

SEARCH

SITE

WEB

Windows Live Search

GO

UK & US Company Search

## Analysis

MAKE TIMES ONLINE  
YOUR HOMEPAGE / BOOKMARK

ANALYSIS

BUSINESS

Home

Analysis

Markets

Economics

Corporate Law

Money

Business Travel

Industry sectors

Enterprise

Business Extra

My Portfolio

TIMES ONLINE

NEWS & COMMENT

Home UK

Home Global

Britain

World

Business

Sport

Comment & Weblogs

Debate

Tech & Net

Sunday Times

Times Online TV

CAREER & MONEY

Money

Jobs

Law

Education

Student

LIFE & STYLE

Travel

Women

Driving

Property & Gardens

Food & Drink

Men's Style

Health

ARTS & CULTURE

Entertainment

The Times

November 14, 2006

## The sequel?

CITY DIARY BY MARTIN WALLER

A SECOND chance for that extraordinary individual who sent a clip of himself ballroom dancing and chopping up bricks with his bare hands to potential employer UBS? Morgan Stanley is choosing an intern according to how many votes his or her homemade videos receive online.

The scheme is a tie-in with a forthcoming Will Smith film based on a man who started his career at Dean Witter, merged with Morgan Stanley in 1999. The studio, Sony, for some reason decided to promote the film with a sort of reality TV show whereby applicants to work at a number of firms, including Morgan Stanley, have to post their videos on a website for visitors to vote on.

Two will go forward to the bank, which will choose the best, assuming that either have the necessary qualifications.

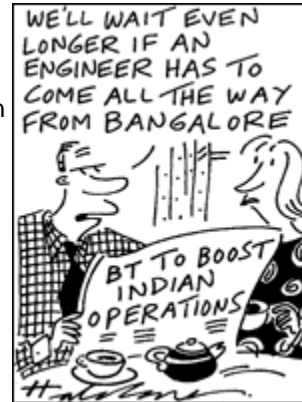
Aleksey Vayner, that was it, a student, it was him who became the laughing stock of the investment banking community when that video leaked out of UBS. Could he apply? "This is something completely different," a Morgan insider says sternly.

*THE Alibi Network is an online business that provides just that. In all apparent seriousness, it claims it will invent excuses for errant spouses or whatever and fake phone calls, hotel bookings, airline tickets and e-mails from anywhere in the world. You can even book a call to get you out of a dull meeting or bad date. There is a call centre, 24 hours a day. Breathtakingly cynical. I'm amazed no one has thought of it before.*

### Lording it about

DFS, the sofa retailer founded by Lord Kirkham, was widely ridiculed in 1998 when a trading statement blamed the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, a few months earlier for poor sales. The experience clearly soured Kirkham, who has since taken the company private. One advantage of this, he tells *Real Business*, is that he no longer has to explain himself to people who know nothing about any of the factors that affect the business. "I am now able to talk about the weather without a lot of those City ladies and gentlemen muttering about excuses and looking down their noses at me."

*A MASSACHUSETTS judge has had to rule on the vexed question of what, in law, constitutes a sandwich. The dispute was brought by a firm that had exclusive rights to sell sandwiches in a shopping mall. Along came a Mexican restaurant with a line in takeaway burritos and quesadillas, and the whole thing*



### QUOTE SEARCH

Company Fund

UK or US Companies

Enter company name

Summary

Company Lookup

My Portfolio

### WORLD MARKETS

Europe America A

FTSE 100



FTSE 100  
6,202.60 ↓ -0.0

DAX  
6,460.39 ↑ +0.1

CAC 40  
5,459.35 ↑ +0.0

Europe America A

DJIA

### BUSINESS SPECIALS

**DIFFERENCE II BUSINESS**  
Expert international banking advice sponsored by HS

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
Low cost communication solutions for SMEs

**10 WIN FREE BROADBAND**  
for a year with Vir

**KAZAKHSTAN**  
Read our e-paper supplement

**INVESTING IN THE GULF**  
Read our e-paper supplement

**CARBON TRUS**  
Follow our 3 carbon champions

**HOME STUDIES**  
Bespoke furniture

- Books
- Listings
- Crosswords
- Games
- TLS
- Funday Times
- SPECIAL REPORTS**
- Changing lives
- Sydney festival
- Your world
- Driving value
- Wish I could
- Carbon champions
- Living the dream
- Family days out
- Business travel
- Healthy living
- La vie Francaise
- Poker
- Work revolution
- SOUND & VISION**
- TV and Video
- Picture galleries
- Podcasts
- SERVICES & TOOLS**
- Archive
- News by e-mail
- Newspaper edition
- E-paper
- My Times
- Mobile
- News feeds RSS
- Weather
- Currency converter
- Route planner
- Site map
- THE MARKETPLACE**
- Cars
- Classifieds
- Dating
- Jobs
- Offers & Promotions
- Property
- Shopping
- Travel
- Place an advert

Data and charting from Hemscott unless otherwise indicated. Data delayed by at least 20 minutes

ended up in court.

The judge, after taking expert advice from chefs and other witnesses, decided that a sandwich had to contain two slices of bread, which rules out the Tex-Mex stuff. Shades of that court case here a few years ago that had to rule on whether a Jaffa Cake was a biscuit.

**“FAR! far away, the Google lives, in a land which only children can go to. It is a wonderful land of funny flowers, and birds, and hills of pure white heather . . .” So begins *The Google Book*, a sort of sub-Edward Lear work by V.C. Vickers, written in 1913. Pictured is the Google itself: “The sun is setting/ Can’t you hear/ A something in the distance how!!!?/ I wonder if it’s/ Yes!! it is/ That horrid Google on the prowl!!!” Intriguingly, the same Vincent C. Vickers turns out to have been a Governor of the Bank of England during that period, of all things, and a member of the family whose firm made the eponymous machinegun. His only other work (as far as I know) is the less charming *Economic Tribulation*. The founders of the search engine, of course, got the name from the mathematical term for one followed by 100 zeros — misspelt.**

[city.diary@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:city.diary@thetimes.co.uk)



your study

**ASK THE EXPERTS**  
Sharpen your competitive edge

**WORK REVOLUTION**  
Challenges of the modern workplace

**BUSINESS TRAVEL**  
Information for sn travellers

**TECHNOLOGY**  
The latest tech, mobile and web n - sponsored by Canon

**FX TRADING GAME**

Fantasy Currency Trading Play for free, form your own mini-league. Win prizes like Blackberry.

Free to you inbox every business d all the latest business news, markets reports and analysis, in e-mail direct to you bef the start of the working day  
Sign up now

**BUSINESS EXTRAS**

**TV & VIDEO**  
Times Online T has arrived

**ENCOUNTER**  
Find new frienc or someone special

**WINE CLUB**  
Find great offer at The Sunday Times Wine Cl

**SERVICES**

- Credit Clinic Get information, advice p your FREE credit repc
- Top 100 See the Top 100 Employers for 20
- Businesses For Sale Be your own boss and BUY your own busine:
- MBA All the latest ne and advice

**ADVERTISEMENT**

## APPOINTMENTS

### EXECUTIVE JOBS

Leading management positions from The Times, The Sunday Times and Times Online

## QUICK LINKS

- [FREE Reader Guides](#)
- [Money Shop](#)
- [Travel Insurance](#)
- [MBA](#)

---

[Contact our advertising team](#) for advertising and sponsorship in Times Online, The Times and The Sunday Times.

Copyright 2006 Times Newspapers Ltd.

This service is provided on Times Newspapers' [standard Terms and Conditions](#). Please read our [Privacy Policy](#). To inquire about a licence to reproduce material from The Times, visit the [Syndication website](#).