

2006 RESCUE Next Generation Search Series

Context, context, context: the next law of search



Suranga Chandratillake

**CTO and Founder
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Suranga Chandratillake, co-founder and CTO of blinkx, has lived and breathed tech since he was seven years old, when he was first introduced to the 6502-powered BBC Micro Model B. He went on to complete an MA in Computer Science at the University of Cambridge, England, where he specialized in distributed processing architectures.

Professionally, Suranga has worked on a diverse (the unkind might say confused) range of projects in a variety of roles—as an algorithms developer on portfolio risk balancing systems for the investment bank, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, a technology analyst on voice-recognition applications at netdecisions (a UK-based consulting and venture technology group) and, catching the start-up bug, founding Anondesign, a Cambridge-based technology company that built a 'live' content management system years before RSS was a glint in someone else's eye.

Finally, another Cambridge-based technology company—Autonomy Corporation PLC—caught his attention and he joined the company. After working through a number of roles he moved to San Francisco to be the company's US CTO—the role he played directly before founding blinkx.

Monday, May 8, 2006

Refreshments at 9:15 am; talk begins at 9:30 am

Calit2 Room 3008

Sponsored by Professor Ramesh Jain

Today search is predominantly a dumbed-down keyword experience. But keyword search is just the easiest way for *computers* to randomly access unstructured content—be it text, audio, video or people. As the volume of accessible content grows and the nature of that content increases in complexity, technology needs to get better at providing an easier way for *humans* to random access it. In this presentation Suranga will talk about blinkx's approach to contextual search and how this technology may represent a valuable new way to look at the search vs find problem