HP Cooperative Computing Solutions
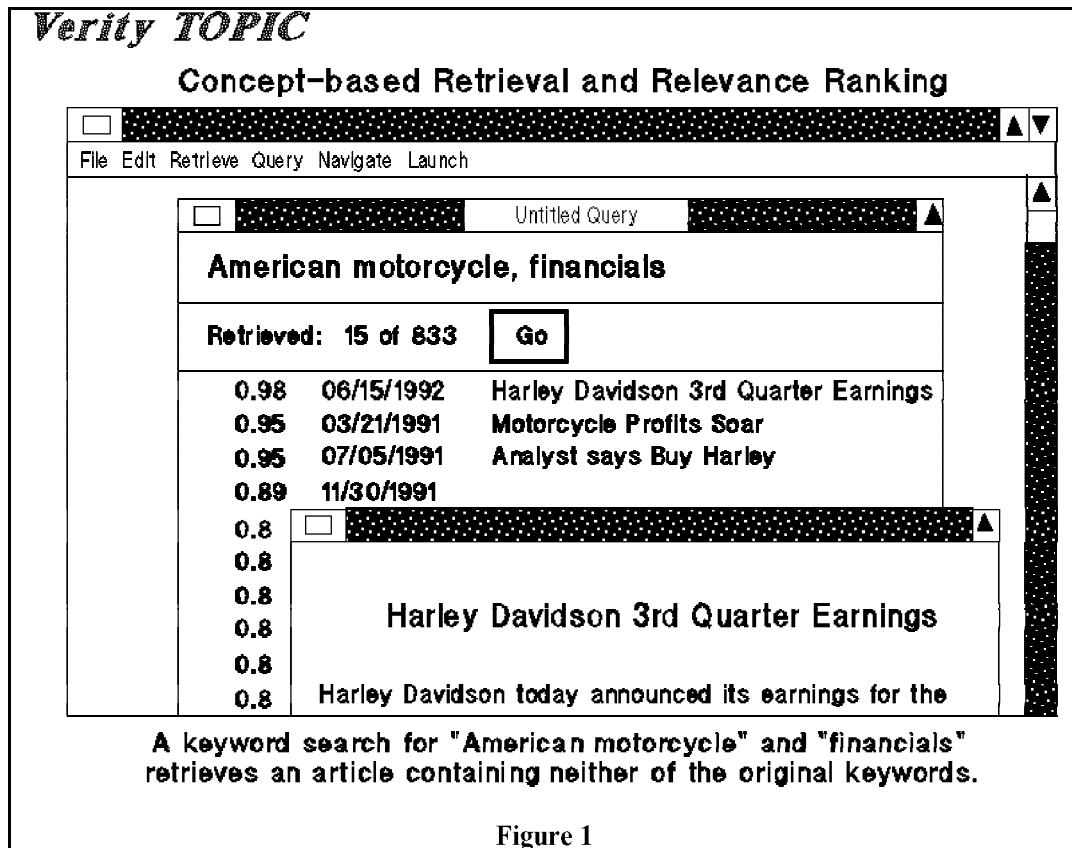
for Knowledge Workers

Verity TOPIC Text Management Solution

Introduction

The Verity TOPIC® text management system, from Verity® Inc., provides for easy storage and retrieval of textual documents based on document content. This approach to text storage and retrieval is the fastest and most knowledge-based available today. By using internal attributes (topics and categories), users can easily retrieve documents intuitively. For example, a user wanting to know about the financial status of the American motorcycle industry might specify a keyword search on "American," "motorcycle," and "financials." TOPIC would retrieve an article mentioning higher profits for Harley-Davidson even though none of the original keywords appeared in the article.

A keyword search for "American motorcycle" and "financials" retrieves an article containing neither of the original keywords.

Figure 1

Text management systems, also referred to as full-text retrieval systems or content-based retrieval systems, automatically index the words and phrases in textual documents. This allows for easy keyword retrieval of the documents. Furthermore, by searching for global document content, users can quickly access textual information from sources enterprise-wide.

TOPIC REAL-TIME® additionally provides the capability to filter large volumes of incoming textual information and to distribute the relevant information to the people who need to view it.

Benefits

Decision makers often have difficulty finding the right information, and they lose valuable time sorting through irrelevant or low priority information. These problems are precisely what Verity TOPIC solves, through:

- Fast access to the right information
- Multiple client support
- Preservation of organizational knowledge
- Dynamic filtering of large volumes of news wire and data feeds with automatic distribution of relevant information to people who need to view or act on it
- Improved operational efficiency
- Flexibility to develop customized text request capabilities.

Overall, TOPIC and TOPIC REAL-TIME greatly increase the productivity of knowledge workers and reduce information overload.

Features

Storage and retrieval based on concept match rather than exact text match. Following a query, TOPIC can return a list of documents starting with the document most likely to satisfy the query. Knowledge workers are more productive if they receive ranked information rather than the usual list of unsorted documents. TOPIC can provide a relevance-ranked list of retrieved documents. Of course, documents can be retrieved on an exact textual match as well as a conceptual match. In addition, TOPIC provides support for HyperLink® connections to images, annotations, and cross-referenced documents.

Verity TOPIC® Text Management Solution

Verity TOPIC REAL TIME®

DowVision

X.25

HP9000 Series 800

Compatible with:
- LAN Manager
- Netware
- AppleShare
- NFS

MS Windows PC   HP NewWave PC   Apple Macintosh   HP-UX/Motif Workstation
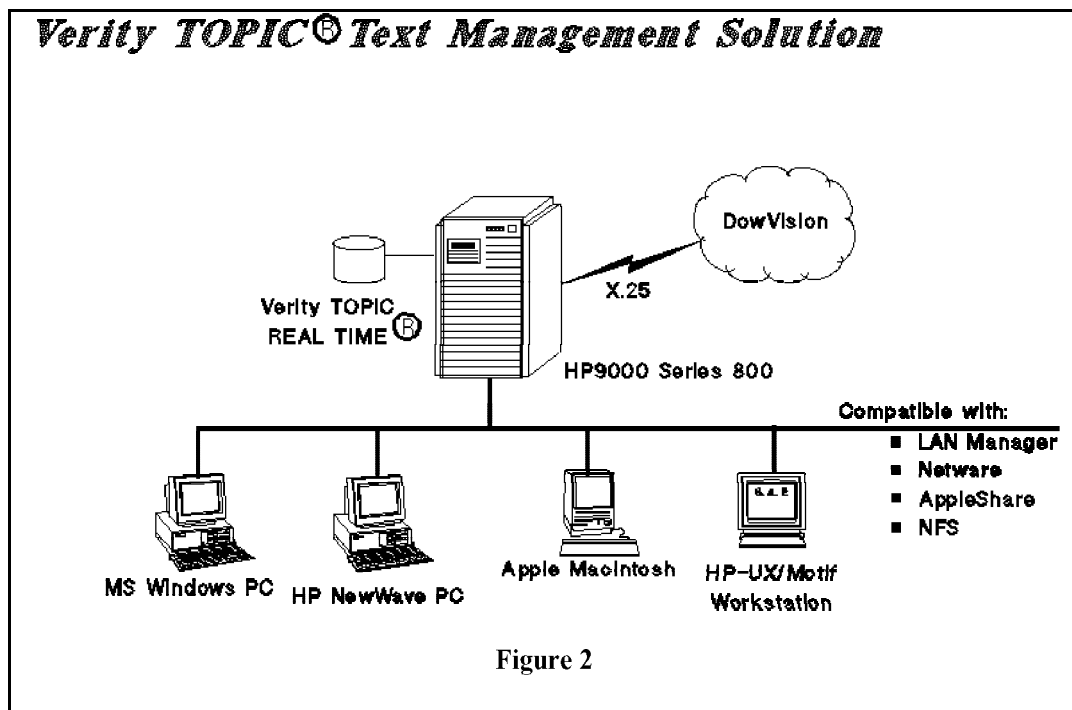
Figure 2

Open architecture supports MS Windows PCs, HP NewWave PCs, Macintoshes, and UNIX-based workstations.
Open architecture also provides support for multiple servers for load balancing and system availability. Support for multiple network operating systems include
  - Netware
  - LAN Manager
  - Integrated Macintosh Networking Services (PacerShare)
  - NFS.
API's for application development are optional.

More robust document retrieval through sophisticated topic trees.
TOPIC allows organizations to build a knowledge base of related subjects that stay with the organization even when key employees move to other positions. It retrieves data based on how they are defined within the organization or the industry.

TOPIC REAL-TIME, offers a facility that analyzes and routes pre-selected real-time information to knowledge workers.
Based on personal interest filters, TOPIC REAL-TIME scans documents as they arrive from live sources. When integrated with external data sources, such as DowVision from Dow Jones Information Service, TOPIC REAL-TIME provides the means for executives, financial analysts, and others to receive up-to-the-minute, finely-filtered information on such topics as financial news, commodity prices, industry press releases, international events, and more. Depending on the priority of the information, information items may be sent to users on an interrupt basis or left in a mailbox for later review. TOPIC REAL-TIME reduces information overload for knowledge workers, providing real-time filtering and dissemination of external data sources, including news wires, financial feeds and electronic mail.

Availability

Verity TOPIC will be available in September 1992. Verity TOPIC REAL-TIME, including all capabilities for real-time data filtering and dissemination, will be available in January 1993.

Summary

Verity TOPIC is a robust, concept-based text storage and retrieval system.

Verity TOPIC provides for rapid, easy storage and retrieval of textual documents based on their content. It is an intelligent system, basing retrieval of documents on their meaning rather than on exact keyword match. Retrieved lists of documents can be listed in relevance order, starting with the document most likely to satisfy the user's request.

Verity TOPIC REAL-TIME additionally provides the capability to filter large volumes of incoming textual information, and to immediately and automatically distribute the relevant information to the people who need to view it.

Together with the other HP KnowledgeWorker Solutions, Verity TOPIC offers a tremendous opportunity to organizations to achieve strategic competitive advantage.