

Newsletter from STN

July 2008



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Staff News

We are very pleased to have a new team member to introduce to you. Louise Catterick has taken over from Janet Selin as the Agency's Administrative Assistant, following a reorganization within the RSC, and brings with her many years of experience in administrative roles.

Louise enjoys sporting events, travelling and red wine. A future ambition of Louise's is to combine her love of travel and wine by taking a wine tasting tour of Italy.



STN User Meetings Feedback

We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet with more than 40 customers at our two User Meetings in June, and received some very positive feedback.

We would like to invite all other customers to take part in our Information Exchange Discussion by sending feedback on the topics for the session. All respondents will be entered in a prize draw, so simply send an email with your replies to these questions:

- What do you consider to be the benefits of using STN and its tools?
- How could STN be improved?
- Should STN have more content? If so, in what areas?
- If content is considered to be good, what makes you choose other services?
- Is there more we could offer you in the area of training and support?

We assure you that comments will be passed on to product development teams where appropriate, and that we will take action on points raised which we can deal with from the UK Agency. A summary of feedback will be included in the next Newsletter and posted on our website: www.rsc.org/stn where copies of the presentations can also be found.

Send your responses to: STNHLP@RSC.ORG.

Good luck!

INPAFAMDB – add the missing piece to your prior-art searching on STN

INPAFAMDB has been launched as a companion file to INPADOCDB and is particularly useful when performing comprehensive prior art searches in 1st level data using free text (from titles and abstracts) and/or classifications (IPC, ECLA, ICO, IDT, and national classifications, including US). INPAFAMDB and INPADOCDB share the same source data and content but differ with respect to data structure:

- INPAFAMDB - all data belonging to *one invention (one family)* are indexed as one record
- INPADOCDB - all publications from *one authority for one application* are indexed as one record

Patent families are defined in INPAFAMDB as the extended INPADOC patent family, *ie*, all publications that are directly or indirectly linked via a priority application number. Approximately 36 million records (inventions) with 65 million publications are currently available in INPAFAMDB.

INPAFAMDB records include:

- Bibliographic information for all family members from 81 patent authorities, including 12.6 million English abstracts for 8.5 million families (approximately 30% of the database)
- Fully integrated legal status for 51 patent authorities, including the seven categories assigned by FIZ Karlsruhe to simplify legal status searches
- Citations from 13 patent authorities

Make sure you choose INPAFAMDB for:

- Prior-art technology searching
- Inventor and assignee searching
- Easy access to accurate patent families
- Simplified legal status searching
- Comprehensive citation searching
- Streamlined alerts (SDIs)

STN AnaVist – Enhanced with database content from EPFULL

Patent documents from European Patents Full Text (EPFULL) are now available for analysis and visualization in STN AnaVist. EPFULL covers bibliographic data and abstracts for applications and granted patents published by the European Patent Office (EPO) since 1978. Full text is available for applications (A documents) published since 1987 and for granted patents (B documents) published since 1991.

To analyze and visualize EPFULL content in STN AnaVist, use STN Express, Version 8.2 or higher, to create an answer set that includes EPFULL documents. Then use the Save for STN AnaVist wizard to create an .xta file for import into STN AnaVist. Or, create your answer set with STN on the Web and use the new STN AnaVist Assistant.

In addition, approximately 260,000 English patent application abstracts have been added to European Patents Full Text (EPFULL) to supplement existing pre-2003 patent application abstracts in German and French. As a result, comprehensiveness of English-language prior art searches in EPFULL has improved significantly.

STN on the Web – enhanced with new STN AnaVist assistant, BLAST plug-in and structure drawing plug-in

A new STN AnaVist Assistant has been added to the left-hand navigation pane in STN on the Web. The new assistant provides an option to export answers to STN AnaVist, similar to the Save for STN AnaVist wizard in STN Express, Versions 8.2 and higher. Now you can save STN on the Web answer sets in the .xta file format for analysis and visualization in STN AnaVist.

The STN AnaVist Assistant also provides an option to import answers from STN AnaVist, similar to the Create L-Number from STN AnaVist wizard in STN Express, Version 8.3. Now you can open STN AnaVist answer sets (.xta file format) in STN on the Web. A fully functional L-number is automatically created for each STN AnaVist answer set opened in STN on the Web.

In addition two plug-ins have been updated: the CAS Registry BLAST plug-in and the structure drawing plug-in (Version 8.3-1) for the Microsoft Windows® operating system, which has been updated to fix an issue related to query generation for structure searching in Derwent World Patents Index® (DWPISM). With these updates, STN on the Web is now fully Windows Vista compatible.

STN® Viewer™ performance improved

STN Viewer performance has been improved. Documents now load much faster to the Patent Queue and overall responsiveness is improved, particularly when you sort and filter documents in the Patent Queue and Projects.

Several changes have also been made to the STN Viewer interface:

- Documents now display 25 at a time in the Patent Queue and Projects.
- A more informative progress indicator is now available during document import to the Patent Queue.
- A cost notification now appears before you incur project sharing costs.
- In addition to the title, patent country, kind code, and source database, the publication year is now provided for all documents in the Patent Queue and Projects as an additional way for you to determine relevance. In documents that you have displayed, the numeric portion of the patent number is also provided.

In addition, STN[®] on the WebSM has been enhanced with a new STN Viewer Assistant that allows you to send full-text patent documents from STN on the Web answer sets to STN Viewer.

Spotlight on RDISCLOSURE

Research Disclosure is a **Defensive publication** used by 90% of the world's leading companies. It allows inventors to quickly establish their inventions as prior art, and by highlighting the inventions to patent examiners, it prevents others from patenting the same concept.

Defensive publications work because patents can only be granted on 'new' inventions and once an invention is published it is considered prior art and as such the novelty is destroyed, stopping others from patenting the same invention. For a small fee Research Disclosure will publish an invention and send it to every country in the world with a patent office, creating a bar to future patents.

A Research Disclosure publication does not provide the same protection as a patent yet most of the world's leading companies have used Research Disclosure because it's a quick and effective way to confirm freedom to operate.

People particularly choose Research Disclosure because it is independent which confers the following advantages:

- Cheap and easy to get setup
- No peer to peer review required
- Anonymous publication possible
- No designated languages or formats

In addition it has Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT) minimum documentations status making it a mandatory search resource for International Search Authorities, is abstracted into the Derwent World Patent Index (DWPI), is cited in thousands of patent applications each year, and has been successfully cited in court cases around the world.

The STN database RDISCLOSURE has ~40,000 records from 1960 to the present day, with monthly updates. It is full text searchable and includes IPC and ECLA classification data. A recent search of the USPTO's database alone revealed that Research Disclosure has been cited over 3,000 times in the last 3 years (an average of four citations per day).

So make sure you are taking advantage of this invaluable and authoritative database for all your patent related prior art searches. If you have any comments we will pass them to the database provider for you, and will be very happy to help with search strategies if you need assistance.

Tips from the Help Desk

Overcoming system limits for STN queries

Clients occasionally contact us because they are hitting system limits:

Answers per file in one session:	8,000,000
L-numbers per session:	999
L-numbers in a single query:	390
Number of characters in a single query:	20,000
Number of characters in a search statement	256
E-numbers per session:	999

If you experience this problem, please try the following approach:

1. Break your query down into smaller queries which will run within system limits.
2. Save each of these smaller queries with a unique name, *eg*, SAVE L1 DEMO1/Q; SAVE L2 DEMO2/Q; DEMO3/Q
3. Delete your L-number history (DELETE HISTORY) and/or E-number history (DELETE SELECT)
4. SEARCH (not ACTIVATE!) your saved queries, *eg*, SEARCH DEMO1/Q

How does this help you? Because, if you SEARCH a saved query containing multiple lines, you will only generate an L-number for the final answer set:

```
=> SEARCH FRUIT/Q
L1    23245 FRUIT/Q
```

However, if you ACTIVATE a saved query containing multiple lines, you will generate an L-number for each line of the activated query, potentially taking you over system limits.

```
=> ACTIVATE FRUIT/Q
L1    QUE APPLE#
L2    QUE PEAR#
L3    QUE BANANA#
L4    QUE ORANGE#
L5    QUE PEACH##
L6    QUE PLU=ON (L1 OR L2 OR L3 OR L4 OR L5)
```

STN Database News You May Have Missed.....

DGENE, PCTGEN, AND USGENE – ENHANCED WITH NEW HOMOLOGY SEQUENCE SEARCH OPTION

A new option for refining homology sequence search answer sets is now available for the RUN BLAST and RUN GETSIM commands in DGENE, PCTGEN, and USGENE. You may now refine your sequence search answer sets by either:

Number of answers
Minimum percentage of the query self score

To help you determine the minimum percentage of the query self score by which to refine, the query self score value is now displayed with the best answer score value in the sequence search results. The SCORE format for RUN BLAST has also been enhanced to display the percentage of the query self score value in addition to the actual bit score value.

The new minimum percentage option allows you to quickly focus your results to the most relevant answers, which is particularly useful when you are working with large answer sets. This new option is available for BLAST and GETSIM searches, including BATCH and ALERT searches.

Enter HELP CHANGE at an arrow prompt (=>) in DGENE, PCTGEN, or USGENE for details.

WPIDS, WPINDEX, AND WPIX – ENHANCED WITH NEW PREDEFINED HIT DISPLAY FORMATS

Derwent World Patents Index® (WPIDS/WPINDEX/WPIX) has been enhanced with new

predefined hit display formats for selective display of code fields:

HITCMC – Hit Chemical Code
HITCODE – CMC, EPC, IPC, NCL, MC, PLC, PLE containing hit terms
HITPLC – Hit Polymer Coding Plasdac
HITPLE – Hit Polymer Indexing Enhanced

Relevant portions of the coding are displayed only when the display fields include HIT terms.

Special Offer on RSC Library Searches – RSC Members Only

Do you have a search that you would rather someone else did for you?

With the current closure of the RSC Library for renovation, RSC members can still utilize the expertise of library staff through the Chemical Enquiry Helpdesk. During the library closure searches conducted on databases available from STN will be run at cost with staff charges dropped. To take advantage of this offer, please contact library@rsc.org.

Training Opportunities and Updates

Hands-on Workshops

The STN Agency offers all public training courses **free of charge**, but we do reserve the right to cancel courses if there is insufficient interest. We will give you notice of any cancellation at least a week in advance, and ask that you let us know if you have to cancel after registering.

October

15 th Using STN Interfaces	Cambridge
23 rd Introduction to Chemistry Searching on STN	Cambridge

November

4 th Structure Searching on STN	Cambridge
12 th Marpat	Cambridge
25 th Sequence Searching on STN	Cambridge

December

11 th STN Refresher	Cambridge
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[Registration Form:](#)

All full-day sessions will run 10.00am to 3.30pm

e-Seminars

Live, interactive, web-based seminars bringing professional training to your desktop, each one hour long.

See <http://casevents.webex.com/casevents/mywebex/> for registration details for the following seminars from CAS:

14 th August	at 2.00 pm	STN: Revealing the Mysteries of MARPAT®
11 th Sept	at 2.00 pm	STN: Finding Licensing Information on STN®
9 th October	at 2.00 pm	STN: Sequence Motif Searching
13 th November	at 2.00 pm	STN: What's New in STN Express®

See http://www.stn-international.de/training_center/seminars.html for registration details for the following seminars from FIZ:

28 th August	at 2.00 pm	Patent information from East Asia on STN
9 th September	at 2.00 pm	Navigating INPAFAMDB - easy recipes to get relevant results
7 th October	at 2.00 pm	Searching in DWPI Chemistry Resource (DCR)
28 th October	at 2.00 pm	Synergies and Surprises - USGENE and DGENE Multi-file Patent Sequence Searching on STN
4 th November	at 2.00 pm	Reaction Searching in Beilstein
9 th December	at 2.00 pm	The Art of ECLA

And Finally.....

Please contact us if you have any comments or questions arising from this newsletter:

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