

KIS – Knowbot Information Service

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Description

The Knowbot Information Service is a white pages “meta-service” that provides a uniform interface to heterogeneous white pages services in the Internet. Using the Knowbot Information Service, one can form a single query that can search for white pages information from the NIC WHOIS service, the RIPE European white pages service and MCI Mail, among others, and have the responses displayed in a single, uniform format.

Inclusion of additional information about an organization with which a person is affiliated enables access to additional white pages services including the NYSERNet X.500 White Pages Pilot project, and over 200 finger and whois services run by individual organizations. For example, a query about <droms@bucknell> will return results from the NYSERNet White Pages project and from the finger server on <sol.cs.bucknell.edu>.

Network Access

There are three ways to gain access to the Knowbot Information Service:

- Use the WHOIS frontends to the Knowbot information Service on hosts <nri.reston.va.us> and <regulus.cs.bucknell.edu>. For example, from a UNIX host, use <whois -h nri.reston.va.us cerf@cnri> to look for information about Vint Cerf affiliated with CNRI.
- Telnet to the Knowbot Information Service. Currently, there are servers accessible through a telnet to port 185 on hosts <nri.reston.va.us> and <regulus.cs.bucknell.edu>. From a UNIX host, use <telnet nri.reston.va.us 185>. The commands help and man summarize the command interface.
- Send mail to userid <netaddress> at one of the Knowbot Information Service hosts.

Who Can Use The Resource

The Knowbot Information Service is available to all users through the mechanisms listed above.

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