

Premium reviews and analysis
for premium content users

November 2008 | Issue 60

VIP magazine



Log In

The Big Three, the credit crunch and
a glimpse of the virtual world

In Scope

Managing copyright permissions online

Insight

What really caused the credit crunch?

Insider

Serious business in Second Life

Tap the Wire

Google settles the copyright battle,
and other industry and product news

Focus On

The Big Three revisited.

in this issue ...



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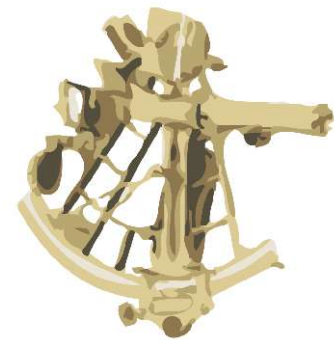
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In Scope

Managing copyright permissions online with *Rightslink*; and a possible new governance role for information professionals.



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Insight

As the threat of global recession looms, Sylvia James disentangles the origins of the credit crunch.



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Insider

From promotion and relationship management to recruitment and networking, Sheila Webber identifies ten business uses for the publicly-available 'virtual world' Second Life.



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Tap the Wire

Industry news, new products and product update:

Industry News:

BL website improved; IHS Inc. acquires Global Insight; LexisNexis acquires IDEX; the future of the UK legal services market; Google settles copyright battle; social networking in business and beyond; opportunities for information managers in business intelligence and risk assessment; BL wins CBI employer awards.

New Products:

BNA launches news filtering service; current data on small and medium-sized firms from the OU; Experian launches *Company Information* service; Thomson Reuters enhances access to intelligence; new industry reports from Simba; Datamonitor reports on trends in insurance technology; the *Gleningan Index* for the construction industry; new mobile devices.

Product Update:

Complinet's regulatory tracking system; *Reuters Estimates* sold; new edition of *Inside Market Data Reference*; *City AM* expands; *International Trade Today* relaunches; Capital IQ announces enhancements; trademark database adds colour; a guide to British services and associations.

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Focus On

VIP's annual comparative review of the Big Three news services from Dialog, Dow Jones and LexisNexis, co-reviewed by Pam Foster and Jill Fenton, enhanced this year by a FreePint community survey.

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Publisher's Note

To improve the usability of *VIP*, we have shortened many long URLs with DigBig, a free utility that creates persistent links (<http://www.digbig.com>). When you click a DigBig URL, or paste it into your browser, you will be directed to the original URL.

digbig

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- The end of 'Rip-and-Ship'

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- 'What Really Caused the Credit Crunch?' by Sylvia James

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Summary of discussion and insider's guide to resources

- 'Second Life for Business: Ten Techniques' by Sheila Webber

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- British Library website improved
- Global Insight acquired by IHS Inc.
- IDEX acquired by LexisNexis
- Many mouths to feed
- Google closes copyright battle
- Will social networking save the world?
- Polish your antennae
- British Library wins CBI employer awards

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- BNA launches a news filtering service
- UK small and medium-sized firms data
- Company Information private company service launched by Experian
- Thomson Reuters eases access to intelligence



- New industry reports from Simba
- Datamonitor report on insurance technology trends
- New construction *Index*
- Mobility is trump

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- Complinet's regulatory tracking system keeps growing
- *Reuters Estimates* sold to S & P division
- Latest edition of Inside Market Data Reference
- Free newspaper to expand its reach
- Relaunch of *International Trade Today*
- Capital IQ announces product enhancements
- Trademark database now in colour
- Guide to British Services and Associations

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The Big Three: Factiva.com, Nexis and Dialog NewsRoom

by Jill Fenton and Pam Foster

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Each month I am impressed by the skill and insight that our reviewers bring to the product evaluations in *VIP Focus On*. There was no risk that this display of talent would not be once again to the fore in this month's issue. When we decided to repeat our Big Three review of Factiva, Nexis and Dialog there was no hesitation in asking Pam Foster, *VIP's* erstwhile editor, to come back from retirement and work on the article. She has been more than ably assisted by Jill Fenton, who is becoming one of our regular product reviewers. I'm sure you'll agree that they have done a terrific job.

Product reviews like these don't get written without the support and co-operation of the vendors. For the Big Three review, each of the vendors' sales, marketing and communications executives have been as helpful and co-operative as we could possibly have wished.

When I want to understand the information industry implications of a financial industry event I turn to Sylvia James, whom I can rely on to have analysed the event and made sense of it. Sylvia has done it once again in her credit crunch article in Insight this month. I defy you to say you don't understand its origins, once you have read her article.

Another area that I need to understand better is that of living a Second Life. Sheila Webber's Insider article not only explains her own Virtual World, but also gives ten pointers towards its usefulness in business. I don't think I'm ready to create my own avatar yet, but I'm intrigued by Sheila's suggestions of using the Virtual World environment as a 'test' for real-world business experiences.

So another great issue, with the Big Three review, a glimpse of another way of working in the Virtual World from Sheila Webber, Sylvia James on the credit crunch and our usual round-up of all that's best in product and industry news.

With our monthly round-up in Tap the Wire, you can't have failed to learn something new from *VIP* this year. Remember to tell us about it, as part of our 'One New Thing' initiative. Write and tell me one piece of information, product news or review that made a difference to your work. Perhaps you were able to make a major purchasing decision based on our review; perhaps you were able to support your company in a new way because you found out about a new information product. Perhaps you were even able to buy a company because we brought someone to your attention for the first time. (I'll accept anonymous contributions for the last one!)

Whatever *VIP* has done this year to help, let me know: we'll be commenting on your suggestions at Online Information 2008 and offering a small prize for the best one. Please email your submissions to onenewthing@vivavip.com, by the end of November at the latest, please. ■

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