

A guide to

Company Information

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This guide to COMPANY INFORMATION is designed as a quick reference to some key sources of information at ECU Library

PRIMARY SOURCES OF COMPANY INFORMATION

Printed

Annual Report Collection

A selection of Company Annual Reports kept in an alphabetical sequence in the Reference collection. Reports are held for 5 years with some key Western Australian reports being held for 10 years.

CHU, JOO, BUN Reference area

Annual Report File

Annual reports of the top companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange produced by the Australian Graduate School of Management. Useful for historical analysis with the collection at Churchlands dating back to 1950 for some companies. 1994-1997 available on CD Rom at CHU.

Previous years available on microfiche at MF 658.1512 AUS

1950-1993 held at CHU

1981-1993 held at JOO

Local Government Reports Collection

Annual reports of local government bodies from all over Australia. Reports are arranged by state & then alphabetically by name.

CHU S 352.094

Electronic

Annual Report Collection (Connect 4)

Annual reports dating back to 1992 of the top 500 publicly listed companies in Australia. Provides links to company websites.

DatAnalysis

Provides company information for all the companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (including those delisted since 1990). Reports are updated daily from relevant ASX announcements.

FinAnalysis

FinAnalysis provides detailed financial information for all companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) including delisted companies. More than 400 data items are provided. Data is updated daily. Key content areas include profit and loss, balance sheet and cashflow data, full breakdown of revenue and expenses as reported by the company, financial analysis and ratio pages, market data, price charts and dividend payment history.

Search functionality allows the combination of more than 400 ratios and data items. All content pages and results can be viewed in table or chart format or downloaded into spreadsheet format. Companies can be compared using Peer Analysis.

Mergent Online

Provides international company financial data, annual reports, industry sector information and daily global pricing data. Has company data for 20,000 non-US corporations and 75,000 non-US annual reports. Includes information about all Australian publicly listed companies.

Aspect Annual Reports Online

Annual reports dating back to 1995 for all Australian Stock Exchange listed and delisted companies.

Company websites

Many companies publish their annual reports on their website. Annual Report Collection (Connect 4) provides links to company websites.

Alternatively, try searching under <http://www.companyname.com> or <http://www.companyname.com.au> for Australian companies.

SECONDARY SOURCES

Electronic**Business Who's Who of Australia**

Covers Australian public and some major private companies and organizations. Identifies companies within specific industries, locates companies by region, contact CEOs, directors & other personnel, show who owns whom. Browses full company details, records by their relationship links, visit a company's website, save your favourite searches etc.

Jobsons Online

Online version of Jobson's Yearbook of Public Companies & Jobson's Mining Book. Provides information on Australian & NZ listed companies, shareholder information, history, activities & operations, subsidiaries, financial tables, directors and key personnel.

Global Market Information Database (GMID)

Global Market Information Database provides fulltext global business and marketing statistics & reports, with an emphasis on consumer markets. One of its information modules is *Companies & Brands*. This database covers over 200 countries, accesses up to 100,000 consumer brands & the 12,000 companies which own them.

Printed**Asia's 7,500 largest companies (2000)**

CHU R 338.74095 ASI

Huntleys' shareholder (1997-)

Vol. 1 Top 500 companies. Handbook of Australia's largest public companies
Vol. 2 501-1000 companies. Handbook of Australia's mid-sized public companies
CHU, JOO R 338.740994 HUN

Who owns whom. Australasia, Asia, Middle East & Africa. (Dun & Bradstreet Ltd)

CHU (current issue) R 338.88025 WHO
BUN (pre-current issue)

Who's Who in Business in Australia

A biographical dictionary and register of prominent people within business and industry in Australia.

Vol. 1 Biographies

Vol. 2 Organisations

CHU R338.70994 WHO

International Directory of Company histories

CHU, JOO, BUN R 338.7409 INT

USING THE ECU LIBRARY CATALOGUE

The *ECU Library catalogue* lists all books, audiovisual resources (eg. videorecordings) and journal titles (both hard copy and electronic format) held by the Library. Items are arranged by **Call Number** according to Dewey Decimal Classification. This guide tells you how to find books and journal articles. You can limit your search by publication date, campus etc. by selecting the LIMIT/SORT SEARCH option at the top of the search results screen.

FINDING BOOKS

To find specific books --

To find items on your reading list for example, select the **Author, Title or Author/Title** options in the *ECU Library catalogue*. Enter the appropriate details. The result will display the campus location/s, call number and availability of each item.

To research a topic --

Using the **Subject** option on the *ECU Library catalogue* and searching by "your company name" will find books where a substantial part of the book is about that company,

The **Keyword** option however, is more flexible and will search the full catalogue record of items held using the word/s you have. If the company name is listed anywhere on the item's catalogue record (e.g. contents pages) it will list that item.

FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES ON COMPANIES

Journals (also called periodicals, serials or magazines) contain current information as well as reports on research.

ELECTRONIC DATABASES

ECU Library subscribes to several databases and these are accessible on the ECU Library's Home Page <http://www.ecu.edu.au/library/> via:

Resources by Faculty: Business and Law
or

Online Databases which lists databases by subject or alphabetically by title.

Databases index and display articles or references (citations) from designated publications (mostly journals, although some include newspapers, magazines, conference proceedings, books, etc). The databases index articles in these publications by author, title & subject coverage.

A database therefore allows you to retrieve articles or references to articles on your searched topic or by a particular author or journal title.

As databases index a specific list of journal titles, a comprehensive literature search requires searching several databases. Some databases are INDEXES, i.e. provide citations only, other databases supply the FULLTEXT of articles online. If you find a relevant citation in an Index only database, you need to check the source (usually journal title or book title) in the *ECU Library catalogue* to find out if that title is held either in print or in a full-text database.

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS DATABASES

SmartBIX

An Australian indexing service providing research sources for business, market research, company, industry and trade information in Australia. Over 200 newspapers and journals indexed.

APA-FT

An indexing service with an Australian focus in the areas of current affairs, social sciences, economics, humanities, law, literature, management etc.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DATABASES

ABI/INFORM Global

A full text service covering over 1,500 premier worldwide business journals for information on advertising, marketing, economics, human resources, finance, taxation, computers, company-specific information plus practical & theoretical information on any business topic.

Emerald Library

Emerald Fulltext is the trading name of MCB publishers. The database contains over 42,000 articles from over 100 published journals complete with fulltext archives back to 1994. The indexing service started in 1967. The subject coverage includes major management disciplines, engineering, computing, marketing, operations, production & economics, property.

ProQuest Asian Business

Finds the latest Asian business and financial information from key international publications including *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Asiaweek*, plus many more. Over 150 titles indexed with most available in full-text.

ProQuest European Business

Search for the latest European business and financial information including *The Economist*, *Fortune*, *European Business Journal*, plus many more. Over 60 titles indexed with most available in full-text.

OTHER USEFUL DATABASES**Academic Research Library**

A full-text database of over 2300 publications covering the humanities and general reference subjects in arts, business, education, health, social sciences etc.

Current Contents

An indexing service with abstracts covering recent issues of about 8,000 publications in the fields of science, social science, technology and arts & humanities.

Electric Library

A full-text database covering a selection of journals, books, TV/radio scripts & newspaper articles -- broad and general coverage covering most disciplines.

Expanded Academic ASAP

A full-text database covering more than 1,500 scholarly, trade and general-interest publications. The database integrates core titles in major academic subjects; area and issue-specific journals; academic journals with application in the professions; publications with national news coverage and commentary.

INTERNET

Compilers of Company information

The Internet is a source of free and paid information. Some information sites start out free and become fee paying services. Many sites provide a certain level of information for free and then charge for the rest of the information. Most of the sites listed below provide a mixture of free and paid services.

GOVERNMENT SOURCES

Registration of Companies

Most countries require companies to register and report details on company information.

Australia

ASIC: Australian Securities and Investments Commission

<http://www.asic.gov.au/>

Maintains a public database on Australia's 1.2 million companies to provide certainty in commercial dealings. Includes information such as **National Names Index & ASIC Identical Names Check facility**

Australian Business Register Online

<http://www.abr.business.gov.au>

The ABR Online is an online database that contains some of the publicly available information provided by businesses when they register for an Australian Business Number (ABN). It is a convenient way for you to access a partial version of the Australian Business Register.

United States

Edgar (US companies)

<http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/webusers.htm>

The SEC requires all public companies (except foreign companies and companies with less than \$10 million in assets and 500 shareholders) to file registration statements, periodic reports, and other forms electronically through EDGAR. Anyone can access and download this information for free. Here you'll find links to a complete list of filings available through EDGAR and instructions for searching the EDGAR database.

PUBLIC/COMMERCIAL WEBSITES

The following is a selection of websites which provide a mixture of free/fee information.

CorporateInformation <<http://www.corporateinformation.com/>>

Information for US and international companies, over 350,000 profiles are indexed with over 20,000 companies.

Free Pint (UK companies) <<http://www.freepint.com/icc/>>

Free basic information, details & financials pay as you go.

Hoovers Online <<http://www.hoovers.com/>>

Company profiles covering the largest public and private companies around the world. Each profile contains a company's personality, history and strategy, market position, officers, competition, financial health, and current news

Yahoo Finance <<http://quote.yahoo.com/>>

stock quotes etc Yahoo's service provides access to stock quotes, profiles, message boards and news articles.

Report Gallery <<http://www.reportgallery.com>>

Library of annual reports of U.S. public companies published online

Carol World <<http://www.carolworld.com/>>

A UK site, also offers links to Asian, European & US annual reports

Corporate Reports Ltd <<http://www.corpreports.co.uk> >

A database of various UK company reports.

COMPANY RANKINGS

Some newspapers and magazines produce a list of the top companies in a country/sector. The following lists are freely available on the internet:

Business Week

Business Week produces lists such as the BusinessWeek 50 and the Info Tech 100.

www.businessweek.com

Forbes

Forbes produces many lists including the 200 Best Small Companies, the 400 Best Big Companies and the Global A-List Companies.

<http://www.forbes.com/lists>

The following lists are available on the internet to subscribers only. However they can be accessed according to the notes below:

Business Review Weekly

Business Review Weekly produces lists such as the Top 500 Public Companies and the Top 300 Foreign Companies. Go to the Lists section of the BRW website and check the publication date of the list you're interested in. ECU Library subscribes to the print version of Business Review Weekly so, once you have the correct date, you can look for the journal on the shelves.

<http://www.brw.com.au/lists.aspx>

Fortune

Fortune publishes the Fortune 500, which is a list of the top 500 U.S. companies and the Global 500, which lists the top 500 world companies. Both lists are available through the Expanded Academic database which can be accessed from the Library Home Page via Online Databases – Databases by Title – Expanded Academic.

- Select Advanced Search
- Choose Journal name from the drop-down box and type in Fortune.
- Choose Title from the next drop-down box and type in "Fortune 500" or "Global 500".

<http://www.fortune.com>

NEWSPAPERS – ANOTHER SOURCE OF COMPANY INFORMATION

Australian Financial Review <http://www.afr.com>

The Australian <http://theaustralian.news.com.au>

Australian Newspapers Online <http://www.nla.gov.au/npapers/>

NewsIsFree <http://www.newsisfree.com/>