint

Good way to keep organized and have only the facts you need for the call on 1-page in front of you.

	CALL BLUEPRINT
Key Contact:	
Purpose of Call:	
What do I want t	o accomplish during this call?
What is the ONE	thing I can say during the call that benefits my contac

Get more from

Interviewing

- You will have one.....

Interviewing

Interview Attire

This one is a pet peeve. Wear a dark SUIT and TIE – whenever meeting any person that can directly assist or has direct influence on your employment (ie Interviews of any kind – including recruiters). You are presenting yourself and defining your professional image. ENOUGH SAID!!

Interview Question Preperation

The best way to prep is practice. The best practice is to rehearse both types of interviews: Traditional (Informational) and Behavioral.

- -Traditional: search on Goolge for "64 Toughest Interview Questions".
- -Behavioral: search on Google for 'Behavioral' and 'SID Interviews'

Interview – your Job Stories

Job stories are critical!

In addition to being prepared to respond to the standard interview questions (ie tell me about yourself). An excellent tool is to respond to questions with a career story (please keep your stories short). Best way to prep is to type out your career stories. This is an excellent format.

- By Company/ By Job create 3-columns. The columns can be entitled; Situation, Actions, Results. The intent is to create as many SAR (situations actions results) as you can by job. In other words you resume on steroids. Do not be surprised if it is 12+ pages. This is an excellent document for clearing the cob webs and enabling you to communicate effectively about not just your last job but the job successes from 20 years ago. If the interview person then asks you if you have experience selling widgets you do not just answer with a yes. You answer..."yes I do, I sold widgets for Acme Inc. to their largest account and was able to surpass all sales records at Acme. Which is stronger YES or the Job Story?

Interviewing

Interview Follow Up

The last question (or statement) before leaving an interview should be "when should I get back with you....." if they do not give you a specific time – pick one and follow up on the date.

Send thank you notes to everyone you meet. Carry thank you cards with you – fill them out in the lobby before you leave (give them to the receptionist – they can put them in inter-office mail for you). Then send an email thank you.

Salary

- Congrads you got the job

Salary

Negotiation

Salary is personal and private and people hate to discuss it. You will have to disclose how much you make. The best way is be honest, research the market, provide a range and adjust for the situation.

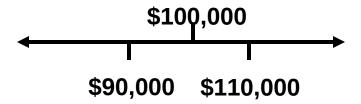
Market Price

- -www.salary.com
- -www.monster.com go to the Monster salary tool
- -www.Jobstar.com
- -www.Payscale.com

Range is a function of your situation. If it is a sellers market go high. If it is a buyers market – time to get real. First of all if you have 12 years at a company and make a \$100K base. This salary was based on years of merit raises and company increases. Finding a similar or slightly better job does not always ensure salary parity.

Get the market price for the job. Find the mid-point and go +/-10% on that figure. That is your range. Make sure that this is a salary that will keep a roof over you head and food on the table – you may not be able to keep the golf club membership and may have to mow your own yard.

This salary should be in the ball park of the company you are interviewing. If they are lower – make sure you factor all things in. How good is the insurance, 401K, bonus payouts, etc.. These things may help close the gap. If not – walk.



Digital Footprint

- Getting your name out there

Digital Footprint

Social Networking Sites

These are web sites that allow you to market yourself, let friends find you, recruiters find you, look for contacts and even look for jobs.

- -www.linkedin.com (#1 Social Network for Professionals and #1 for candidate searches by HR)
- -www.facebook.com (#2 for candidate searching by HR)
- -www.twitter.com (#3 for candidate searching by HR)
- -www.myspace.com

Blogs:

Another form of social networking is to leverage your web presence with a Blog and/or it's derivatives. These are useful ways to get people to find you, follow you (and listen to you) and want to network with you.

- www.wordpress.com is a free blog site that I use it has a LinkedIN add in and one for the iPhone
- www.blogspot.com

Quicklook comparison chart of popular blogging software:

-www.ojr. org/ojr/images/ blog_software_ comparison. cfm

Note: The only way to truly establish a digital footprint is to use all the free tools that the internet provides. It does not take much time but can generate results. Some experts claim that 20% of job offers come from the internet. If you are not taking advantage of this your 20% is 0%. Remember, you should only be spending about 20% of your time on the computer doing these activities. Human networking is still #1 in finding a job.

Digital Footprint - Twitter

Twitter:

Twitter is #3 for HR/Recruiters when searching for job candidates. There are a lot of links that will help you manage twitter and find jobs on twitter – just takes a little digging. Twitter works best when working with 3rd party applications – many are web based.

Homepage

-www.twitter.com create your twitter account here

Twitter Job Aggregator

- **-http://www.tweetmyjobs.com/** is a webpage that allows you to create a profile and search for job-types by your geographical preference. Will send you a daily digest of jobs.
- -http://www.twithire.com/ webpage for jobs
- -www.Jobshouts.com
- -www.Tweetcruit.com
- #jobangels

-Twitter Resume Format

- -http://www.twtjobs.com/ ****Twitter resume template**** fill this out, save the url and you can re-tweet
- -http://www.twtbizcard.com/ ****Twitter business card template****

Twitter Managaer for the Desk Top

-www.twitterdeck.com is a twitter utility to help keep tweets organized – desktop app

Tweet Applications

- -http://twitter.pbworks.com/Apps Wiki page with listing of great apps to make twitter easier to navigate
- -http://twitdom.com/ Page dedicated to Twitter Apps
- -http://www.squidoo.com/twitterapps another page of twitter apps
- -http://www.techcrunch.com/2009/02/19/the-top-20-twitter-applications/ more twitter apps
- -http://www.twoquick.com/ Search engine (no funny # marks required)
- -http://www.twootles.com/ another search engine

Digital Footprint – Twitter (cont.)

Tweet Applications (cont.)

- -http://www.twellow.com search directory
- -http://wefollow.com/ list yourself on twitter
- -http://nearbytweets.com/ find twitters near you
- -http://tweetbeep.com/ twitter email alerts
- -http://www.twilert.com/ another twitter email alert site
- -http://www.twitterjobsearch.com/ twitter jobsite
- -http://www.twithire.com/ twitter jobsite
- -http://www.twitterjobsearch.com/ twitter jobsite
- -http://twitter.com/microjobs twitter jobsite
- -http://www.jobangels.org/ twitter jobsite
- -http://jobshouts.com/ twitter jobsite
- -http://www.tweetcruit.com/Default.aspx twitter jobsite
- -http://bit.ly/ shortens URL for posting in Tweets
- -http://tinyurl.com/ shortens URL for posting in Tweets

Digital Footprint – Google Profile

Page 1 of Google

The more social networking sites and bloging/twittering you do – the more your name will be "relevant" on a Google search or any search engine for that matter. However, if you have a common name (Tom Jackson) it does not matter how hard you work it – you will be back paged on Google. The good news is, there is a work around to have your name show up on page 1. The short cut is creating a "Google Profile". This will put you on Page 1, despite how common your name is.



Keep in mind that you must brand yourself. In other words link your name with your desired job title (Tom Jackson / Sales). When recruiters search various sites for Sales my name and sites will pull along with that key word.

Creating a Google Profile:

Google, in the search box type <ME>, hit return. This will take you to the Google profile page.

Other useful web tricks: www.obviousexpert.com

Digital Footprint – Google Profile (cont.)

Page 1 of Google

Add your URL to Google

Adding your URL/Webpage to Google:

This is a great way to short cut Google again. Do not wait for Google to find your sites – load your sites directly in to Google. -www.google.com/addurl/?continue=/addurl

Share your place on the net with us.
We add and update new sites to our index each time we crawl the web, and we invite you to submit your URL here. We do not add all submitted URLs to our index, and we cannot make any predictions or guarantees about when or if they will appear.
Please enter your full URL, including the http://prefix. For example: http://www.google.com/. You may also add comments or keywords that describe the content of your page. These are used only for our information and do not affect how your page is indexed or used by Google.
Please note: Only the top-level page from a host is necessary; you do not need to submit each individual page. Our crawler, Googlebot, will be able to find the rest. Google updates its index on a regular basis, so updated or outdated link submissions are not necessary. Dead links will 'fade out' of our index on our next crawl when we update our entire index.
URL:
Comments:
Optional: To help us distinguish between sites submitted by individuals and those automatically entered by software robots, please type the squiggly letters shown here into the box below.
it gali
Add URL

Make sure if you have multiple sites (ie LinkedIN, Facebook, Twitter, etc) that you link each site to the other. This what they call "nesting". Nesting is very powerful because you are linking yourself to yourself multiple times. The search engines not only pick up on your url it also maps which urls are contained within your page. In other words you look bigger than you really are.

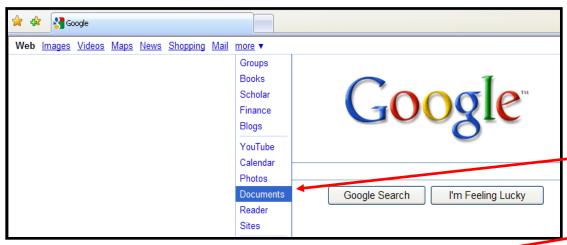
Note: Site or URL does not mean that you have to have your own personal website (but do get one). When you created your linked in profile you were given a URL that points to your profile page (www.linkedin.com/in/thomasjacksonjr) that is a URL and the same applies to every social networking site on the internet.

Digital Footprint – Google Resume Posting

Google Resume

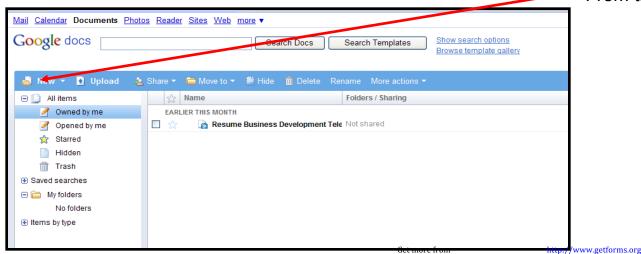
How to upload your resume directly to Google:

You can upload your resume directly to Google. All you need to do is use Google Docs. - http://docs.google.com/?hl=en&tab=wo#owned-by-me



Using either the URL above or just go to Google, from the More drop down select Documents.

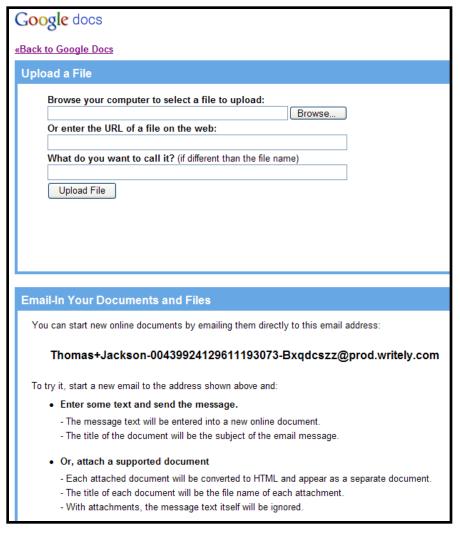
From the Google Docs menu select NEW



Digital Footprint – Google Resume Posting (cont.)

Google Resume

How to upload your resume directly to Google:



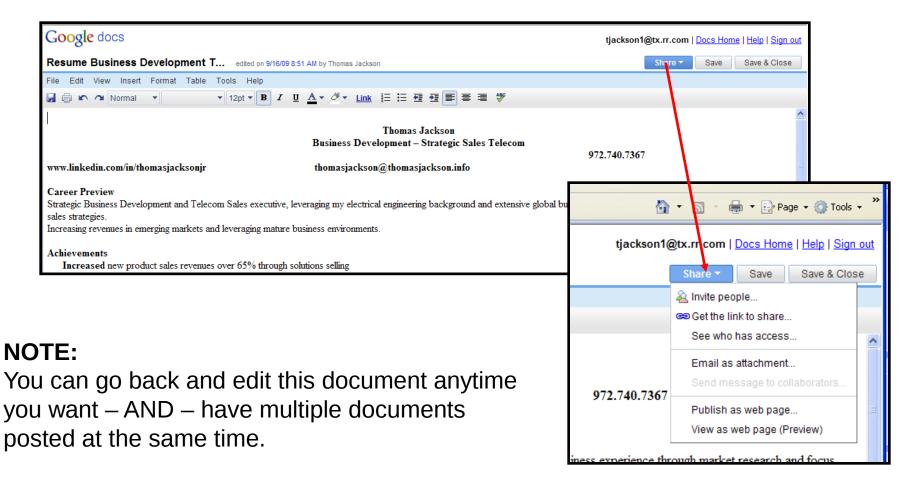
From the NEW menu you can upload your resume document to Google Docs.

Digital Footprint – Google Resume Posting (cont.)

Google Resume

How to upload your resume directly to Google:

Once your resume is pasted into Google Docs then it is time to SHARE it with the world – this is how it becomes searchable.



Digital Footprint - Facebook

Facebook

Although most people think of Facebook as another "chat board" it has becom the #2 way HR and Recruiters locate potential candidates.

-www.facebook.com (#2 for candidate searching by HR)

Start buy getting a Facebook account. Remember to keep your brand simple NAME/TITLE. Keep track of the URL Facebook gives you – load it into Google.

-http://www.allfacebook.com/2009/02/facebook-privacy/ primer on Facebook privacy settings

Facebook Links:

- -http://www.facebook.com/apps/application.php?id=2358483321 Professional profile on Facebook sync LinkedIn
- -http://www.facebook.com/apps/application.php?id=2389654138&b&ref=pd SimplyHired
- -http://www.facebook.com/apps/application.php?id=2244064782&ref=s Jobster
- -http://secretsofthejobhunt.blogspot.com/2008/01/your-resume-on-facebook.html Links to post resume on Facebook
- -http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8159222053 Facebook group for HR/Recruiters— good way to get ideas from the source.

Digital Footprint (cont.)

Personal Web Page

These are great since you can promote yourself, post information, post your portfolio and tie all your other sites back to one common point on the web. In addition you can create your own personal and professional looking emails.

I prefer GoDaddy. For about \$55 a year you get server space, domain name, emails and great support. If you are not able to create your own web page (ie do not have the s/w or knowledge). GoDaddy offers Web Page in a Day – it uses their s/w and will allow you to create a very good an basic web page (it is limited to only 3 or so pages. Check it out and learn a new skill.

-www.godaddy.com

Getting Found on the Web

In addition to joining Social Networking sites and creating a Google Profile there are several other things you can do to increase your chances of getting "Found". Register on one of these sites.

- -www.zoominfo.com
- -www.jigsaw.com
- -www.ziggs.com
- -Pipl.com
- -www.spock.com
- -www.naymz.com
- -namechk.com before branding yourself check here to make sure your branded name is not being used

Another unique way to increase your web presence is to review a book on Amazon! Amazon is so large and prevalent on the web. That once you post a few book reviews, the internet Sypders will find you.

-www.amazon.com

Digital Footprint (cont.)

Social Networking General Information

There is a wealth of information on Social Networking sites – here is but a sample

- -http://imonlinkedinnowwhat.com/ LinkedIn
- -http://whyfacebook.com/ Facebook
- -http://secretsofthejobhunt.com/ Jobseekers
- -http://www.commoncraft.com/Twitter Twitter

Social Networking Updates

Keep in mind that you will periodically have to update your social networking site just like the job boards. Good news there are update aggregators .

- -www.hellotxt.com this is a neat aggregator for all your other social networking sites
- -www.Ping.fm
- -www.mylifeonline.com/

Other Useful Tips 'n Tricks - Misc

Other Useful Tips 'n Tricks

Add Some Sparkle to Your Email Address Signature

Trick up your signature. Add a LinkedIn logo with hyperlink to your site instead of the same old text with hyperlink. This makes your signature stand out. I have another power point that shows how to do this (PCs, Outlook)

www.thomasjackson.info/sale fish.htm
 (note: Go to the 2nd item on the screen)

Online Resume Sites

There are number of sites that let you create a resume on line, choose a format and then print, email or post. The difference between these sites and sites like Monster which let you create an online resume is that these sites try to leverage social networking. Plus you will get a customized link giving you additional Digital Footprint and you can link these sites to others.

However, these are not a replacement for a well written resume in word.

- www.emurse.com
- www.visualvc.com

Other Links:

SEOCentro tools page: Analyze an html (LINKEDIN PROFILE!) for metatag efficiency, keyword/keyphrase frequency, page ranking, etc. etc. this was worth just taking the class. Play with it it has amazing tools!

www.seocentro.com/tools/seo-tools.html

Other Useful Tips 'n Tricks

Free advice on a number of job search topics.

- www.theladders.com
- www.ritesite.com
- www.execunet.com
- -www.executivesnetwork.com
- -www.asktheheadhunter.com
- -www.15secondpitch.com
- -www.Glassdoor.com
- -www.Pay-Scale.com

Other Useful Tips 'n Tricks (cont.)

Business Productivity Tools (good to use even after you get that job)

XOBNI

Cool FREE program that really enhances Outlook email and provides links to all your sites like LinkedIn. (note: XOBNI is INBOX spelled backwards) – Must See.

-www.xobni.com

Dial2Do

Neat FREE application that lets you send email, txt, reminders and other stuff all from your phone. Great when

driving to meetings and interviews.

-www.dial2do.com

Bintro.com, which is in beta; Jobfox.com and Trovix.com, which are built around their job-matching functions, and industry veteran CareerBuilder.com

Where Can I get the List of DFW Companies?

www.thomasjackson.info

Thomas Jackson

Business Development/Strategic Marketing Professional

Sales Press Releases

Application Notes

Market Research

White Papers

Publications

Skill/Awards/Training



Welcome to my professional portfolio.

Tom is an experienced technology professional with exter market expertise in business development, strategic sales, operations and engineering. Tom has a successful track is account development and program management working wand small accounts, as well as distributors and VARS. Torvalso worked globally, with both commercial, consumer an customers. Tom's career focus is Business Development Operations. Where he can leverage his experiences and successes in Sales, Marketing and Product Strategies - ide new opportunities, new markets and new revenues.

Some of the highlights of Tom's career include:

- Sales Growth: Increased new product revenues of while exceeding margin targets and closing sales in of \$200M. Work closely with customers delivering to solutions.
- Business Demopment: Lead a strategic busin
 to a

Tom Jackson 972-740-7367



thomasjackson@thomasjackson.info

Click on this link to take you to the download page

<u>****All I ask in return is that you "Link-In" to me****</u>