

STN Express - Read Me
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STN Express, Version 8.4.2

Thank you for installing STN Express, Version 8.4.2. This document contains valuable information about installing STN Express, and lists of enhancements and fixes for this release and previous releases.

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Need more help?

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Before using STN Express, you may find it helpful to use the following documentation found at:

<http://www.cas.org/support/stnexp/index.html>

 o Getting Started

STN Express also includes a Help system.

Use the Help menu or press the F1 key.

Please call your local STN Help Desk if you would like further assistance, or if you have comments or suggestions about STN Express. Help Desk phone numbers and e-mail addresses are contained in the STN Express documentation.

What's New in STN Express, Version 8.4?

- o A new Patent Family Manager wizard that allows users to efficiently extract the first record from each patent family in an answer set and/or to create custom displays of patent families by choosing different display formats for the first and subsequent members of each family.
- o Enhancements to the process for creating tables and reports including:
 - ability to preview a table or report during the creation process
 - truncation options in term highlighting
 - streamlined process and improved usability throughout
- o Enhancements to table and report output including:
 - option to add a summary including multiple fields at the beginning of a report that serves as a table of contents for quick review and links to relevant data in the report
 - option to output tables, reports, and transcripts in PDF format
 - ability to easily add visible comments to a report
- o Search term command file creation enhanced to work with any desired field
- o A new option to create a separate Query Summary file of the entire search history, including structures, and output it to PDF or RTF
- o Structure drawing enhancement that allows multiple points of attachment on a fragment that is part of a G group
- o Faster image downloads for all image types
- o Context specific help added to the structure drawing tool
- o A new and recommended MSI installer is available as an alternative to the classic scripted installer

What was new in STN Express, Version 8.3?

- o A new installer makes STN Express easier to install and maintain by installing software, support, and user data files in the Windows-standard locations.
- o A new function of the Select Discover Wizard called "Create L# from STN AnaVist" allows a fully functional STN L# to be generated from answer sets imported from STN AnaVist. This will also allow these imported answers to be sent to STN Viewer.
- o Support files that control such things as details of STN databases, fields, lexicons, and thesauri will now be automatically updated upon session login. Users are advised to keep automatic updating turned on in order to have the most up to date details within their copies of the support files. Please contact your local STN Help Desk if you want to turn off automatic updating of support files.
- o The Select Discover Wizard window has a new streamlined look and feel:
 - The overall size of the window has been reduced to eliminate overlap with viewing the search session
 - The L# History Window has been expanded and scrollbars added to allow the search text to be visible.
 - Tabs have been added for [Search] and [Results] functions.
 - The option to [Hide] or [Show] these new tabs has been added.

- o Increased limits of structure drawing such as connection points.
- o Updated version of BLAST client.

Installation (Setup)

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The following information applies to single-user and multiuser on single computer installations. For more information about network, multiuser installations, see 'Installing STN Express on a Network Server' below.

Upgrading to STN Express, Version 8.4:

Applies to both the new MSI (v8_4msi.exe) [recommended] and the Classic (v8_4.exe) installers:

It is recommended that you install STN Express, Version 8.4, to the location suggested by the installer.

o Beginning with STN Express, Version 8.3, STN Express installs the program files to C:\Program Files\STN Express #.# (8.3, or 8.4).

o Files that are specific to, or created by, each User, will now be stored within each individual user's Personal Files folders

- "My Documents" on XP in an \STN Express #.# (8.3 or 8.4) folder.
- "Documents" on Vista in an \STN Express #.# (8.3 or 8.4) folder.

UPGRADING FROM STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.2 OR PRIOR VERSIONS:

Use v8_4.exe, the scripted installer. This installer has special logic to correctly update from STN Express 8.2 and earlier versions.

o All Express.ini files will be moved from the Windows folder to your user profile.

o Personal files, such as transcripts, user scripts, structure queries, and command files will be backed up in the prior version application folder, for example C:\stnexp\. They will be copied to the new locations in "STN Express 8.4". That is, within your User Profile\My Documents, when you first start STN Express 8.4.

o Versions 8.2 and earlier program files will be uninstalled from your computer when using the scripted installer. Any .ini files in C:\Windows will be deleted.

o If you have made changes to scripts that were supplied with older versions of STN Express, you should make backup copies and save them in a different folder and with a changed name before starting the update process. After installation completes you can compare the new and the old scripts and modify the new scripts if needed.

UPGRADING FROM STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.3:

o Use either installer.

o No changes will be made to your STN Express, Version 8.3 installation. The Program Files and your User Profile entries, My Documents or Documents (in Vista), will be left intact.

o If you edited the paths to your User Files [Transcripts, Queries, Uscripts or AnaVist] in STN Express 8.3, after starting STN Express, Version 8.4 for the first time, go to Prefs | General and edit the paths to match those that you set for STN Express 8.3. For example, if you are using folders on a mapped drive, e.g. Z:\stnexp\transcripts\ in STN Express 8.3, you will need to edit the Transcripts: path for STN Express 8.4 after starting STN Express 8.4 for the first time. This is needed ONLY if you wish to continue use of the same folders and paths used for STN Express 8.3. STN Express 8.4 will create new folders for User Files in your \My Documents\STN Express 8.4\ folder.

o STN Express, version 8.4 will install into new \STN Express 8.4 folders.

o Setups (connections to STN or other database vendors) will be copied into a new express.ini in your My Documents\STN Express 8.4\express.ini file.

o To remove STN Express, Version 8.3 from your computer, use the STN Express Uninstall link or use Control Panel | Add or Remove Programs.

Windows Folder Permissions:

The installers must be run with Administrator permissions.

It might be necessary for a Windows Administrator to install STN Express for you.

The installer needs to be able to copy files to the "\Program Files" folder.

Prior to STN Express, Version 8.3, STN Express stored logon setups and preferences in .INI files in the C:\Windows folder. This is no longer the case and the *.ini files are now created within an "\STN Express #.#" folder within the user's Personal Files, e.g.

C:\Documents and Settings\username\My Documents\STN Express 8.4\

The STN Express .INI files are:

EXPRESS.INI
STNACCT.INI
STNEDIT.INI
STNOCC.INI
STNPSI.INI
STNCONNECT.INI
STNTERM.INI

The STN Express Folders are:

\ANAVIST
\DATA
\MMS
\QUERIES
\TRNSCRPT
\USCRIPTS

Installation Steps:

To install STN Express:

o Close all possible programs, you must close any prior version of STN Express and you must close Excel. Installing after a reboot is not mandatory but it is preferable.

o Install from STN License and Download site:

- Download either v8_4msi.exe [Recommended] or v8_4.exe
- v8_4msi.exe [Recommended installer] - Double-click v8_4msi.exe to start the install.
Follow the prompts.
- v8_4.exe - Double-click to start the installer. Follow the prompts.

o Install from CD:

You should be presented with a choice to run the MSI installer [Recommended] or the classic scripted installer. Use the recommended MSI for new installations or for upgrading from STN Express, Version 8.3. Use the Scripted installer for upgrading from STN Express, Version 8.2 or earlier or if you are more comfortable with this "classic" installer. If the CD does not auto-run, navigate to the CD top directory level and run "launcher.exe".

We strongly recommend that you accept the default installation path. Follow the prompts to complete the installation. Although not mandatory, rebooting after installation is recommended.

See the "Getting Started" guide online for further installation details. Note that some virus protection software significantly increases installation time of STN Express and that STN Express has many small text files. Consider disabling your virus protection software if this becomes a problem. STN Express software has been virus tested and the installers are digitally signed.

Uninstalling STN Express

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To uninstall STN Express, go to Add/Remove Programs in your Control Panel. Choose STN Express from the list of programs and click Add/Remove. Only those files created by the installation program will be removed.

Alternatively pick "Uninstall" from the start menu. All files will be removed as the parent folder gets deleted in a non-networked installation. i.e., all user installs within their profiles will be removed, as will program files. Uninstall must be run as administrator.

** Valuable user files should be backed up before uninstalling. **

Installing STN Express on a Network Server

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The Setup program for STN Express offers special features for network installations. The following steps outline the procedures for Network Server and Network Client installations.

For upgrading from an earlier version, install the software and documentation using the process described below and notify users to run either the MSI installer or SETUP.EXE from the server to complete the update on each client PC.

Features and Limitations of installation

STN Express, the application and the Setup program, support the Universal Naming Convention (UNC) standard, e.g., \\SERVER\STNEXP. If mapped drive letters are used instead, the network share containing the STN Express applications must be mapped to the same drive letter each time the drive is mapped by the client PC. This is because the EXPRESS.INI file, stored on the client PC, contains specific path references to the server. Use of UNC is highly recommended.

If STN Express V4, V5, V6, V7 or V8 is currently installed on a network server, users must run either the MSI client installer or the client setup.exe from the server to copy over new files in STN Express, Version 8.4 to the client PCs after the server has been updated to STN Express 8.4.

Important: Prior client versions should be uninstalled before updating the client PCs to STN Express, Version 8.4

If you use the scripted installer, the setup program creates a control file on the server for Network Client installations. This control file, SETUP.INF, contains detailed information for creating the network user's STN Express environment.

Installing on a Network Server

To install the software on your server, first create a shared folder for STN Express 8.4

Then run either:

- o v8_4msi.exe /a [Recommended MSI installer]
- o v8_4.exe | SETUP.EXE - Network Server from the classic installer

Using the MSI Installer (v8_4msi.exe) [Recommended]

o v8_4msi.exe /a will run the Administrative Installer mode.

Running from a command line with /a switch causes Windows Installer to run in a special 'administrative' install mode, whereby an uncompressed image of the STN Express files and a mini-client MSI installer are placed in an administrative server share.

This mini-msi is not digitally signed because it is created "on-the-fly" during the administrative install. The network share should be visible to the network client machines.

Running the installer in this mode does not cause any changes to the system or Registry or cause any of the pre-install system requirements tests to be run.

A server install type will be identified on a splash screen. When prompted for a path, you may use the Browse button to navigate to the shared folder or use UNC such as, \\SERVER\STNEXP.

The server installer

1. Builds the STN Express folder structure.
2. Installs BLAST(R) and MMS (for use by the client installer).
3. Creates the mini-msi in the installation folder.
This program should be run by users to perform client installs.
4. Does not create a Start Menu item.

Using the Classic Installer (setup.exe)

o v8_4.exe | SETUP.EXE - from the classic installer

Choose the Network Server option from the Setup Type section of the Install STN Express Setup dialog box.

Next, select Setup Options:

Software - install the STN Express, Version 8.4 software on the server.

Install software for BLAST(R) and MMS

Start Menu Item - Not available for server installations.

Click 'Install STN Express' to continue.

Enter the appropriate server folder; for example: \\SERVER\STNEXP. It's best to specify a network path for this folder even if you are at the server and the folder is on a local drive because users will not have to type the path to the server when performing the client install. Specify the target folder into which STN Express will be installed; SETUP does not create a folder for the software within the folder you specify.

The server installer

1. Builds the STN Express folder structure.
2. Optionally installs BLAST and MMS (for use by the client installer).
3. Creates SETUP.EXE in the installation folder.
This program should be run by users to perform client installs.
4. Does not create a Start Menu item.

It is recommended that all files residing on the server be write-protected.

Upgrading Users to STN Express, Version 8.4

If you currently have clients running older versions than STN Express, Version 8.3, from the server,

1. Have each user uninstall the older client.
2. Each user must run either:
 - a. the mini-msi installer from the server or
 - b. the SETUP.EXE program from the server.

to update their local, client installations. The choice of a. or b. will depend on which server type installation you performed - MSI (v8_4msi.exe) or Scripted (v8_4.exe)

It is recommended that all files residing on the server be write-protected.

Changes to SETUP.INF (Classic Installer)

After the Network Server installation is complete, you may need to modify the contents of the setup control file for user installations. To do this, edit the file SETUP.INF located in the STN Express folder on the server.

The following sections should be verified. Help is contained in SETUP.INF.

[server] - Verify that the ServerSourceFolder= line contains the proper network path to the STN Express folder on the server. This lets the client installer locate the server installation. If the path will not be consistent across all client PCs (e.g., different clients use different drive letters), use a UNC name or leave the keyword with no value ("ServerSourceFolder=").

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This line CANNOT end with \ (the backslash), e.g., "I:\". This will cause problems with the STNCONNECT.EXE application.
Instead, use "I:".
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Network Client (Classic Installer)

Each user of STN Express should run SETUP.EXE from the STN Express installation on the server. Simply select the Network Client option from the Setup Type section of the Setup dialog box.

Depending on how the Server installation was done and whether SETUP.INF was modified, a text box contains the path of the server's STN Express folder. If the box is blank or the path is incorrect, type the correct path or use the browse function to locate the folder. The SETUP.EXE program located on the CD-ROM may be used instead of the server's SETUP.EXE, but the path to the server installation must be typed into the text box.

Click 'Install STN Express' Type the local location of the STN Express folder (C:\Program Files\STNEXP). Enter the appropriate storage location on the local PC in the following dialog box. The Setup program will then build the local STN Express environment. Any errors during the installation indicate that the Setup program cannot find the STN Express folder on the server. Please verify the path.

The client installer will create the local STNEXP folder structure with uninstall.inf, setup.log and uninstall.exe

Suppressing Automatic Notifications and Updates
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Automatic updating of significant support files that control such things as details of STN Files, fields, lexicons, and thesauri was added to STN Express, Version 8.3 and carried over to STN Express, Version 8.4. Users are advised to keep automatic updating turned on in order to have the most up to date details within their copies of the support files.

Automatic updating can be turned off during installation by de-selecting the preference for automatic updates or by a setting in Preferences - Other tab after installation is completed.

The following method started in 6.0b release will still apply and will allow system administrators to turn off update and upgrade notifications.

It is possible, starting with maintenance release 6.0b, to suppress the automatic notifications for new maintenance releases or the Discover! Database list (discover.fil file).

To disable software upgrade version notification, add a line to the [STNTERM] section of the STNTERM.INI file found in the "STN Express 8.4" Personal Files folder that looks like this: DisableSWUpgrades=1

To disable discover.fil change notification, add a line to the [STNTERM] section of the STNTERM.INI file that looks like this: DisableFileUpgrades=1

To change back to the default setting, either change the 1 (one) to a 0 (zero) or delete the line(s) entirely.

Manual Updates with Email Notifications

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The default in STN Express is to automatically detect available updates and, when available, download and update support files. If you or your IT staff has disabled automatic updating, you have two methods to manually update support files.

Please go to the License and Download site for more information about the current support file changes and the manual methods to install them:

<https://casweb.cas.org/stnexpress/html/english/login.html>

Known Issues

o Tables (*.tbl files) and Reports (*.rep files) created in newer versions of STN Express may be unusable in older versions of STN Express.

o For transcripts, tables and reports: When abbreviations are expanded such that they force a new line, the indentation may not be consistent with the original lines.

o For transcripts, tables and reports: Hit terms without leading blanks (start of line) are not highlighted.

o For transcripts, tables and reports: Abbreviation expansion fails when a standard CAS-abbreviated term is both highlighted AND at the beginning or end of a line.

o Apparent Patent Number links can appear for numbers that are clearly not patents.

o If the STN Online and Results application (STNTERM.EXE) is closed while BLAST(r) is running, the BLAST application will also terminate. Restart BLAST to reconnect to any processes or searches that are running.

o Certain tabular STN displays that do not have clear field tags and are left justified are not supported by the table and report functions. Notable formats include the CBIB and delimited (DALL, DBIB, etc.) formats and tabular formats from DRUGPAT, e.g., CCTAB, COTAB, CYTAB, and IDETAB.

o Transcripts captured in RTF format that contain structures are problematic when the "Hit Structure" preference is turned on. It is recommended to turn off the preference of "Hit Structure" when capturing transcripts to RTF format. This problem is especially true for STN File MARPAT.

o There is currently no preference to automatically launch your browser when saving reports or tables as HTML.

o Transcripts in .trn format do not print in color, although reports and tables will. To print a transcript in color, save it as an RTF file. Microsoft Word can then be used to print the transcript in color or black & white.

o Certain CAPLUS patent records that contain no family information (<0.5% of all patent records) do not highlight hit terms in the Patent Information (PI) field in the same way as other patent records, i.e., instead of displaying an arrow to the right of the line containing the hit term, they highlight the actual term with a color change or bolding depending on your settings. Reports and tables that contain the PI field from such records, if hit-term highlighting is on, will display incorrect highlighting and some incorrect data formatting. In some cases, the STN Online application may quit. If you encounter this situation, either turn highlighting off in the report or table tool or redo the transcript with highlighting turned off online. If you encounter this problem in Predefined Reports, you should either turn off highlighting when capturing your transcript, edit the transcript to remove highlighting before creating your predefined report, or save your predefined report as RTF and edit the report to fix highlighting. Improvement is expected in the future.

o Table Autofit does the best job it can depending on the type of data you are working with and your page set-up requirements. The data from certain fields, mostly the Patent Information field, display in STN as a table and the table tool is forced to put a table within a cell. In all cases, you can adjust column widths simply by putting your cursor over the column line and dragging it to the desired position. Also, if you have too many columns for the width of your page, try reducing the margins and/or the font size if you can't reduce the number of fields.

o When doing an R-Group Analysis, sometimes the application is not able to determine the largest common structure and will display the message "The common substructure could not be determined". This can happen when you let the application determine it. In some cases it can happen even if you use the original structure query.

o R-group tables that appear to hang or not load properly may be corrected by adding the value "RingDropout=2000" to the stnpsi.ini file located in "STN Express 8.3" within your Personal Files folder. This value should be added without quotes after the [PSI] section of this file.

o It is possible that an uploaded protein sequence file that contains a special character (such as an asterisk or question mark to note a gap or repeat of residues) followed by a carriage control can be truncated. Therefore, it is imperative to verify the accuracy of the sequence upload file.

o When using the table and report tools for post-processing of STN results, it is important to always verify that all requested answers and fields were included in the generated table or report. Changes to individual databases or fields as well as system changes occurring after the release of the current STN Express version can occasionally cause answers or fields to be unknowingly excluded from the report or table.

- o While trying to establish a connection using SSL-VPN, the Session Manager contains the following warning message - "Cannot read Internet Settings windows registry key. Please talk to your system administrator." This warning will be presented if an automatic configuration script is used to identify the proxy server for Web browsers. The SSL-VPN Session Manager does not support configuration scripts.
- o The BLAST software items installed with STN Express use Java JRE 1.6.0 from early 2007 due to backward compatibility issues.
- o Newer "dot-dot" strings do not DISPLAY in their expanded form. For example ".acte.e".

Fixes in STN Express, Version 8.4.2, January 2010

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Improvements for Patents:

1. Added "Get Legal Status" ability to STN Files USPATFULL and USPAT2. (P2141090)
2. Fixed Patent Family Mgr patent extraction not to require "SET RENUM OFF". (P2138822)
3. Added TECH DISPLAY format of WPINDEX to Patent Family Mgr. (P2138059)

Improvements in Tables and Reports (T-R):

1. Fixed garbled Greek characters (P2138582)
2. Fixed T-R preview to accurately tell user what format is used. (Portrait/Landscape) (P2142633)
3. Fixed T-R not to lose Summary section when saving T-R to RTF file or using "Save Marked Answer". (P2138517)
4. Fixed T-R not to corrupt 1st column when it contains a graphic and saving to RTF File. (P2139657)
5. Fixed RTF transcripts created by STOW to have all fields allowed into T-R. (P2138950, P2141045)
6. Fixed T-R when saving to PDF to improve structure appearance and keep in their cells. (P2139357, P2139107)

Improvements in Transcripts and RTF:

1. Removed maximum length of full path name of transcripts, structure queries and other user files. (P2139172, P2139182, P2139317)
2. Fixed RTF files to allow opening via MS Word. (P2140129, P2140129, P2141058)
3. Fixed STN Express used under Vista to be able to save to PDF. (P2139554)

4. Fixed Preference of "Wrap Abstracts" to generate a valid RTF from TRN.
(P2140400, P2140935)

5. Fixed missing alignment data of "BLAST Report with Alignment data" when saving to RTF. (P2138378)

Improvements in Create Query Summary:

1. Fixed Create Query Summary to include D HIST data when "SET LCOST FULL" is on.
(P2139285)

2. Fixed Create Query Summary to ensure D COST is not included. (P2141889)

Miscellaneous Improvements:

1. Increased inactivity time before warning about Logoff from 15 to 35 minutes to support the new STN timeout limit of 40 minutes. (P2137904)

Fixes in STN Express, Version 8.4, May 2009
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Improvements in Tables and Reports:

1. Fixed full text links in tables. (P2128425)

2. Fixed template creation not to lose data. (P2062396)

3. Fixed cover page creation not to blow away STNTERM.EXE (P2125063)

4. Fixed surnames not to be recognized as separate fields. (P2124741)

5. Fixed IP patent numbers to appear in PN rather than in PK Kind Code column of tables. (P2118513)

6. Improved speed of generating Tables-Reports. (P2127050)

7. Added "Uncheck all" button to Answer selection window. (P2124423)

8. Added Comment field to reports like there was for tables. (P2082067)

Improvements in Transcripts:

1. Fixed highlighting from "install dictionary" to be preserved in RTF export.
(P2068045)

Improvements in Structure Searching:

1. Fixed exact ring bond changes to Exact/Norm when G-group added to different ring. (P2128321)

2. Fixed copy and paste in structure drawing to transfer repeating groups.
(P2129047)

Miscellaneous Improvements:

1. Fixed SET RENUM ON to work with Create L# from STN AnaVist Wizard. (P2126085)
2. Removed out of date Pssfiles folder. (P2129646)

Fixes in STN Express, Version 8.3, February 2008
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Improvements in Tables and Reports:

1. Fixed highlighting of patent info to not crash tables. (P2104362, P2115466)
2. Improved tables containing graphics. (P2113936)
3. Improved limiting of answers in content section of tables. (P2105744)
4. Fixed tables created from rtf transcripts to not repeat Japanese characters.
(P2114307)
5. Fixed IP patent numbers to appear in PN rather than in PK Kind Code column of
tables. (P2118513)
6. Include ED field in R-Group Analysis Tables. (P2117738)
7. Fixed crash when selecting XSS while making a BLAST report. (P2091236)

Improvements in Transcripts:

1. Fixed run away highlighting in transcripts. (P2115482)
2. Fixed full-text links to work when clicked in rtf transcripts. (P2115500)

Miscellaneous Improvements:

1. Added "Prepare Command File" icon to the main tool bar. (P2112563)
2. Added a tooltip with the icon name near the cursor When "mousing over" a button
or icon. (P2072393)