

# STN<sup>®</sup>

## Overview of Structural Databases



## Information is the foundation for making important business-critical decisions

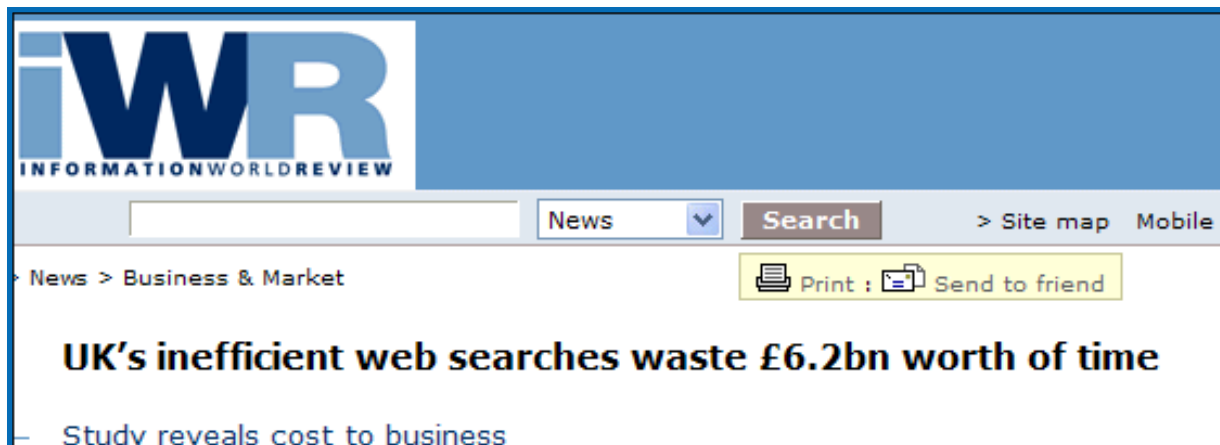
“Information technology and business are becoming inextricably interwoven. I don’t think anybody can talk meaningfully about one without talking about the other.”

Bill Gates  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Microsoft



## Lack of organized data and accurate search systems can be expensive

Finding critical information is a costly, global problem



“...the complexity of information in corporate IT systems and inefficient search capabilities meant that much of that time was wasted.”

The research report added that the complexity of information in corporate IT systems and inefficient search capabilities meant that much of that time was wasted.

Source: *Information World Review*  
[www.iwr.co.uk](http://www.iwr.co.uk)

## You can start with Google for background, but...

Relying on information from the Internet is like playing roulette: hit or miss!

- It is not always
  - Complete
  - Documented
  - Accurate
  - Precise

Multi-million dollar business decisions can hinge on one missed patent or even one overlooked molecule



## Critical decisions require reliable information

STN is an online database service providing global access to the published scientific literature:

- Journal articles
- Patents
- Chemical structures
- Sequences
- Properties
- Electronic full text

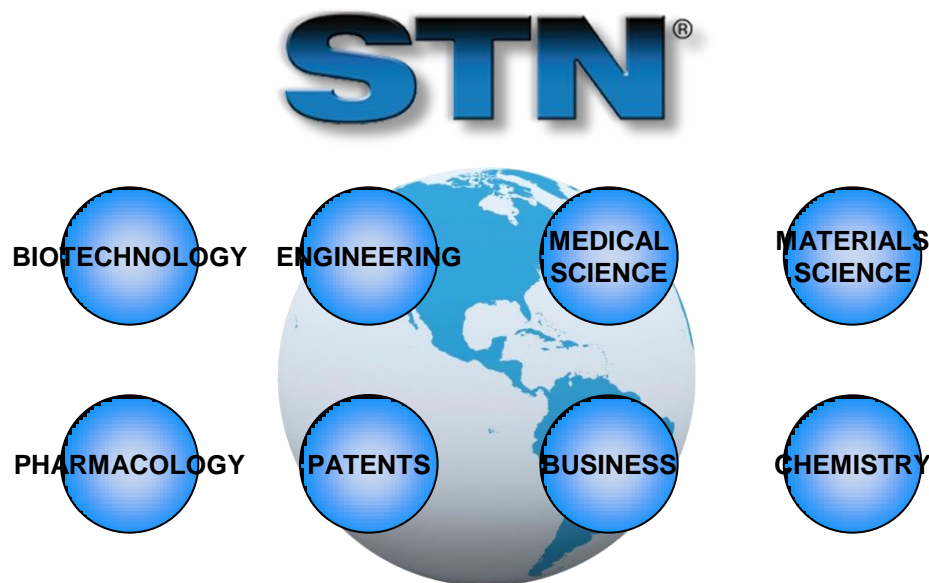


## The advantages of using STN are numerous

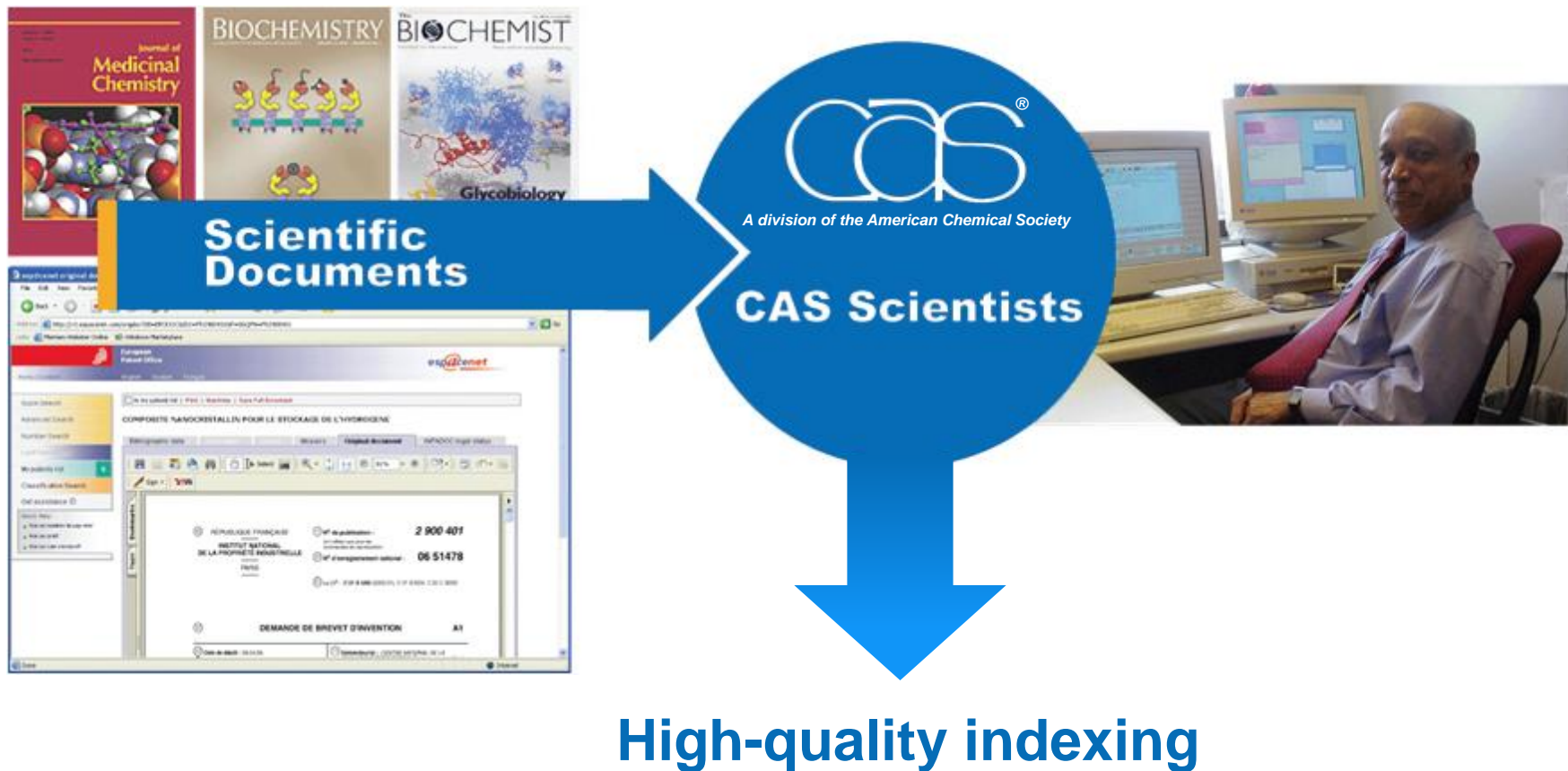
- Search many high-quality databases at the same time
- Security – STN offers secure Internet access
- Trusted globally by major patent offices
- Access to the latest research – major databases updated daily
- The benefit of an international partnership
- Highly renowned customer support

## STN offers an unsurpassed collection of essential scientific and technical databases

- STN databases are uniquely integrated so you can consult several at the same time with one query
  - High-quality, standardized databases in one place
  - Unified command language
  - Value-added indexing by scientists
  - Duplicate answers are easily removed from a multi-database search



# STN includes the comprehensive chemistry databases from CAS



## Basic Searching Commands

- There are only five basic commands that you need to learn to begin searching on STN

| USE THIS COMMAND... | WHEN YOU WANT TO...  |
|---------------------|--|
| FILE (FIL)          | Enter a single file or multiple files in order to conduct a search     |
| EXPAND (E)          | View potential search terms in an easy to browse, alphabetical listing |
| SEARCH (S)          | Perform a search pertaining to a topic of interest                     |
| DISPLAY (D)         | Look at the record set results in a specified format                   |
| LOGOFF (LOG)        | Terminate an STN online session  |

*STN provides many other commands so that you can access specialized functionality, but these five commands will go a long way in your searching.*

## Basic Command Format

- The general format for entering a command on STN is:

```
=> COMMAND Instructions <Enter>
```

**Example:** => SEARCH (chocolate or cocoa) <Enter>

- For additional information about using STN commands, visit [www.cas.org/support/stngen/stndoc/commands.html](http://www.cas.org/support/stngen/stndoc/commands.html)

## Conduct a basic keyword search

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Step 1</b> | Understand search question and identify potential keywords |
| <b>Step 2</b> | Identify relevant database(s)                              |
| <b>Step 3</b> | Build a search query                                       |
| <b>Step 4</b> | Conduct a preliminary search                               |
| <b>Step 5</b> | Evaluate answers   |
| <b>Step 6</b> | Modify the search strategy                                 |
| <b>Step 7</b> | Display answer(s)  |

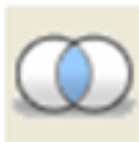
## Step 1: Understand search question and identify potential keywords

- Keyword searching is used to build concept-based search queries and is commonly done as free-text searching in the Basic Index
- Have an organized search plan
  - Identify key words
    - Consider synonyms
    - Consider suffixes on root words
    - Don't forget acronyms and abbreviations
  - Consider how search terms will relate to one another
    - Boolean logic
    - Proximity of search terms

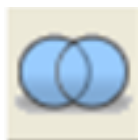
## STN Truncation Symbols

| SYMBOL | FUNCTION   | EXAMPLES     | RETRIEVAL POSSIBILITIES      |
|--------|--|--------------|------------------------------|
| ?      | Any number of characters (including zero) at the beginning or at the end of a term | BACTERICID?  | BACTERICIDE<br>BACTERICIDAL  |
|        | Left*-or Right-hand truncation   | ?ICID?       | BACTERICIDE                  |
| #      | Zero or one character at the end of a term   | BACTERICIDE# | BACTERICIDE<br>BACTERICIDES  |
| !      | Exactly one character within or at the end of a term                               | T!!TH        | TEETH<br>TOOTH<br>TRUTH      |
|        |  | AMIN!        | AMINE<br>AMINO               |
|        |  | ORGANI!ATION | ORGANIZATION<br>ORGANISATION |
| !!#    | Multiple uses of the symbols # and ! are allowed                                   | T!!TH#       | TEETH<br>TOOTH<br>TRUTHS     |

## Boolean Logic Operators

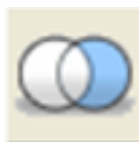


- **“AND”** represents records that mention all of the concepts, anywhere in the record
  - One concept could be in the title, and another could be in the abstract or indexing



- **“OR”** represents records with any of the concepts and synonyms
  - Don't forget to use parentheses with concepts that are OR'ed together

```
=> S (bovine OR cow OR cattle)
```

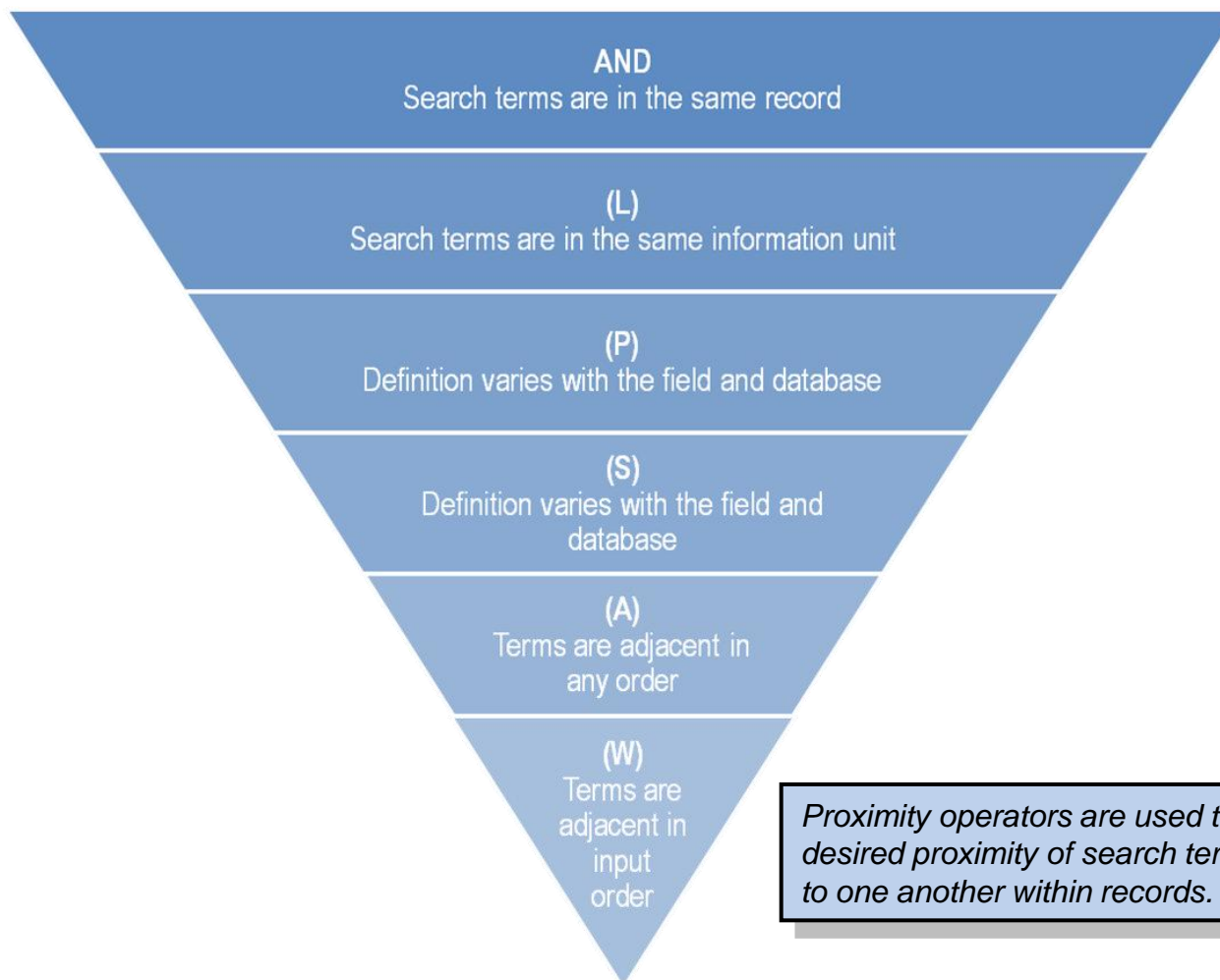


- **“NOT”** removes a concept or answer set from results
  - Use NOT to compare results between sets

```
=> S L3 NOT L1
```

- Beware of using NOT to remove concepts as you can accidentally remove good results as well

# Proximity Operators



*Proximity operators are used to specify the desired proximity of search terms with respect to one another within records.*

## Step 2: Identify relevant database(s)

- A variety of worldwide databases of scientific and technical information are available on STN
- Information about the databases can be found in the following resources:
  - STN Database Guide  
<http://stnguide.cas.org/>
  - STN Database Summary Sheets  
[www.cas.org/support/stngen/dbss/](http://www.cas.org/support/stngen/dbss/)
  - STNGUIDE, a no-cost database that provides searchable access to all of the information covered in the STN DBSS
  - INDEX command
  - CAS Help Desk  
1-800-753-4227 (North America)
- Use the FILE command to enter a database

**=> FILE CAPLUS**

## Step 3: Build a search query

- Verify search terms using EXPAND
  - The EXPAND command (E) is used to verify that a term of interest is in the database
  - EXPAND results are in an alphanumeric list of indexed terms
  - EXPAND is useful in keyword searching to
    - Determine if a term is in the database
    - Identify related terms of interest
  - EXPAND is a cost-free command

## Step 4: Conduct a preliminary search

- Additional terms from the EXPAND search can be found using the CA Lexicon and other thesauri.
  - A Wizard is available to help with this in STN Express®
  - Use of thesauri is covered more fully in advanced STN workshops

## Step 5: Evaluate answers

- Once the search has been conducted, review the records to determine if the query retrieved the desired results
- No-cost display formats are useful in keyword searching to identify additional, database-specific terminology to enhance results

## Step 7: Display records

- Answers may be displayed in pre-defined formats or custom field displays
- DISPLAY command requires three pieces of information
  - Answer set L-number
  - Format
  - Answer number(s) to be displayed

```
=> DISPLAY L2 IBIB ABS 1 200
```



## Why Do a Structure Search?

Structure searching has distinct advantages

- Every chemical compound has a unique structure
- Locate Enantiomeric forms and isotopically labeled molecules of a base structure
- Locate Biologically active salt forms
- Broadly related groups of substances can contain a similar fragment
- Biological activity may be related to a particular substructure
- Polymeric materials will contain similar monomeric units

## Locating substance information

There are a number of ways to locate information about a chemical compound

- Chemical name
- Molecular formula
- Structure

## Structure Searchable Databases on STN

- A sample of structure searchable databases on STN include

| <b>This structure-searchable database</b>              | <b>Is useful when you have ...</b>   |
|--|--|
| REGISTRY   | Organics, inorganics, biochemicals or sequences  |
| BEILSTEIN  | Organic substances   |
| GMELIN97   | Inorganic substances   |
| WPINDEX, WPIDS, WPIX                                   | Selected structures from Sections B, C, and E of Derwent's World Patent Index (since 8/99) |
| MARPAT   | Markush structures from patent claims  |
| CASREACT,<br>CHEMINFORMRX,<br>DJSMONLINE, DRUGU,<br>PS | Organic reactions  |

## Basic Strategy for Structure Searching

**Locating substance information via structure searching is accomplished in 3 steps:**

- 1. Draw the structure using**
  - STN Express
  - STN on the Web

**2. Run the structure search in  
REGISTRY**

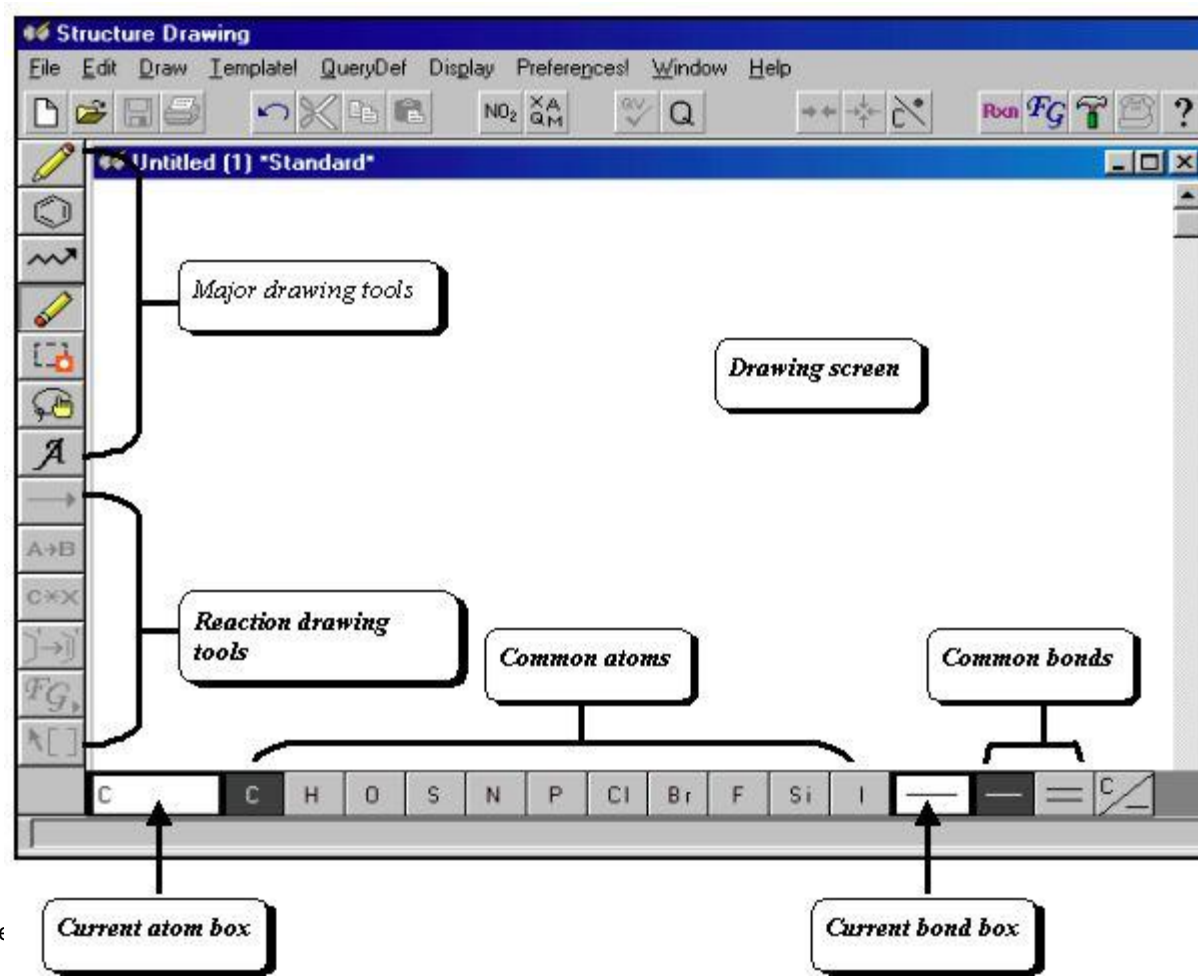
- Display structure matches to evaluate results
- Revise structure, if needed

**3. Locate references discussing  
the structures of interest**

# Overview

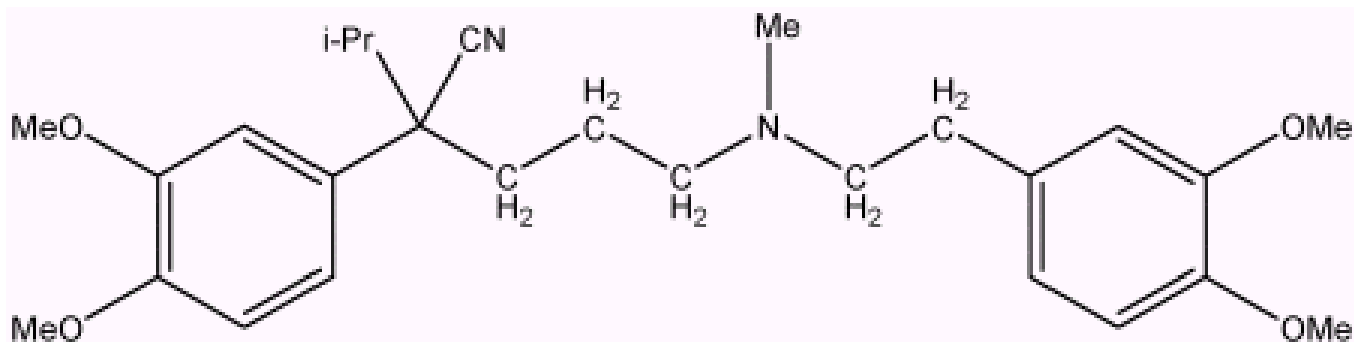
## Structure Drawing Screen Components

- The structure drawing screen has 7 main parts:



## Structure Searching for a Family of Structures

**Search Question:** *Locate references discussing the following substance, its salts, and any mixtures containing the substance:*



## Run a Sample Structure Search

- A **sample** (SAM) structure search searches a portion of the database
- It is a **no-cost** option that is used to evaluate the effectiveness of a structure search by
  - Testing the structure search to ensure it will run within system limits
  - Verifying that the types of answers retrieved are the types of answers desired

## Types of structure search

| To retrieve this type of substance match | Use this type of structure search: |               |                     |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
|  | Exact<br>EXA                       | Family<br>FAM | Substructure<br>SSS |
| <b>Exact substance</b>                   | ✓                                  | ✓             | ✓                   |
| <b>Stereoisomers</b>                     | ✓                                  | ✓             | ✓                   |
| <b>Isotopically labeled</b>              | ✓                                  | ✓             | ✓                   |
| <b>Salts</b>                             |                                    | ✓             | ✓                   |
| <b>Mixtures</b>                          |                                    | ✓             | ✓                   |
| <b>Substitution at open sites</b>        |                                    |               | ✓                   |

## Testing the structure search

### . Scope of the structure search

Sample (**SAM**) searches a fixed portion of the database to test the query

Full (**FULL**) searches the full database

=> **S L1 FAM SAM**

SAMPLE SEARCH INITIATED 11:45:03  
SAMPLE SCREEN SEARCH COMPLETED -

|                        |               |              |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 100.0% PROCESSED       | 22 ITERATIONS | 9 ANSWERS    |
| SEARCH TIME: 00.00.01  |               |              |
| FULL FILE PROJECTIONS: | ONLINE        | **COMPLETE** |
|                        | BATCH         | **COMPLETE** |
| PROJECTED ITERATIONS:  | 159 TO        | 721          |
| PROJECTED ANSWERS:     | 9 TO          | 360          |

L2                      9 SEA FAM SAM L1

*This search is projected to run to completion online within system limits.*

*Structure matches ("answers") are placed in an answer set that is given the next available L-number.*

## Verifying the answers

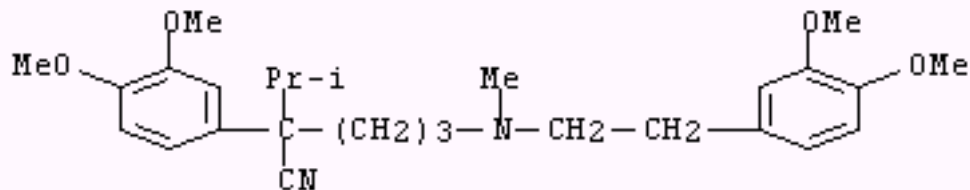
- The no-cost **D SCAN command** is used to evaluate structure search results
- D SCAN randomly selects an answer from the answer set and displays the CAS Index Name, molecular formula and structure

## Verifying the answers

=> **D SCAN**

*Structure matches are in line with the desired results.*

L2 9 ANSWERS REGISTRY COPYRIGHT 2006 ACS on STN  
 IN Benzeneacetonitrile,  $\alpha$ -[3-[[2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethyl]methylamino]propyl]-3,4-dimethoxy- $\alpha$ -(1-methylethyl)-, labeled with deuterium (9CI)  
 MF C27 H34 D4 N2 O4



HOW MANY MORE ANSWERS DO YOU WISH TO SCAN? (1) : **1**

*Specify here the number of additional answers you want to see.*

## Run a Full File Search

- A full file structure search searches the entire database

=> S L1 FAM FULL

FULL SEARCH INITIATED 11:45:27

FULL SCREEN SEARCH COMPLETED - 265 TO ITERATE

100.0% PROCESSED 265 ITERATIONS

77 ANSWERS

SEARCH TIME: 00.00.01

L3

77 SEA FAM FUL L1

*The results of a full file structure search are placed in a new answer set.*

## Run a Full File Search

- Option: Evaluate answers

### => D SCAN

L3 77 ANSWERS REGISTRY COPYRIGHT 2006 ACS on STN

IN Benzene-2,3,6-d3-acetonitrile,  $\alpha$ -[3-[[2-(4,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3,6-d3-ethyl]methylamino]propyl]-4,5-dimethoxy- $\alpha$ -(1-methylethyl)-, monohydrochloride, (S)- (9CI)

MF C27 H32 D6 N2 O4 . Cl H

Absolute stereochemistry.



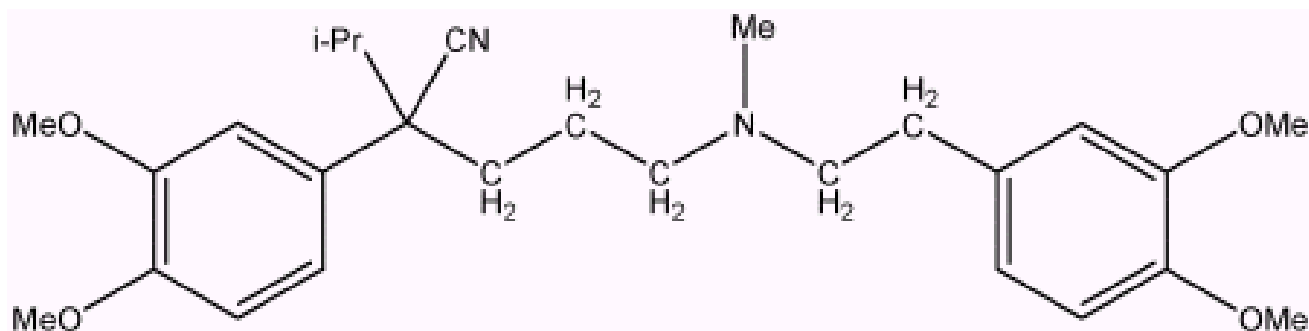
*An isotopically labeled salt.*

● HCl

HOW MANY MORE ANSWERS DO YOU WISH TO SCAN? (1): **1**

## Find Relevant References

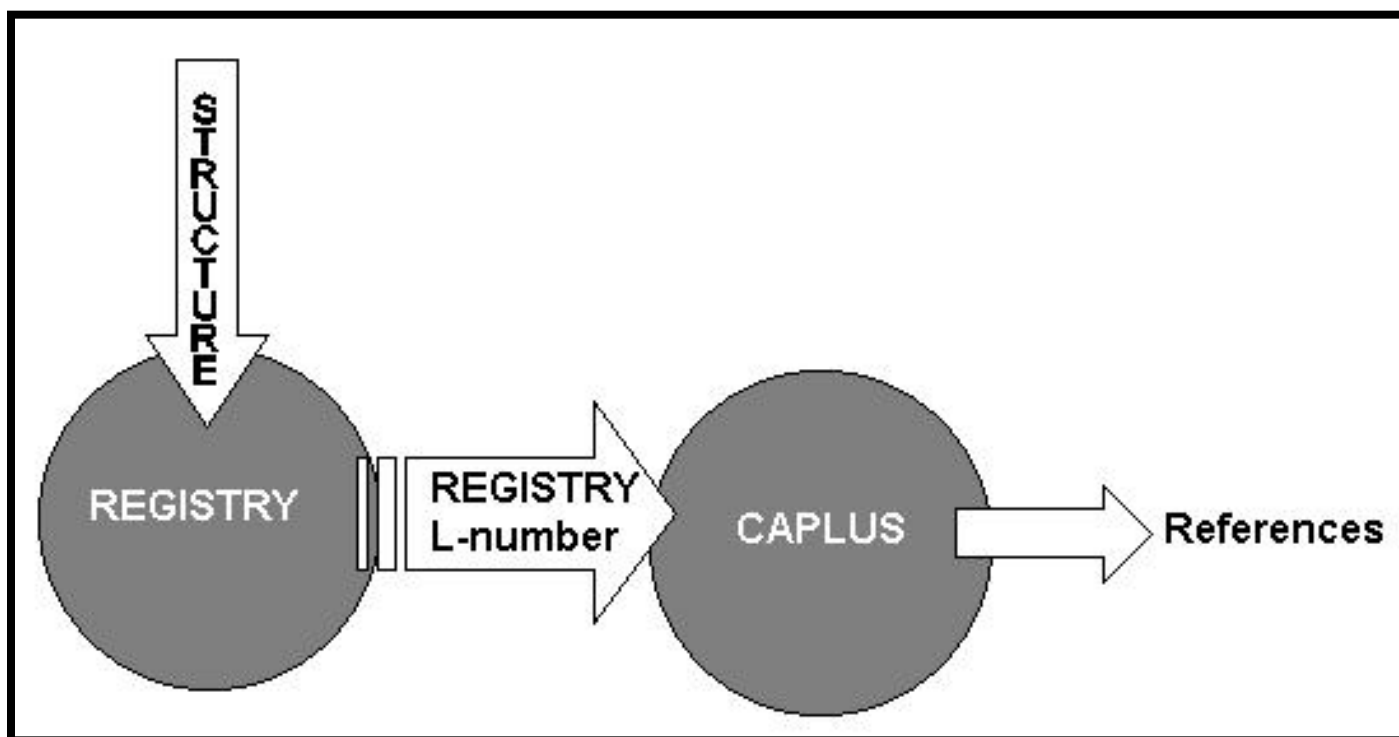
**Recall the Search Question . . .** Locate *references* discussing the following substance, its salts, and any mixtures containing the substance:



## Find Relevant References

- **REGISTRY** contains chemical substance information
- Bibliographic references and abstracts of papers discussing substances retrieved by a structure search are stored in the **CAplus** database
- The L-number generated in the full file structure search is the key to locating relevant references

## Find Relevant References



# Find Relevant References

## 1. Enter CAPLUS

=> **FILE CAPLUS**

FILE 'CAPLUS' ENTERED AT 14:21:04 ON 23 MAR 2006  
USE IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF YOUR STN CUSTOMER AGREEMENT.  
PLEASE SEE "HELP USAGETERMS" FOR DETAILS.  
COPYRIGHT (C) 2006 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)

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FILE COVERS 1907 - 23 Mar 2006 VOL 144 ISS 13  
FILE LAST UPDATED: 22 Mar 2006 (20060322/ED)

## Find Relevant References

### 2. Search the REGISTRY L-number

=> S L3

L4            10112 L3

## Find Relevant References

### 3. Evaluate results

=> D SCAN

L4 10112 ANSWERS CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2006 ACS on STN

CC 4-3 (Toxicology)

TI Expression and activity of a multixenobiotic resistance system in the Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*

ST multixenobiotic resistance system Pacific oyster; *Crassostrea* multixenobiotic resistance system

IT *Crassostrea gigas*

Development, nonmammalian postembryonic

Environmental pollution

Gill

(expression and activity of multixenobiotic resistance system in Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*)

IT P-glycoproteins

RL: BSU (Biological study, unclassified); BIOL (Biological study) (multixenobiotic resistance (MXR); expression and activity of multixenobiotic resistance system in Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*)

*(continued on next slide)*

## Find Relevant References

### 3. Evaluate results

IT Egg  
(oocyte; expression and activity of multixenobiotic resistance system in Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*)

IT 50-32-8, Benzo[a]pyrene, biological studies 52-53-9, Verapamil 1912-24-9, Atrazine 59865-13-3, Cyclosporin

RL: ADV (Adverse effect, including toxicity); BIOL (Biological study)  
(expression and activity of multixenobiotic resistance system in Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*)

HOW MANY MORE ANSWERS DO YOU WISH TO SCAN? (1):1

*This answer discusses the adverse effects of the compound.*

## Find Relevant References

### 3. Evaluate results

L4 10112 ANSWERS CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2006 ACS on STN  
 IC ICM C07C255-43  
 ICS C07C253-34  
 CC 25-20 (Benzene, Its Derivatives, and Condensed Benzenoid Compounds)  
 TI Optical resolution of verapamil  
 ST verapamil optical resolu  
 IT 56949-77-0  
 RL: RCT (Reactant); RACT (Reactant or  
 (optical resolu. of, method for)  
 IT 151079-03-7P 151079-04-8P  
 RL: RCT (Reactant); SPN (Synthetic preparation); PREP  
 (Preparation); RACT (Reactant or reagent)  
 (prepn. and decompn. of, in prepn. of verapamil enantiomer)  
 IT **36622-28-3P**, (S)-Verapamil hydrochloride **38176-02-2P**,  
 (R)-Verapamil hydrochloride  
 RL: SPN (Synthetic preparation); PREP (Preparation)  
 (prepn. of, method for)  
 HOW MANY MORE ANSWERS DO YOU WISH TO SCAN? (1): 0

*This answer discusses  
synthetic preparations.*

## STN is a unique partnership between two not-for-profit organizations to provide global access to the latest scientific discoveries

- Not-for-profit means that neither CAS nor FIZ Karlsruhe are driven by the monetary needs of shareholders
- Instead, both partners are wholly dedicated to serving the information needs of scientists

### CAS



### FIZ Karlsruhe

## Scientists and highly skilled IT technicians staff our STN Help Desks in North America, Europe, and Asia

“You won’t go wrong by contacting CAS folks. They are the most knowledgeable and most professional people that you can find out there. They will help you make the best decision for your needs.”

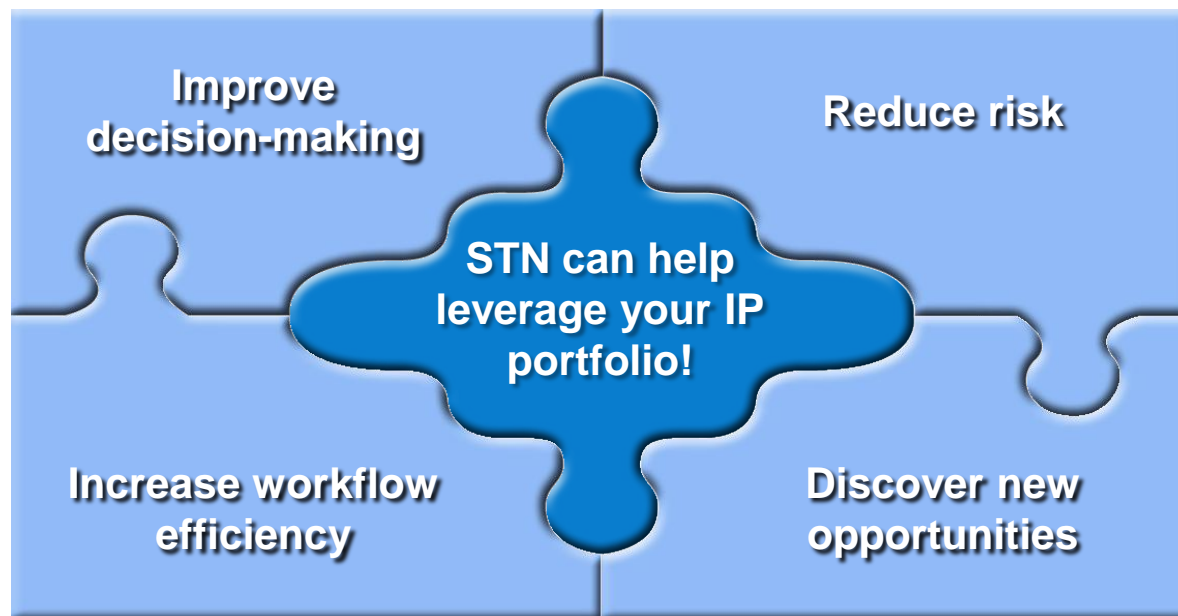
Rengin Konuk, Ph.D.  
Knowledge Specialist  
Ethicon, a J&J company  
CHMINF list posting



## STN has the right information for making business and project decisions

“STN offers all the important scientific databases we need. This allows comprehensive state-of-the-art searches on all our research topics.”

Dr. Bernhard Hostettler, Head of Intellectual Property Management,  
Prionics, Swiss Animal Health Diagnostic Company



The Value of

**STN**<sup>®</sup>

for Business and Research  
Decisions