

# LAWLINE

The newsletter for informed legal practitioners

<http://www.butterworths.co.uk> Butterworths PRACTICE

## Butterworths nets company searches

**B**utterworths has allied with City-based company and business services provider, the RM Group, to become the first legal publisher to offer company search facilities on its Website.

The 'pay as you go' service follows the launch this year of aRMadillo, a Web-based product developed in-house by RM, providing access to online and hard copy company information, registrations and trade mark services.

Although traditional microfiche searches, undertaken for a variety of users such as lawyers, accountants and company secretaries, remain an important part of the Group's business, the company spotted the new

media challenge.

RM's marketing director Theo De Regibus, told LAWLINE: 'We saw that the technology was changing and that's why aRMadillo was developed.' The system and its content took two years to build.

Harnessing information from eight major sources, including Companies House, the registry trusts and independent analysts, the online service offers lawyers instant access to latest accounts, annual returns and statutory information for all UK registered companies and more than 500,000 unlimited companies.

Butterworths believes the service will revolutionise the research

RM's Theo De Regibus (left) and MD Emanuel Cohen: spotting a new media challenge.



process for lawyers, already established users of RM's offline services.

De Regibus adds: 'The system is more immediate – a lawyer might otherwise have to wait two days for a company search. It is also cheaper – a traditional search costs £25; on the Web it is £16.'

Accessed by password and user name, the service requires no prior knowledge of online searching. Textual reports and imaged copies of reports can be downloaded elec-

tronically to anywhere in the world or faxed within one hour.

As well as full company searches – which include county court judgments against company officers, shareholder details, latest accounts, liquidator/receiver details and credit limit figures – the service offers a range of specialist and credit reports online and a gateway to high-quality back-up research.

For access and a free search visit Butterworths' Homepage – <http://www.butterworths.co.uk>

## A site for legal eyes

*'Easily the best publishing site I have seen.'*

Mike Semple Piggot, director of Semple Piggot Price Aquino.

**B**rand new interactive services on the Butterworths Website have combined with existing features to offer a 'content-rich' range of online information for lawyers.

Since June, when the site was relaunched and revitalised under John Pitman, current awareness publishing manager, Butterworths has added exciting new products such as Company Search facilities, a student Website and the unique All ER Reporter online (see details elsewhere in this issue).

The Website now comprises: the complete, regularly-updated catalogue of Butterworths and Tolley publications – including new and forthcoming titles; Butterworths Law Online, a free legal current awareness service providing reliable information updated daily; Hot off the Press, a daily abstract of national legal news; Butterworths International Newsdesk, featuring further world news; links to Butterworths companies worldwide; What's New; a key contacts



John Pitman: Website development.

and feedback service; aRMadillo Company Searches; and the student Website.

This is not, however, the end of the story. Butterworths' Website is developing fast. 'We are already well into the development of an online version of the *New Law Journal* and Butterworths Law Directory is poised to go online at any moment,' says John Pitman.

● Plug-in now:  
<http://www.butterworths.co.uk>