

Taxonomies

How can taxonomies jump start search applications ?

Pre-built taxonomies allow an organization to get started quickly with a taxonomy project. No need to start from scratch, use taxonomies built by classification experts. If an organization has browse capabilities or hierarchical structures, they can often be used to seed a taxonomy. Raritan Technologies has built a set of taxonomies for focused Search applications using industry standard sources such as ClinicalTrials.gov, the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and the NLM's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH). These taxonomies can be used "out of the box" or can be customized to meet corporate needs, include:

Diseases

The Diseases taxonomy based on the Clinical Trials diseases hierarchy contains over 4,000 nodes and 100,000 rules. With 23 major classifications of Diseases and Conditions (such as "Behaviors and Mental Disorders", "Cancers and other Neoplasms", "Rare Diseases"...) associated subcategories and their business rules this taxonomy will enable pharmaceutical, biotech companies to classify and navigate data in ways that are familiar to them.

Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)

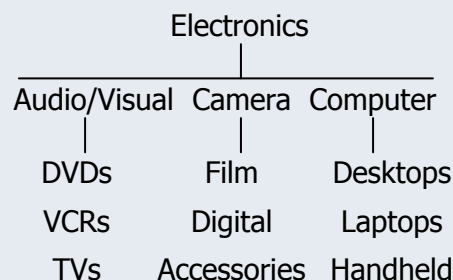
Using LCSH as a base, Raritan Technologies has built the following "Role Based" taxonomies from Class H, the Social Sciences section. Focused "Business", "Finance", "Law" and "Sales and Marketing" taxonomies can be used as is or can be refined for different user groups within a company. The Raritan automated extract process can be used to build/seed other custom taxonomies from the vast range of LCSH headings.

National Library of Medicine's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

This comprehensive medical taxonomy contains over 300,000 nodes and rules. Raritan's consulting organization can help an organization pick and customize the sections of MeSH which are most relevant to its business.

What is a taxonomy?

A taxonomy is an ordered list or hierarchy of terms originally invented to classify living organisms. Taxonomies have now been generalized to include any area of classification which follows the same hierarchical structure. The picture below shows how a user can intuitively navigate a taxonomy of electronic supplies. It's easy to navigate an organized structure without knowing exactly what you are looking for. Everyone benefits from expert knowledge and classification of documents into predefined categories without having to be a classification expert oneself. When 2 or more taxonomies (relational taxonomies) are combined, the navigation becomes even more powerful. The electronics hierarchy can be combined with a "Store by Location" hierarchy to let a user find a VCR at a store near home. Taxonomies can make finding the right content just a few clicks away.



Custom Taxonomies

The Raritan consultants will customize existing taxonomies or help create and tune them using various structured sources (web pages, databases...) that are available in most enterprises.