

Intelligence Software Report® Withdrawn

Fuld & Company has removed the 2009 Intelligence Software Report® from our website. The reason for this change is that we have started offering a free Competitive Intelligence-specific template for use with SharePoint, an application suite that is licensed from Microsoft by most of our clients.

SharePoint includes “collaboration functions, process management modules, search modules and a document management platform,” to quote Wikipedia. As such, it provides a base for building a cost-effective application that can support the competitive intelligence function behind your corporate firewall.

We *are not* selling the SharePoint CI template, and it is not a complete substitute for the products reviewed in the Software Report. Rather, we contracted with a third party to develop the template explicitly so that it could be given away for users to fine tune to their own requirements. (Users do need to sign a standard “end user license agreement.”) Users can modify the template themselves, go to the developer with whom we worked and ask for customization, or go to any other independent SharePoint application developer.

The Fuld Intelligence Software Report helped the CI community and CI software firms by making a market for their products. But the software firms who generously provided demonstrations and information over the years to help us produce the report see a conflict of interest if we continue publishing the report. The conflict is that we are giving away a template that can be used to build an alternative to their products. To be fair, we understand this point of view, and at their request we have ceased publication of future Intelligence Software Reports and have withdrawn the 2009 Intelligence Software Report from our website.

See the Wikipedia article on SharePoint article at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sharepoint>