

New South Wales
Computer Education Group

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You are invited to contribute to *Information Transfer*. Remember a green conference registration will be made for the best contribution each year.



We are on the Web
www.nswceg.org.au

The NSWCEG
website is
hosted by



EVERYTHING CONNECTED

The NSW Computer Education Group was formed in late 1979 with the objectives of providing a forum for those involved in, and interested in Computer Education. Ever since the NSWCEG has been addressing the problem of enhancing communication between individuals interested in Computer Education and Learning Technology in NSW.

The NSWCEG publishes *Information Transfer* as it's professional journal four times per year. A conference is organised each year for members. The executive meet every month and this *CEG Newsletter* is sent to members four times per year.

The NSWCEG is affiliated with the *Australian Council of Computers in Education (ACCE)* and the *International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)*.

As new communication technologies have developed the NSWCEG has adopted them as resources allow. Now you are able to keep in touch with the NSWCEG on the Internet and through its Internet Portal. In 2003, as in 1979, communication is a two way thing. The NSWCEG needs your contribution to the *Newsletter* and *Information Transfer*.

Public schools: Why Johnny can't blog Evan Hansen

Staff Writer, CNET News.com
November 12, 2003
<http://news.com.com/2009-1023-5103805.html>

This is an interesting article that reflects on the impact of using laptop with over 1,000 secondary students . . . Bob Spielvogel, principal author of a three-year study by the non-profit Education Development Centre that evaluated a \$45 million IBM education program, cautioned that equipment is only the beginning of technological reform in the classroom. "We know that simply putting computers into schools doesn't work" . . . It's worth a read.

Losing tech's support

Technology spending among public kindergarten through high school districts peaked in the 1998-1999 school year, and since then has declined.

District spending (in billions)	
1996-1997	4.8
1997-1998	5.4
1998-1999	6.7
1999-2000	5.6
2000-2001	4.7
2001-2002	4.2

Source: Quality Education Data



MOOTERSEARCH

Mooter, it is claimed is "a revolutionary new search engine, is launching on the Australian market in late 2003, after almost two years in development.

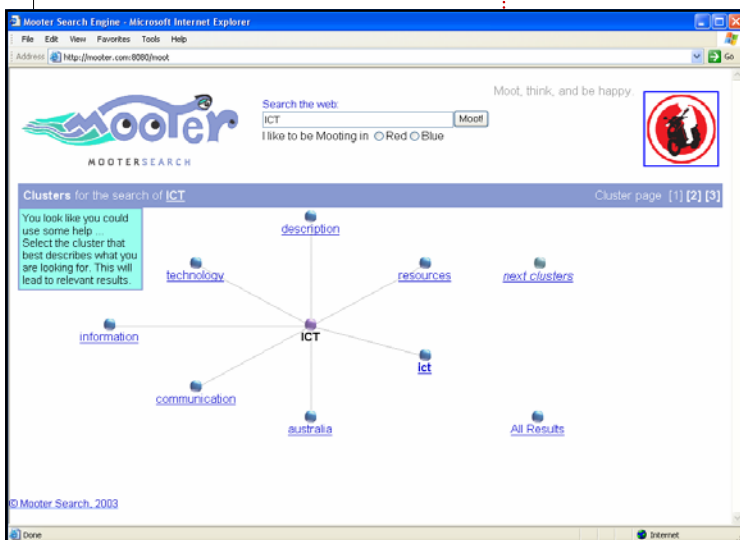
Mooter gets its results from its own spidering, and a unique index of websites. While we are growing, we are supplementing our index with metasearch, and comparing the results from various engines before applying our analysis algorithms.

Mooter, by contrast, employs unprecedented 'artificial algorithms' based on psychological modelling to process and understand the information users seek.

Mooter clusters results into concepts, allowing faster decisions and deeper digging with less clicks. As you work, the Mooter algorithms shuffle the results invisibly so that more relevant results to you at the moment come up first. This means that no two searches are the same for two different people - you are looking for something completely different to the person next to you, so even using the same original keyword your results will not come up in exactly the same way."

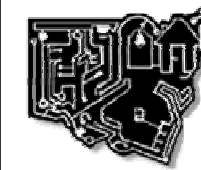
Try Mooter and run some comparisons with Google with a few different search objectives in mind.

In the past, search engine development focused on making as much information available to users as possible. It was up to the user to sort through hundreds or possibly millions of search results to find what they were looking for.



New AUSTRALIAN Search Engine

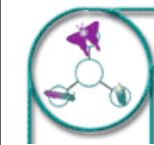
<http://mooter.com:8080/moot>
www.mooter.com/corp/



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Australian Computers in Education Conference (ACEC2004)

Australian Computers in Education Conference 'ACEC2004'.

The next national biennial conference of the Australian Council for Computers in Education will be held in Adelaide from Monday 5 July to Thursday 8 July 2004.

"Research,... Reform,.. Realise the Potential!"



Join the Ed Tech Jam Session!

Leslie S. Conery, PhD

ISTE Deputy CEO, NECC Conference Chair



Join us in New Orleans, June 20-23, 2004, for the National Educational Computing Conference's silver anniversary. More than 16,000 teachers, technology coordinators, library media specialists, teacher educators, administrators, policy makers, and industry representatives from all over the world will gather at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Centre in the heart of this colourful, vibrant city.

Our purpose? To build a global learning community, help move conference attendees to new levels of leadership and practice, explore essential questions about technology and the construction of knowledge, and advance universal opportunity through education.

Now more than ever we need to plan for creative teaching opportunities and learn to link them to widely accepted standards and accountability systems. And it'll take all of us—the whole education team—jamming' and jazzin' together, to make this happen. We sure hope you'll choose to join us this June in the Big Easy. In a complex world, at least this choice is clear!

<http://center.uoregon.edu/ISTE/NECC2004/>



BLOGS

<http://computer.howstuffworks.com/blog.htm>

Basically, a blog is a lot like an online journal or diary. The author can talk about anything and everything. Many blogs are full of interesting links that the author has found. Blogs often contain stories or little snippets of information that are interesting to the author.

- A blog is normally a single page of entries. There may be archives of older entries, but the "main page" of a blog is all anyone really cares about.
- A blog is organized in reverse-chronological order, from most recent entry to least recent.
- A blog is normally public -- the whole world can see it.
- The entries in a blog usually come from a single author.

The entries in a blog are usually stream-of-consciousness. There is no particular order to them. For example, if I see a good link, I can throw it in my blog. The tools that most bloggers use make it incredibly easy to add entries to a blog any time they feel like it."

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Did you know?

That by the end of 2002 only 26% of the 349 million PCs that run Windows had started to use Windows XP?

That Windows XP was released on the 25th October 2001?

That together Win 95, Win 98. Win Me, WinNT workstation and Win 2K Pro make up 74% of the installed Windows base?

That Apple continues to make a profit (for the Q ending Sep '03 it was \$A63.9M)?

That nearly half of all Apples currently sold are portables?