



OSINT COMBINE

Understanding the path from information to insight

A robust OSINT platform enables decision-makers to trace the chain of intelligence and trust the integrity of the results



Chris Poulter | OSINT Combine

Open-source intelligence can play a vital role in agencies' decision-making processes, but integrating OSINT into those workflows can be challenging for the government. Agencies should keep some key considerations in mind.

First of all, they need employees with OSINT tradecraft, and they need tools that fit their specific mission requirements. They also must ensure that OSINT is derived from information that can be validated and explained. Governance and auditability are essential because decision-makers need to be able to trust the chain of intelligence from source to assessment. But publicly available information is not always trustworthy. Among other things, it is subject to manipulation for malicious purposes. Therefore, information should be compiled from multiple sources and then corroborated and correlated with other forms of intelligence.

Given the huge volumes of available information, however, the biggest challenge may be reducing the signal-to-noise ratio so leaders receive only the intelligence that's relevant to their decision-making needs.

AI as a force multiplier for human judgment

Artificial intelligence has dramatically enhanced the ability to cut through the noise. However, AI models are often

influenced by sycophancy, hallucinations and cognitive bias, just as humans are. For example, a Chinese AI model will have different biases baked in than a Western model will have. Fortunately, as the technology becomes more sophisticated, its explainability is improving. When analysts use reasoning models, it's possible to know how the model reached its outcome and what steps it followed.

General AI tools such as ChatGPT and Claude are fine for surface-level tasks, but they don't give users the depth of access to high-quality data that OSINT requires. I believe three types of users will emerge. Non-AI users will reject the technology because of concerns about explainability, accountability and auditability. AI-only users will ask tools like ChatGPT a question and believe whatever comes out of it. In the middle are those who will use AI alongside human judgment.



Those users will take advantage of AI's power while still applying critical thinking and analysis. The people who get left behind and those who put their trust into a technology without fully understanding it are at two ends of the spectrum. The winning posture is treating AI as a force multiplier for human judgment, not as an oracle.

Making sense of data in a chaotic environment

OSINT Combine values human involvement in the intelligence cycle and offers tool-agnostic training to develop agencies' OSINT tradecraft. In addition, our flagship NexusXplore platform is built around all aspects of the intelligence cycle. It's designed to be a single pane of glass and an all-in-one OSINT solution because analysts need to be able to start and finish anywhere. They don't get to choose their seed information, and they don't know where the investigation or

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analysis will lead them, so they need flexibility in their tooling.

NexusXplore puts everything in one place while leaving humans in control. It is robust and flexible without compromising on access to the most comprehensive publicly available information globally. It aligns with each agency’s unique intelligence cycle and investigative workflow, and offers both human-centric and AI-assisted

decision-support and built-in analytical tools. We enable analysts to understand the path to the insight they’re seeking while leveraging advanced technologies like AI to make sense of the data in the chaotic, context-rich OSINT environment.

Our platform is unique in that analysts can use AI to its fullest or not at all and still achieve the same outcome. Every source is traceable and every insight is

defensible, which means analysts can understand what’s going on and trust the integrity of the intelligence. ■

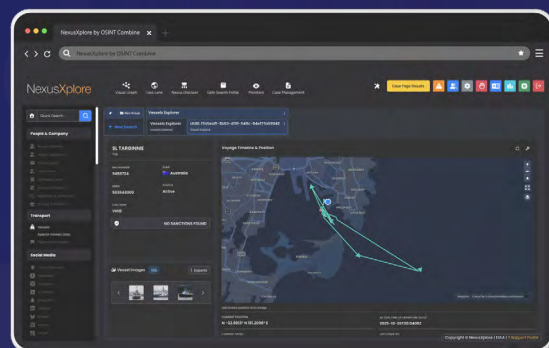
Chris Poulter is the founder and CEO of OSINT Combine.



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Built for speed and flexibility, NexusXplore is a proven open-source intelligence platform that helps teams move from discovery to insight faster.

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