

# AltaVista Search

## Developer's Kit 97



You know the information users need is in a database somewhere. But where is it and how can you provide easy access to it? AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 lets you build your own search and retrieval application or add AltaVista Search powered search and retrieval capabilities to database applications and file repositories. Your users can find what they need quickly and easily without special database training. Best of all, it is fast and has minimal impact on existing database applications.

### Product Description

The AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 provides system integrators and software developers with the tools to integrate the AltaVista Search engine technology into customized search and retrieval applications. An AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 powered application controls the kinds of information users can search for as well as the way the software returns and displays results to users.

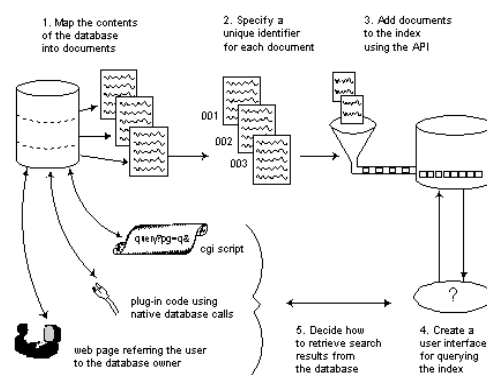
The AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 includes the AltaVista Search indexing, querying and results engines. It also includes application-programming interfaces, APIs, to access and manipulate them. Documentation and programming examples are also included for the developer's usage.

### Features / Functions and Benefits

- Developers create or embed AltaVista powered search functionality into new or existing applications with the AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 API's.
- Year 2000 compliance.
- Perform super fast searches on database records or documents, BLOBS, within databases
- Users do not have to use SQL. They use the familiar AltaVista Search querying syntax to formulate their queries. Developers can make it even easier by building a user interface that provides additional simplification.
- Every word and number within your database can be indexed and queried. This includes fielded information and binary large objects.
- Supports the familiar AltaVista Search query syntax. This includes Boolean, phrase, date and nested queries. Results can be ranked by date or by calculated relevance value.
- Utilizes small code footprint within the application address space. Memory is used as available to improve performance.
- The AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 is extremely scalable. The FBI is using the AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97 with an Oracle database that contains over 40,000,000 records. Query performance was improved from 20 plus hours to less than 10 seconds.

### How It Works

- Your application, built with the AltaVista Search Developer's Kit 97, links with the AltaVista Search C Library giving it access to full index creation, management, and search capabilities.
- Queries go to the AltaVista Search index and not to the actual data repository. This means fast result returns with no impact on the data repository. When the user selects a query result, the user is taken directly to the information buried within the data repository.
- The indexing API only requires you to pass in Latin-1 character strings for document / database field indexing. (Unicode will be supported in a future release)
- Fast, efficient index is always up to date and available to all your users. High performance, fully multi-threaded operation allows one thread to be updating the index while other threads are simultaneously servicing search requests.
- Specific parts of a document can be labeled as belonging to specified fields for searching purposes. For example, an author or title, a product code or supplier's name.



#### Minimum System Requirements for the Development Environment

Intel Pentium 133MHz System running Windows NT 4.0, or;

Any Alpha System running Windows NT 4.0, or Digital UNIX 4.0, or;

Sun SPARC System Running Solaris 2.51.

C language compiler and standard libraries

Web browser to view and print the documentation

#### Minimum System Requirements for the Runtime Environment

Intel Pentium 133MHz System running Windows NT 4.0, or;

Any Alpha System running Windows NT 4.0, or Digital UNIX 4.0, or;

Sun SPARC System Running Solaris 2.51.

64MB RAM

6MB of disk space for installation

1GB of disk space to hold the AltaVista Search NI2 index

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