

## Spock To Offer Public Record Search Subscription Service

Written by [Sarah Perez](#) / November 7, 2008 6:03 AM / [8 Comments](#)

[« Prior Post](#) [Next Post »](#)



Remember *Spock*? Over a year ago there was *a lot of buzz* around this vertical search engine for people that has worn off. Instead of searching for people on Spock or other similar people search engines, most users have moved to standbys like Facebook or LinkedIn. But don't count Spock out just yet. Their new service, scheduled for next few months, will transform them from a simple people search engine to a full-on public record search tool for

According to *MediaPost*, in mid-January Spock plans to debut a new subscriber-only service that gives users access to public records found in government databases as well as info found on social network pages from sites like MySpace and Facebook. This new tool aims to complement other existing services they plan to offer, including the one launched last month that scans Gmail accounts to help you find your friends.

Spock currently offers a public records search option to logged in users. In addition to the pictures, news, and web pages, public record data is pulled from USSearch.com. However, to get the details to those records, you still have to pay for them.

[Home](#) [My People \(0\)](#) [Find Friends](#)



Type in a name, email, location, or keyword to find people

People Search

[Sarah Perez](#) [Web](#) [Pictures](#) [News](#) [Related People](#)

- [▶ Edit Your Search Result](#)
- [▶ Find Friends](#)
- [▶ Invite](#)

### Latest News

Find where your friends are on the web and receive news alerts about them.

[Click here](#) to start.

## Privacy Concerns

Since its launch, many have people have raised concerns about how Spock operates. As noted earlier this year, there are several reasons to be wary of Spock, including the following:

1. Spock allows anyone to create and edit your personal information on the site, which raises numerous privacy concerns about the reasons people may have for editing your information on the site.
2. Editing or deleting information added about you does not guarantee that the changes will be made on Spock.com.
3. If you aren't informed that a profile or personal information has been added about you on the site, you might not know until it shows up in a search engine query.
4. Even when your Spock profile is claimed by you, you still have little control over the information published on it. You can't get rid of any information and you have to request that the page be removed by the Spock search.
5. Turning a people search and social networking site like Spock.com into a wiki format where anyone can add a

allows people with a malicious intent to hijack your online identity and reputation.

6. The Spock people search allows users to flag inaccurate information. However, if you don't know that you are there is no way to handle the information that has been published about you on the site.

On *SEOMoz*, after experiencing issues editing her own info, Jane Copland asked if a search engine that allows st information about other people and then doesn't offer those people a quick way to remove the information they d a part of the internet we have to get used to" or if Spock goes a bit too far.

We found editing our profile information on Spock easy, though...that is, until an error message appeared which continuing with the deletions we made. Afterward, we returned to our profile only to find that everything we had p still present.



**Uh Oh**

Looks like we're having problems right now. Try coming back in a bit.

With the upcoming public record subscription service, Spock has the potential to become even more of a privacy tying together your photos, web search results, social network profile info, and public record information, which in like age and address history, we can see where Spock starts to cross the line from becoming simply a useful too creep us out a little.

Do you agree? Let us know in the comments.

*Note: we tried to contact Spock for more information on the service, but emails sent to the company bounced. Yi*

## Comments

~~Subscribe to comments for this post OR Subscribe to comments for all ReadWriteWeb posts~~

1. There is nothing earth shaking in this new service. Rapleaf.com does a much better service already. All you need to do is t

The world's leading searching cant find me even though I am on twitter and other services.

Good technology bad implementation. They use gate.ac.uk.

Posted by: [Arjun Ram](#) | [November 7, 2008 7:27 AM](#)

2. All the free people search engines seem to have turned premium. Other than Spock.com, Spokeo.com has been doing ad much longer time, and they are also a premium service now.

Posted by: [Eugene](#) | [November 7, 2008 10:30 AM](#)

3. Find People Using US Public Records

USPublicRecords.com

<http://www.USPublicRecords.com>

Posted by: [Wones](#) | [November 8, 2008 8:10 AM](#)

4. USPublicRecords.com is premium and not so good...there are better like ussearch.com and intelius.com (although I quesit

Posted by: [Dare](#) | [November 9, 2008 6:45 AM](#)

5. > we tried to contact Spock for more information on the service, but emails sent to the company bounced

Try to contact directly Jay Bhatti spock so-founder & VP, his e-mail address is published in his LinkedIn profile and I know answer any spock-related questions:

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaybhatti>

Posted by: **Andrey** | **November 10, 2008 1:27 AM**

6. 123people.com is a free realtime people search, that provides comprehensive results that include social networks, blogs, v news.

Posted by: **Jennifly** | **November 10, 2008 9:07 AM**

7. Why not have a try with the world's leading, free people search engine? ;-) We've just launched our US website and you ca <http://www.yasni.com>. Any feedback is highly appreciated.

Posted by: **Marko Ubovic** | **November 14, 2008 8:53 AM**

8. All the best search engines piled into one. Including Google, Yahoo, sport search engines, science and medical search engines, government and legal search engines, education search engines, news search engines, meta search engines..... <http://www.allthebestsearchengines.blogspot.com>

Posted by: **Alami** | **November 17, 2008 1:52 PM**