

AltaVista Search

CD-ROM Toolkit 98



Product Description

The AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit brings the power of the popular AltaVista Search technology to information distributed on CD-ROMs. This toolkit lets publishers add AltaVista Search powered full text search and retrieval capabilities to their CD-ROM based information products.

The AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit lets the publisher build a complete, full-text index of every file distributed on the CD-ROM. This AltaVista Search index along with a browser based, search and retrieval user interface is added to the CD-ROM contents.

Customers who purchase the CD-ROM easily find information using the same powerful, high speed AltaVista Search application they use when searching the World Wide Web. Every word and every number contained on the CD-ROM is quickly located with AltaVista Search. Hits on text files and HTML files are highlighted for the user.

This software is designed to have very little impact on the user's PC and the CD-ROM. It uses the PC's browser and the index is efficient and compact.. It runs on Windows® NT and Windows 95 platforms.



Features / Functions and Benefits

- Same, powerful search technology used at the popular AltaVista Search site on the World Wide Web.
- Wizard-based index creation process makes it extremely simple to build a searchable CD-ROM.
- Support for over 200 different file types allows you to put just about any type of document on your CD-ROM and find it quickly and easily. The list includes Microsoft Office 97 applications, Adobe PDF, PostScript, Microsoft Access, Lotus 1-2-3, HTML, text and many other popular file types.
- Efficient indexing means the index can be as small as 5% of the size of the source data, but usually no more than 30%.
- Small disk and memory requirements result in minimal impact on the end user's PC. This means fewer customer complaints.
- Uses a customizable, browser-based user interface for submitting queries and presenting results. You may add your own logo and tailor the UI to fit your corporate standards or enforce your corporate branding. The search function can also be integrated into your existing CD-ROM user interface to make accessing the search interface an easy and seamless operation.
- Hit highlighting in HTML and text documents makes it easy to find the query terms you are searching for.

How It Works

The AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit provides all the tools necessary to build a self-contained full-text search and retrieval capability for any CD-ROM. Publishers are guided through the process by a wizard.

Building a searchable CD-ROM with the AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit is quite simple.

1. Place all of the documents (in the appropriate directory structure) to be published on the CD-ROM into a directory on your PC's hard drive.
2. Start the AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit wizard. You will specify the directory structure to index, what sub-directories or specific files (if any) that should not be indexed, and what file types to index.
3. The AltaVista Search CD-ROM Toolkit provides two default page templates. The "simple" template builds a single pane web page with a search box, your logo art and color scheme. The "Table of Contents" template builds a three pane web page for banner art, the search box and a table of contents pane. As with the "simple" template, you can add your logo art and color scheme. You can further customize the query pages that the end user will use to submit queries and review searches results with your favorite HTML editing software.
4. The wizard will run the AltaVista Search indexer, convert documents and build the AltaVista Search index. The wizard will place the new AltaVista Search index and the search engine components needed by the end user to search the index into the directory structure you specified earlier.
5. Copy the directory structure (which now includes the source documents, the AltaVista Search index and the AltaVista Search Engine components) to the master CD-ROM.
6. Reproduce the required number of CD-ROM copies, up to the quantity limit allowed by your AltaVista Search CD-ROM Deployment License.

Minimum System Requirements for the Development Environment

Intel 486 MHz System running Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.0

12 MB of RAM

15 MB of disk space required for installation

Additional disk space is required to build the CD-ROM index. Index size will range between 5% and 30% of the source data.

Microsoft Internet Explorer V2 or Netscape Navigator V2. Later versions are supported

Windows 95 TCP/IP protocol must be installed and configured.

Minimum System Requirements for the End User's Desktop

Intel 486 MHz System running Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.0

12 MB of RAM

Microsoft Internet Explorer V2 or Netscape Navigator V2. Later versions are supported

Windows 95 TCP/IP protocol must be installed and configured.

AltaVista Search on-line info is available at:
<http://altavista.software.digital.com/index.htm>