Online Social Networking

An Internet MiniGuide Annotated Link Compilation

By

Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
Executive Director – Virtual Private Library
zillman@virtualprivatelibrary.com

Online social networks are becoming a true growth point of the Internet. As individuals constantly desire to interact with each other both in business and in personal contacts, the ability for the Internet to deliver this networking capability grows stronger and stronger. There are a number of excellent resources available to anyone interested in becoming part of the online social networking community of the Internet. I have listed and briefly annotated a number of resources and sites that will start you on your knowledge discovery for online social networking on the Internet. This Internet MiniGuide on Online Social Networking is a freely available download at the below Subject Tracer™ Information Blog and is frequently updated. Also available as a free download is the white paper link compilation
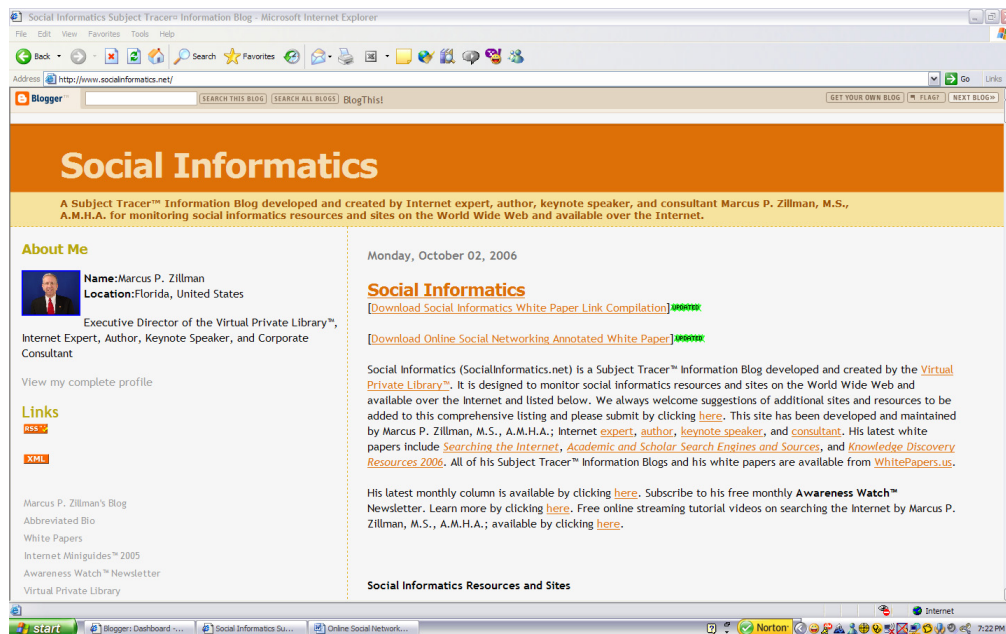
http://www.SocialInformatics.net/

Figure 1 Social Informatics Subject Tracer™ Information Blog

100 Million Spiders : An Experiment In Social Networking
http://www.100millionspiders.com/
100 Million Spiders is a social networking experiment operating on a priniciple similar to 6 degrees of separation. It creates social networks between users (friends, acquaintances and colleagues) by collating threads.It is a closed community, if you have not been sent an invite by someone on the system you'll not be able to use the system.

Affinity Engines
http://www.AffinityEngines.com/
Affinity-based social networking. Affinity Engines is a technology company that provides a secure infrastructure for private-label online social networks. Affinity networks help individuals build and maintain personal and professional connections in a trusted and secure online community

AlwaysOn
http://alwayson-network.com/
AO is the only media brand to combine traditional news and analysis, participatory journalism (blogging), and a powerful social network (AO Zaibatsu) for a growing membership base of senior executives, technology geeks, and investors from a broad selection of industries. No other media brand has dared allow such openness and collaboration amongst its readers and event participants.

Business Parc
http://www.BusinessParc.com/
Grant Watling founded Businessparc.com Limited in March 2003 to help internet users find products and services in a new way. Instead of the user making contact with businesses to research prices and services, Businessparc will forward requests to all relevant businesses and make the contacts free of charge.

Can You Connect – Personal and Professional Social Networking
http://www.canyouconnect.com/
Want to tap the true power of your personal and professional networks? Join Can You Connect today and connect with your friends, family, coworkers, community, and thousands of like-minded people throughout the world. We offer dozens of fun, powerful, and easy to use tools to help you create, manage, and use your social networks.

Classmates Online
http://www.classmates.com/
Classmates Online, Inc., founded in 1995 and based in Renton, WA, is a leader in online community-based networking. The Company operates Classmates.com, connecting more than 38 million members with friends and acquaintances from school, work and the military.

CriagsList
http://www.CraigsList.org/
Craigslist is about 1) giving each other a break, getting the word out about everyday, real-world stuff; 2) restoring the human voice to the Internet, in a humane, non-commercial environment; 3) keeping things simple, common-sense, down-to-earth, honest, very real; 4) providing an alternative to impersonal, big-media sites; 5) being inclusive, giving a voice to the disenfranchised, democratizing ...; and 6) being a collection of communities with similar spirit, not a single monolithic entity.

del.icio.us
http://del.icio.us/
del.icio.us is a social bookmarks manager. It allows you to easily add sites you like to your personal collection of links, to categorize those sites with keywords, and to share your collection not only between your own browsers and machines, but also with others. What makes del.icio.us a social system is its ability to let you see the links that others have collected, as well as showing you who else has bookmarked a specific site. You can also view the links collected by others, and subscribe to the links of people whose lists you find interesting.

Friendster (beta)
http://www.friendster.com/
Friendster is an online community that connects people through networks of friends for dating or making new friends.

GoodContacts
http://www.GoodContacts.com/
GoodContacts is a world leader in managing contact data quality. The Professional and Enterprise product families deliver solutions that span customers ranging in size from a individual business professional to a large enterprise. Solo products verify and update contact data for professionals and businesses managing large contact lists in Outlook, Outlook Express or ACT! while Enterprise products maintain the integrity and accuracy of contact data across enterprise-wide databases, CRMs or personal contact managers.

Guide To Online Social Networks, Social Software and Business Communities
http://www.onlinebusinessnetworks.com/online-social-networks-guide/index.php
You may notice, not all of the sites covered here fall into the category "social networking sites". They have elected not to make that distinction because... a) social networking takes place in online communities whether they are explicitly known as "social networking sites" or not, and b) the boundaries are just too fuzzy.

Huminity – Social Networking
http://www.huminity.com/
They believe that people will achieve more by helping each other and that it is time the
Internet evolves for people as much as it has evolved for corporates. They believe the
Internet's greatness is the interaction it brings between people and they hope that
Huminity will take this one step further, and through combining Instant Messaging with
Social Networks open a whole range of possibilities to enrich everyone's life. Huminity
is built to facilitate friendships, make it easy for people to find and make friends, find
jobs faster, make better deals and reach anyone in the world. Above all - to have fun!

IKNOW (Inquiring Knowledge Networks on the Web)
http://www.spcomm.uiuc.edu/Projects/TECLAB/IKNOW/
In short, IKNOW will answer the following: 1) Who knows who?, 2) Who knows what?
3) Who knows who knows who? and 4) Who knows who knows what?

Institute for Social Network Analysis of the Economy (ISNAE)
http://www.isnae.org/index.html
The purpose of ISNAE is to study social networks and use the resulting knowledge to
promote economic growth and social well-being.

Its Just Coffee – A New Stir In Online Dating
http://www.itsjustcoffee.com/
At ItsJustCoffee.com your soul mate could be a sip away. So sit back, relax, and get
ready to meet some intelligent, authentic, interesting people. But don't stay online too
long - the local coffeehouse is where you'll really see if the spice is right. And remember,
when you're ready for that first in-person encounter, keep it coffee, keep it simple.

JigSaw – The Business Contact Marketplace
http://jigsaw.com/
Jigsaw is an Online Business Contact Marketplace where business people buy, sell and
trade business contact information. Jigsaw is a collaborative system. Each member
provides a few pieces of the puzzle. Jigsaw assembles them for the benefit of the
community. Jigsaw is a place to find the highest quality contacts in existence. All
contacts have been added by Jigsaw members and include phone number and e-mail.

**Journal of Digital Information A SPECIAL ISSUE on Social Aspects of Digital
Information in Perspective (Volume 5, issue 4, December 2004)**
http://jodi.ecs.soton.ac.uk/?vol=5&iss=4
This special issue showcases a series of studies that are guided by the methods and
perspectives of Social Informatics. This line of inquiry extends a research stream of the
late Rob Kling, a pioneer in social informatics studies who strived for over 30 years to
make social issues central to discussions about computing and information systems.

LinkedIn
http://www.linkedin.com/
Find the people you need through the people you trust - Your trusted friends and colleagues can help put you in touch with many more people than you expect; and those people can refer you to thousands of contacts.

Midentity
http://www.midentity.com/
Midentity helps you stay connected with important contacts by allowing you to create your own Business and Personal Profiles which you can share with them. If you change any of your contact details, simply update your profile(s) and all the contacts you've shared them with will receive the update instantly.

Military Advantage
http://www.military.com/
Military.com is the largest online military destination, offering free resources to serve, connect, and inform the 30 million Americans with military affinity, including active duty, reservists, guard members, retirees, veterans, family members, defense workers and those considering military careers.

Messenger Taps Social Nets
http://snipurl.com/7rn8
It often ends up that the information you need is just beyond your immediate reach, but probably sits at the ready in the mind of an unidentified friend of a friend of a friend. Extending the capabilities of ubiquitous communications tools like instant messaging and email could make that information easier to come by.

NetMiner - Social Network Analyzer
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/12/netminer-social-network-analyzer.html
NetMiner can be used for general research and teaching in social networks. Also, it can be effectively applied to various business fields, where network-structural factors have great deal of influences on the performance: e.g. intra- and inter-organizational, financial, Web, criminal/intelligence, informetric, telecommunication, distribution, transportation networks.

Online Business Networks
http://www.onlinebusinessnetworks.com/
This site is a guide to social network software, online communities, and other tools that help you leverage the internet to build more and better business relationships.

Online Social Networking for Business: An Interview with Konstantin Guericke, Marketing VP, LinkedIn By Debbie Bardon
http://www.infotoday.com/online/nov04/bardon.shtml
Online social networking is a hot topic in Internet circles. These online communities claim to create networks of friends and business colleagues based on referrals from other friends and colleagues. They connect people based on who those people know rather than who they are.

Open Business Club (openBC)
http://www.openbc.com/
The Open Business Club (openBC) is the worlds first multi-lingual on-line contact exchange and business networking club for professionals.

Orkut
http://www.orkut.com/
Orkut is an online community that connects people through a network of trusted friends. They are committed to providing an online meeting place where people can socialize, make new acquaintances and find others who share their interests.

Pal Junction – Meet With the Friends Of Your Friends
http://www.PalJunction.com/
Helping you find friends, dates, roommates, employees, employers, etc. etc. through your network of friends. Helping you build your own social network!

PeopleAggregator
http://www.PeopleAggregator.com/
An Open Source Social Network

Plaxo
http://www.plaxo.com/
Plaxo, Inc. keeps people connected by solving the common and frustrating problem of out-of-date contact information. In 2000, Sean Parker, co-founder of Napster, joined forces with two Stanford engineers, Todd Masonis and Cameron Ring, to create Plaxo, a service that securely updates and maintains the information in your address book.

Refernet for Referrals: Business Networking
http://www.refernet.net/
Refernet helps entrepreneurs find partners and referrals through online business networking. Business Networking is proven to be one of the best methods to establish credibility, build your contact list and obtain quality business referrals.

Semantic Web Draws On the Power of Friends
http://www.freepint.com/issues/270504.htm#feature
In today's environment of constant "Googling" of people's background, where someone's name or other identifying features are entered into the popular search engine for the sake of finding background information, ShareYourExperiences.com offers an unparalleled service. This online community allows people to directly connect with other individuals who have had direct positive or negative experiences with their search subjects.

Spoke - Extending Business Relationships
http://www.spoke.com/
Delivering insight, influence and access through relationships for greater business advantage.

Smarter, Simpler Social - An Introduction To Online Social Software Methodology by Lee Bryant : Version 1.0, 18 April 2003
http://www.headshift.com/moments/archive/sss2.html
An interestting lengthy read that gives a good introduction to online social networks software methodology and explains what does and does not work ....

SocialGrid
http://www.socialgrid.com/
SocialGrid was founded to provide the world with free search system to promote social networking and enable people to find their soulmate in a way that is cost-effective and universally appealing. SocialGrid is dedicated primarily to improving search quality for its members.

Social-informatics
http://www.Social-informatics.org/
The notion of social informatics relates to the interaction between society and information-communication technologies (ICT). In its broadest sense it includes (1) the social consequences of ICT at micro (e.g. social aspects of ICT applications in organisations) as well as at macro (e.g. information society studies), (2) the application of ICT in areas of social science and (3) the use ICT as a tool - within a general context of social science methodology - for studying social phenomena.

Social Networking Services Meta List
http://socialsoftware.weblogsinc.com/entry/9817137581524458/
The Social Networking Services Meta List. is broken out into nine loose categories that will be shifting soon. These social networking categories are: business; common interest; dating; face-to-face meeting facilitation; friend; MoSoSo (Mobile Social Software); pet; photo; and 'edge' cases or social networking 'plus' sites.

Software Product Marketing Quickbase for Social Networking Sites
https://www.quickbase.com/db/9f72vfgx?a=q&qid=1
Social networking sites and software database created by Cynthia Typaldos but is updated and maintained by everyone. A good resource listing many new sites and resource software.

The FOAF Project - Friend of a Friend
http://www.foaf-project.org/
The Friend of a Friend (FOAF) project is about creating a Web of machine-readable homepages describing people, the links between them and the things they create and do.

The Social Software Weblog
http://socialsoftware.weblogsinc.com/
The Social Software Weblog by Judith Meskill is the home of the Social Networking Services meta Lists as well as a very active Blog on all the latest and exciting happenings in online social networking.

ThinkBot
http://www.pmbrowser.info/thinkbot.htm
ThinkBot is an easy way to find other people who are thinking about the same things as you. With a simple command, you can search Thinkbot's database of users and chat instantly to someone who shares your thoughts.

Tickle Social Network
http://web.tickle.com/
Tickle is the leading interpersonal media company, providing self-discovery, matchmaking, and social networking services to more than 18 million active members in its community worldwide. Formerly known as Emode.com, Tickle was founded on the belief that personal insight and connections to others could be both scientific and fun.

Tribe
http://www.Tribe.net
This site is devoted to tapping the power of social networks. Their goal is to provide tools that help make your network most useful.

Visible Path
http://www.visiblepath.com/
Visible Path delivers unprecedented reach into companies and access to decision-makers by allowing sales teams to discreetly leverage the relationship capital of the enterprise throughout the sales cycle.

Word of Mouth Research
http://www.WordofMouthResearch.com/
WordofMouthResearch.com is a background research tool that allows users to access the valuable information source known as "word-of-mouth" on an international scale. People submit their shared experiences on people who they know. The authors of such information are either looking for knowledge or have knowledge to share.

Zaibatsu
http://community.alwayson-network.com/
Listing for this social networked received from a Slashdot posting ....

Zero Degrees™ - The People Network Company
http://www.zerodegrees.com/
ZeroDegrees (ZDI) automates Milgram's process. ZDI replicates the social process we use when we ask colleagues with an introduction. If no one knows the person directly, they ask others on our behalf. If all parties along the way, agree-an introduction is made to date.

Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs

Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs created and developed by the Virtual Private Library™ combine the best of the latest tools on the Internet. Using bots, blogs and news aggregators the Subject Tracer™ Information blogs generate RSS feeds with the latest resources to create a current information resource flow through niched subject tracers. I am proud to be the creator of the Internet's first Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs:

Virtual Private Library™
http://www.VirtualPrivateLibrary.com/

Accessibility Resources
http://www.AccessibilityResources.info/

Agriculture Resources
http://www.AgricultureResources.info/

Artificial Intelligence Resources
http://www.AIResources.info/

Astronomy Resources
http://www.AstronomyResources.info/

Auction Resources
http://www.AuctionResources.info/

Biological Informatics
http://www.BiologicalInformatics.info/

Bot Research
http://www.BotResearch.info/

Business Intelligence Resources
http://www.BIResources.info/

ChatterBots
http://www.ChatterBots.info/

Data Mining Resources
http://www.DataMiningResources.info/

Deep Web Research
http://www.DeepWebResearch.info/

Directory Resources
http://www.DirectoryResources.info/

eCommerce Resources
http://eCommerceResources.info/

Elder Resources
http://www.ElderResources.info/

Employment Resources
http://www.EmploymentResources.info/

Entrepreneurial Resources
http://www.EntrepreneurialResources.info/

Financial Sources
http://www.FinancialSources.info/

Finding People
http://www.FindingPeople.info/

Games Resources
http://www.GamesResources.info/

Genealogy Resources
http://www.GenealogyResources.info/

Grant Resources
http://www.GrantResources.info/

Grid Resources
http://www.GridResources.info/

Healthcare Resources
http://www.HealthcareResources.info/

Information Futures Markets
http://www.InformationFutureMarkets.com/

Information Quality Resources
http://www.InformationQualityResources.info/

Internet Alerts
http://www.InternetAlerts.info/

Internet Demographics
http://www.InternetDemographics.info/

Internet Experts
http://www.InternetExperts.info/

Internet Hoaxes
http://www.InternetHoaxes.info/

Knowledge Discovery
http://www.KnowledgeDiscovery.info/

Military Resources
http://www.MilitaryResources.info/

Outsourcing/Offshoring Information and Resources
http://www.OutsourcingOffshore.us/

Privacy Resources
http://www.PrivacyResources.info/

Reference Resources
http://www.ReferenceResources.info/

Research Resources
http://www.ResearchResources.info/

RestStress™
http://www.RestStress.com/

Script Resources
http://www.WcriptResources.info/

ShoppingBots
http://www.ShoppingBots.info/

Social Informatics
http://www.SocialInformatics.net/

Statistics Resources
http://www.StatisticsResources.info/

Student Research
http://www.StudentResearch.info/

Theology Resources
http://www.TheologyResources.info/

Tutorial Resources
http://www.TutorialResources.info/

World Wide Web Reference
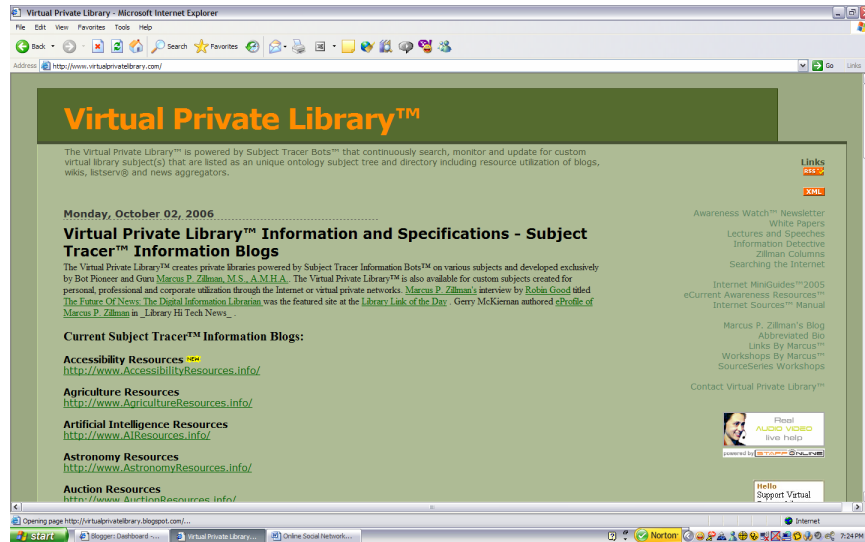http://www.WWWReference.info/

Figure 2 Virtual Private Library™

Author Information: Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A. is an international Internet expert, author, keynote speaker and corporate consultant in the area of information retrieval, knowledge discovery, knowledge harvesting, artificial intelligence and bots/intelligent agents. He has created numerous world wide web sites including 46 Subject Tracer™ Information Portals and Blogs; written a number of internet miniguides, white papers, manuals and books; hosted over 160 weekly Internet television shows, writes a weekly and monthly column on Current Awareness on the Internet; writes a monthly newsletter Awareness Watch and delivers keynote presentations throughout the international marketplace. He also actively delivers one and two day workshops for key industry sectors displaying how the Internet can be used as a tool to maintain current awareness and professional competencies.

Additional websites by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.:

Marcus P. Zillman's Blog
http://www.zillman.us/

Marcus P. Zillman Abbreviated Bio
http://marcuszillman.blogspot.com/

White Papers by Marcus P. Zillman
http://www.WhitePapers.us/

Internet MiniGuides™ 2005
http://www.InternetMiniguide.com/

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Awareness Watch™ Newsletter
http://www.AwarenessWatch.com/

Marcus P. Zillman's Columns
http://www.ZillmanColumns.com

eCurrent Awareness Resources™ 2005 Business Intelligence Report
http://www.eCurrentAwareness.com/

Internet Sources™ Manual
http://www.InternetSources.info/

Links By Marcus™
http://www.LinksByMarcus.com/

Workshops By Marcus™
http://www.WorkshopsByMarcus.com/

SourceSeries Internet Research Workshops
http://www.SourceSeries.com/

Watch Marcus™
http://www.WatchMarcus.com/

listen to marcus™
http://www.ListenToMarcus.com

Research White Papers, Articles, Lectures and Speeches by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.:

Academic and Scholar Search Engines and Sources
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/12/academic-and-scholar-search-engines.html

Bots, Blogs and News Aggregators
http://www.BotsBlogs.com/

Business Intelligence Online Resources
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2005/04/business-intelligence-online-resources.html

Current Awareness Discovery Tools on the Internet
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/current-awareness-discovery-tools-on.html

Deep Web Research 2006 Article - LLRX
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2006/01/llrx-january-2006-issue-deep-web.html

Healthcare Bots and Subject Directories
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2005/05/healthcare-bots-and-subject.html

Information Detective – Online Streaming Tutorial Videos
http://www.InformationDetective.com/

Knowledge Discovery Resources 2006
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2005/03/knowledge-discovery-resources-2006.html

Lectures and Speeches by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
http://snipurl.com/57jp

Online Research Browsers
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/10/online-research-browsers-internet.html

Online Research Tools
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/online-research-tools.html

Online Social Networking
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/online-social-networking-internet.html

Searching the Internet
http://www.SearchingTheInternet.info/

Using the Internet As a Dynamic Resource Tool for Knowledge Discovery
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/using-internet-as-dynamic-resource.html

Web Data Extractors
http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/web-data-extractors.html

White Papers By Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
http://www.WhitePapers.us/

Internet Tutor by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
http://www.InternetTutor.info/
Visit this site to learn about the availability of Marcus P. Zillman to tutor you or your
associate one on one in the privacy of your residence or office on the latest happenings of
the Internet including Internet basics to advanced Internet searching using bots and
creating your own personal blog

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Internet Speaking by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
http://www.InternetSpeaker.net
Visit this site to learn about Marcus P. Zillman's speaking engagements for your
organization meetings and events. View and listen to his previous presentations as well as
his weekly television shows

Internet Consulting by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.
http://InternetConsultant.BlogSpot.com/
Visit this site to obtain information about obtaining the consultation services of Marcus P.
Zillman for your company including eCommerce audits, utilization of bots, blogs and
news aggregators or the creation of your own personal virtual private library powered by
Subject Tracer™ Information bots!

Marcus P. Zillman's latest 378 page manual **Internet Sources™** is now available for
purchase online and for immediate download. This book makes a great reference resource
for the "newbie" to the Internet as well as the seasoned veteran "Internaut". Visit the
following site for additional information and online ordering fulfillment:

Internet Sources™ Manual
http://www.InternetSources.info

Marcus P. Zillman's latest report eCurrent Awareness Resources 2005 is now available
for purchase online and for immediate download. This report is a comprehensive listing
of the latest resources, sources and sites for current awareness on the Internet. This is a
must read for anyone who must stay current in their profession and/or business activity as
the list of URLs will keep you at the leading edge of your career. Visit the following site
for additional information and online ordering fulfillment:

eCurrent Awareness Resources 2005
http://www.eCurrentAwareness.com/

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