The Invisible Web  Session at FLA

Think you're searching the Web when you use your favorite search engine? Wrong! What you're really searching is the search engine's database. And there is a lot of stuff more than 80% of Internet-based information that is undetected by search engines. This Invisible Web consists of many resources that are often of much higher quality than the visible Web.

Chris Sherman, co-author with librarian Gary Price of The Invisible Web: Uncovering Information Sources Search Engines Can't See (2001), spoke at the Florida Library Association annual conference in April. He shared these and many other insights, tips and tools as the featured speaker during FLA's Internet Interest Group session.

Sherman started with an anatomy of search engines, and an overview of how they work. He then described techniques for using general search engines, specialty search engines, and other tools to uncover news, real-time information, company documents, and other materials that reside on the web but that are usually invisible.

The content of Sherman's presentation including search strategies and links to finding aids (specialty search engines and invisible-web directories) can be found at these sites:


-Alicia Ellison
SIS Newsletter Editor