Cooperative Patent Classification Searching on STN®: Overview and Recent Developments

In 2013, the Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) replaced the ECLA (European classification system) and subsequently, the NCL (U.S. patent classification) system. While the ECLA and NCL systems are no longer in use, STN maintains these codes for existing records. CPC classifications are searched by patent examiners and information professionals to find prior art. One advantage of the CPC system is that it provides a higher level of granularity that the IPC (International Patent Classification code) system.

Value-added patent databases and full-text patent files in STN include CPC codes for new records and have added CPC classifications to backfile records. For more information please click here.

A Look at Recent Patenting Activity in Self-Healing Polymers

patentpicks

Inspired by the way a small cut in a person's skin heals itself, polymer chemists would like to engineer materials that fix themselves when damaged. Researchers have been trying various strategies to bring these materials to life: embedding them into polymer's microcapsules that release repair agents when cut and designing polymers that expose chemically reactive bonds when scratched, to name a few. All their efforts are reflected in the increasing number of patents on self-healing polymers filed in CAS databases. Click here for more information on some of the recent patents in this area.

An Overview of the Extended Patent Family Table on New STN

SCIENCE IP®
The CAS Search Service

A unique feature of new STN is the ability to create Extended Patent Family Tables for patents of interest. These Extended Patent Family tables provide a wealth of information from multiple patent sources and allow you to navigate via hyperlinks to the records in STN databases, saving you time and effort.

This article provides an overview of the main features of the Extended Patent Family tables available in new STN, focusing on their **Accuracy**, **Ease of Creation**, **Exportability** and **Flexibility**.

CAS Celebrates World Intellectual Property Day

A celebration of World Intellectual Property Day 2015: Innovation at the Intersection of Chemistry and Music

In the year 2000, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) designated April 26 as World Intellectual Property (IP) Day. Each year in April, events are held in more than 100 countries across the globe to increase general understanding of intellectual property and how it impacts people's daily lives.

In celebration of this year's World IP Day theme "Get up, Stand up. For Music", here is a look at some recent patents covering innovations at the intersection of chemistry and music. These patents were found in CAplus[SM], an integrated database produced by Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) that includes more than 41 million references covering chemistry and related sciences in the broadest sense.

Database News

USPATFULL/USPAT2 Now Include Corporate Patent Applicant Information

Effective April 12, 2015, the USPATFULL and USPAT2 databases on classic STN include new fields for corporate patent applicant information, generated from new data now being supplied by the USPTO.

The key new fields are:

- USPA (Corporate Patent Applicant Name, for U.S. patent applications only). Available for SEARCH, EXPAND, SELECT, SORT and DISPLAY. Custom displays of the USPA field bill to BIB
- PASS (Corporate Patent Applicant/Patent Assignee Super Search field) – Simultaneously searches the USPA and PA search fields. Available for SEARCH and EXPAND

When available, the USPA field is included in the following predefined display formats:

- BIB (BIB.EX, IBIB, IBIB.EX, SBIB, CBIB)

STN® by the numbers

The CPC Thesaurus in STN currently contains

221,401

unique CPC codes at the subclass level (e.g., A61K) and below. Use CPC classification codes to add specificity to your searching!

Search Tip

Q. *While trying to draw a substance with a multivalent atom (in the case below, Sulfur), I got a message about exceeding the valency of an atom. What should I do?*

- STD (STD.EX, ISTD)
- FP (FP.EX, FPALL, FPBIB)
- ALL (IALL,DALL)
- MAX (MAX.EX, IMAX, IMAX.EX)

USPA data is included in all relevant backfile records. The inclusion of PA (Patent Assignee) and USPA information varies:

- Some U.S. patent application records have the USPA field only
- Others have the PA field only
- Some have neither the USPA nor the PA fields
- Still others have both fields

When the company name information is identical in the USPA and PA fields, only the PA field displays.While the PA field concludes with a classification of the patent assignee, e.g., non-U.S. corporation, this type of data is not available for the USPA field.

Customers searching company information in the PA field should strongly consider updating their strategies to use the PASS Super Search field instead. Alert strategies also should be updated to ensure comprehensive retrieval.

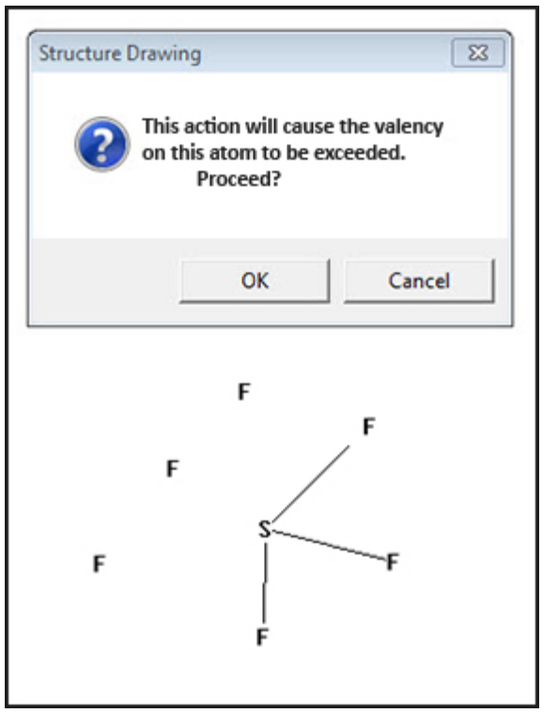
The USPATFULL and USPAT2 Database Summary Sheets, as well as relevant HELP messages, have been updated to reflect the new fields.

GBFULL Updates Improve the Quality of Full-Text British Patents on STN

The GBFULL versions on both classic STN and new STN are being enhanced with better quality full-text, created with better quality OCR software. Updating began on April 24, 2015, and is expected to continue through the beginning of June 2015. Several updates will be processed per week, each one with a new update date (/UP). Approximately 400,000 to 450,000 records will be updated per week. The updates will start with the earliest documents from 1945 and proceed to publication year 2014. Documents with publication year 2015 were already processed with the new OCR software, so there is no need to update them.

CAS Coverage of Malaysian Patents Extended

The coverage of Malaysian patents in CAplus was recently extended to include publication



A. Click on OK to proceed with drawing your structure. Many elements have a standard valency, but others have multiple valencies. For example, sulfur can have a valency of two, four or six. The STN structure drawing tool has built-in chemical intelligence that automatically generates an alert message when standard minimum valency is exceeded. This alert does not affect your ability to search structures including atoms with non-standard valencies.

Upcoming Training

May 7, 2015
9:00 am - 3:00 pm EDT
STN Patent Forum at the PIUG Annual Meeting
Register

May 26, 2015
1:00 pm EDT
Extended Patent Families on STN

May 28, 2015
9:00 am EDT
Patent Searching in new STN

Register for all of the training classes here.

year 2008. Over 150 additional basic patents were added as a result of this coverage expansion.

Tradeshows

May 2-7, 2015
Chicago, IL
PIUG 2015 Annual Conference

June 14-16
Boston, MA
SLA 2015

June 15-18
Philadelphia, PA
BIO International