



## The Open Source Information Centre

The information edge for an interconnected world

Over seven million web pages are added to the Internet every day. The information flow to organizations doubles every three months and unstructured data comprises almost 90% of that information. Government organizations are expected to be on top of this Open Source Information despite dwindling staff, time pressures and limited budgets.

### xwave Objective

To provide Canadian government organizations with a web-based service which provides powerful and automated tools to permit them to take advantage of the vast amounts of Internet information more quickly, easily and effectively.

### The OSIC Solutions

The Open Source Information Centre (OSIC) is a web-based, shared, and commercially operated service which uses advanced data mining and search tools such as those provided by Autonomy and Copernic.

Being web-based, the OSIC allows government users to connect to the service through any standard Internet web-browser with minimal training. Additionally, the OSIC uses web portal technology, which allows for an easy-to use interface that can also be tailored by power-users to meet their specific needs and preferences.

As a shared solution, the OSIC spreads the costs of the tools, as well as of the supporting HW and infrastructure, across multiple government organizations. This makes the powerful but expensive OSIC tool suite affordable to all government organizations, large and small. It also encourages common

practices and capabilities across multiple organizations, an increasingly desirable outcome in these challenging times. Finally, as a shared solution the OSIC can also permit government organizations to share data acquisition costs and thus jointly take advantage of economies of scale that cannot be realized at the level of the individual organizations. This increased data acquisition power alone can fully justify participation in the OSIC for some organizations.

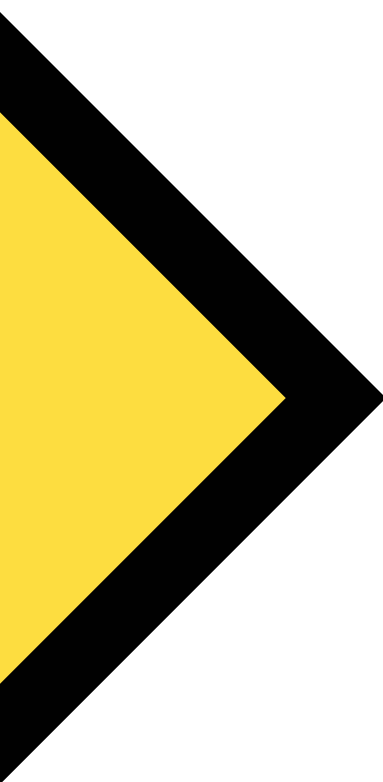
As a commercially operated service, the OSIC relieves the government of the details associated with maintaining the complex and specialized hardware, software, and services required to keep such a service running year-after-year. It also eliminates the risk associated with trying to create this capability in the first place. This allows government to focus on their core responsibilities and manage information and knowledge rather than technology.

### The OSIC Benefits

The OSIC will provide most desk officers and analysts with a “one stop shopping” solution for their Internet information needs.



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Users with urgent or recurring information needs can set up standing queries or agents that automatically scan new information and, if a “hit” is discovered, either alerts the user immediately or queues the information for review at the user’s convenience.

Users with new or immediate information needs can use the powerful toolset to quickly comb through hundreds of specific information sources that are being automatically and regularly indexed for efficient access. Users can also choose to take a single query and fan it out to the entire Internet using OSIC tools that pass the query out to multiple search engines and a time and then merge the results from all into a single prioritized list.

Once potentially useful information has been discovered, the OSIC toolset will help the user uncover the truly meaningful nuggets through its advanced summarization, data mining, and concept visualization capabilities. In this way, the OSIC can go a long way towards turning information into knowledge for the user.

From the standpoint of the organizations’ information workers, the OSIC will significantly reduce the effort required to search for information while significantly improving the chances of finding the right information at the right time.

From the standpoint of the organizations’ managers, the OSIC will not introduce any new management or technology problems. Further, the pooling with other organizations of funding,

particularly funding for data acquisition, means that managers will be able to provide their staffs with more information resources at little or no additional cost.

This increase in individual productivity, combined with limited or no increased costs, makes the OSIC a win-win opportunity for government organizations.

## About **xwave**

**xwave** is a business solutions provider with 1500 professionals in locations across North America.

**xwave** offers services in three key areas: Integration, Infrastructure and Fulfillment Solutions. We are focused on providing end-to-end solutions from systems integration and software engineering, right through to infrastructure services and product fulfillment.

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