A SURVEY OF ONLINE SEARCHING IN UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY MARA (UiTM) SHAH ALAM

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Over the year I have been fortunate to learn about the online searching and its techniques from many people whether formal or informal way. However, I also have taught much from the many thousand of students how to perform online searching efficient and effectively. Thanks to all.

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ABSTRACT

This study attempts to find out the human factors that affect the searching of online databases among students in University Technology Mara. People are quite varied perform their searching and there are no standards to conform to. Nor there is no method of learning how to search. Thus, students almost fail in conducting their online database searching to fulfill their information needs.

In this study, searcher will examine the factors that affected the online database searching by users and determine the problem they face. This include with the database selection, user characteristics and interaction with the search systems. The focus will be the information needs, search terms, output, pattern used, database selection, search engines selection and other focus that influence the online database searching.

In online database searching, the important thing is success in accessing the information needs. When people face problems or question, they look for solutions or answers by using a variety of method or sources. This study is important to asses the students understanding, level of usage and the satisfaction in this area and this will help whether the online database searching are very useful and important tool in information fields.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Introduction.

Online database are computerized compilations of information records or files that can be searched using a computer terminal (Chamis, 1984). Searching of online database is the process of finding the records in the database, which contain the desired information. The desired information could be bibliographic, factual or conceptual.
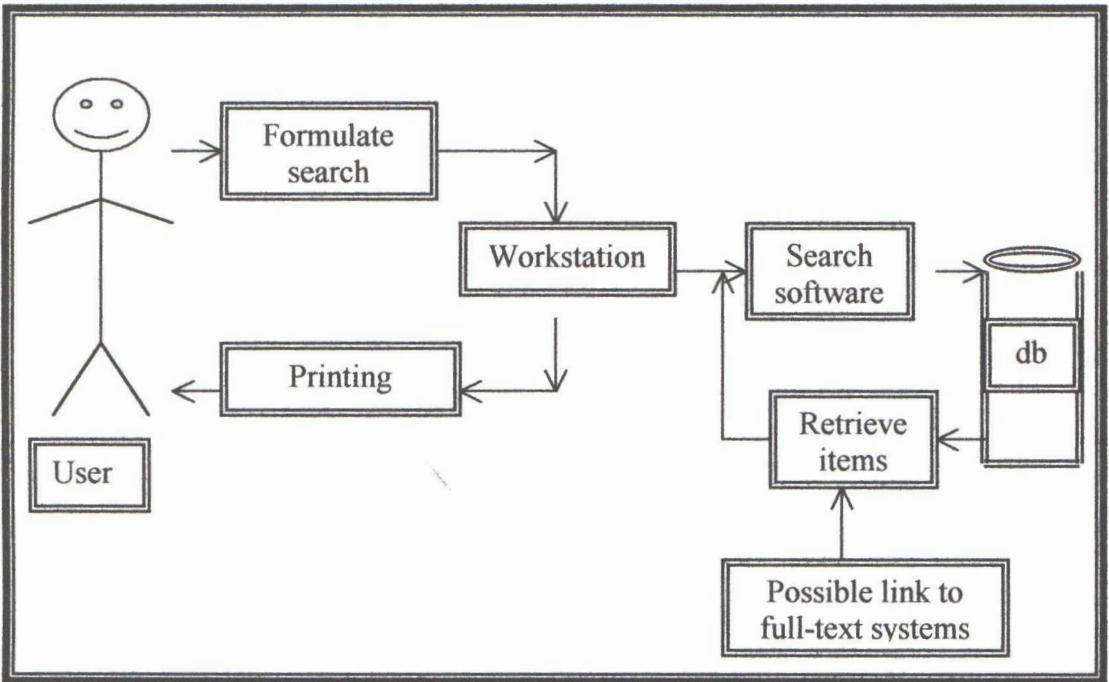

Fig.1: Basic elements of an online database searching

In the online environment, the concept of searching the online database is the simple one. Users are connected to the system by means of a terminal. The terminal is coupled through a telephone line into some sort of communication network, which put