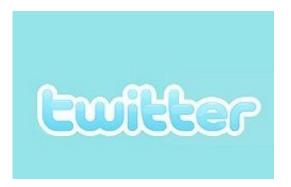


Twitter becomes mutual friend of Google, Microsoft

October 21 2009



(AP) -- Refusing to be upstaged, Google's Internet search index will include public updates from Twitter's communications stream.

Google announced the Twitter deal on its blog Wednesday, less than three hours after Microsoft trumpeted its own Twitter partnership at a San Francisco technology conference.

Had it been exclusive, Microsoft might have been able to lure traffic away from Google because tracking Twitter's updates is becomingly an increasingly popular way to find out what people are talking about at any given moment.

Now both Google and Microsoft's search engine, Bing, hope to prove



they are the best way to find and analyze Twitter's messages, also known as tweets.

Neither Google nor Microsoft disclosed how much they are paying Twitter.

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Citation: Twitter becomes mutual friend of Google, Microsoft (2009, October 21) retrieved 8 May 2024 from <u>https://phys.org/news/2009-10-twitter-mutual-friend-google-microsoft.html</u>

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