

## Dialog® Patent Search Basics Quick Reference Card

A patent is a property right in which a government entity will keep others from practicing an invention for a set amount of time. A list of patent databases available on Dialog appears on page 3.

Command	Function	Example
begin or b	Specifies the database(s) to be searched. A combination of file numbers and OneSearch® categories (PATFULL, PATENTS, PATCITES) can be used.	b 345,351 b patents not 348 b patents, eng (to search all patent and engineering files simultaneously)
expand or e	Verifies the spelling or format of a term, shows a list of alphabetically similar entries, and displays field terms. After using <b>expand</b> , <b>select</b> appropriate e-numbers to create a set. Always <b>expand</b> on Patent Assignee (PA=) and Author/Inventor (AU=) names.	e au=macus b e pa=genzyme
select or s select steps or ss	Sets criteria for determining records in the databases that contain the term(s) and stores those matching records in a set. When <b>ss</b> (select steps) is used, each search term is retrieved in a separate set so that it is easier to combine parts of the search in subsequent sets.	ss toxicity or poisoning s s1 and s2 and s3 s s1/2009 s e4:e12 or e18
type or t set#/format#/items	Displays the designated search results. If no range is specified, only the first record will display. If no set number is specified, the last set created will be used. Can use words instead of format numbers, or field display codes, such as ti (title), instead of, or in addition to, format numbers. Use "k" or "KWIC," to display keyword-in-context.	t s1/6,k/all t s7/full/1,3,5-9 t s7/ti,cm/1-5,7 t s3/8/1-2 from each (when in more than one database)
save temp	Saves the search strategy temporarily for seven days at no charge. If desired, give the search a name (1 to 30 characters) for easier recall. If no name is specified, the system assigns a name.	save temp save temp hemo (saves temporary SearchSave "hemo")
execute steps or exs or execute or ex ()	Executes a saved search in the designated database(s). Default is the last search saved, while still online. To execute a prior search, include the search name. Using <b>exs</b> recreates sets based on the original search, and using <b>ex</b> creates a single set for all of the saved search terms.	exs exs hemo ex hemo
display sets or ds	Displays the sets previously created. May also be used with the <b>from</b> command to see which files contain hits in a OneSearch.	ds ds from each
remove duplicates or rd	Removes duplicate records from a multifile search in non-patent databases.	rd
idpat	Identifies patent duplicates in a multifile patent search and provides a menu option to create a subset of primary and non-duplicate records.	idpat (then follow menu)

BOOLEAN OPERATORS	
Connector	Function
and	Use <b>and</b> to retrieve all records that contain all of the search terms. s borosilicate and glass
or	Use <b>or</b> to search for synonyms. s paint or coating
not	Use <b>not</b> to eliminate a search concept, a set number, etc. s helmet not bicycle

PROXIMITY CONNECTORS	
Connector	Function
(w) ( )	Requires that search terms be adjacent to one another and appear in the order designated. <b>Note:</b> ( ) is the same as (w) .s optic (w) fiber or s optic ( ) fiber retrieves optic fiber only.
(n) (#n)	Requires that the search terms be adjacent but in any order: s optic? (n) fiber? retrieves fiber optics or optical fiber. s coating (3n) vehicle picks up coating material for motor vehicle, or vehicle top clear coating, etc.
(#w) or (#n)	Allows up to the specified number of words to appear between search terms. Word order is controlled by the (n) or (w) operator. s internet(3n) phone
(s)	Requires that search terms be in the same sub-field unit. In fulltext files, requires that the terms be in the same paragraph: s bicycle (s) helmet

## Truncation (?)

- A "?" allows any number of characters following the designated stem: s lemon? would retrieve lemon, lemonade, etc.
- To control truncation length, use multiple question marks to specify how many characters may follow the stem: s electric?? would retrieve electrical, but not electricity.
- For plurals use a space between question marks: s method? ? to retrieve method or methods, but not methodic or methodology.
- For internal variations, use a question mark for each character: s l?mon would retrieve limon or lemon.

## Patent Searching Tips

### Keyword Searching

Search Type	Explanation	Examples
Title	Limit search to title field only with /TI suffix.	s purine(w)nucleoside/ti
Abstract	Limit search to abstract field only with /AB suffix.	s acid(3n)fume?/ab
Claims	Limit search to claims field only with /CM suffix.	s bone()compound/cm
Descriptors	Limit search to descriptor terms with /DE suffix	s artificial(w)intelligence/de

### Searching Application and Patent Numbers

Application Number (AN=)	Search application ("filing" or "serial") numbers using the Application Number (AN=) prefix. Use /PR to limit to priority application numbers. Search US provisional application numbers using the series 60-.	s an=us 23435 s an= US 60-512001 (provisional) s an=ep 20072501117 s an=fr 20034230/pr
Patent / Publication Number (PN=)	Search patent or publication numbers (including utility model patent numbers) using the Patent Number (PN=) prefix. In the CLAIMS/US Patents (340) and US Patents Fulltext (654), use /MP to limit search to the main patent number. In INPADOC (345) and <i>Derwent WPI</i> (351), use /PB to limit the search to the first publication of the patent.	s pn=us 20070012356 s pn=us 5000000/mp s pn=ep 1976341 s pn=wo 2008012318 s pn=wo 2004087718/pb
Design Patents / Industrial Designs	US design patents are searchable on Dialog in Files 123, 340, 654, and 345. Industrial designs for countries other than the US, however, are not available on Dialog.	s pn=us d400008 s pn=us d580125

### Searching Inventors, Owners and Legal Representatives

Inventors	EXPAND on the inventor's surname using the Author/Inventor (AU=) prefix.	e au=frawley m e au=camire alex
Assignments	EXPAND assignee/owner names using the Patent Assignee (PA=) prefix in all patent files. In File 351, use the four-letter Patent Assignee Code (CK=) to search all variations of a company name.	e pa=radio systems e pa=medtronic e ck=medt
Reassignments	EXPAND assignee/owner names in reassignment transactions using the New Patent Assignee (RA=) prefix in Files 123, 654 and 345.	e ra=radio systems e ra=medtronic
Legal Representatives	EXPAND the representative name using the Legal Representative (LR=) prefix. Try it more than one way.	e lr=dorsey & whitney e lr=goldizen, b; e lr=goldizen b

### Searching by Classification Codes

IPC Codes	Search International Patent Classification (IPC) Codes using the IC= prefix.	s ic=a61n-0001/372 s ic=a61n-0001 s ic=a61n
ECLA Codes	Search European (ECLA) Patent Classification Codes using the EC= prefix. For best results, EXPAND the code to view the list; use quote marks around the full code.	s ec="g01b-011/06c10" s ec=g01b-011 s ec=g01b
National Patent Classification Codes	Search national patent classification codes using the CL= prefix.	S cl=424063000
Derwent Class Codes	Search Derwent Classification Codes (DC=) in <i>Derwent World Patents Index</i> (File 351)	s dc=b02

### Limiting by Date Ranges

Application Dates	Application date ranges include Application Year (AY=), Application Month (AM=), or Application Date (AD=). Use /PR to limit to the priority filing date.	s s1 and ad=20080101:20080612 s s1 and ay=2000:2005/pr
Publication Dates	Publication/granting date ranges include Publication Year (PY=), Publication Month (PM=), or Publication Date (PD=). In Files 345 and 351, use /PB to limit dates to the basic patent in the family.	s s1 and pm=200707:200712 s s1 and py=2005:2009 s s1 and py=2006/pb

### Limiting by Country

Application Country	Use the Application Country (AC=) prefix to limit a search to countries in which an application was filed. Use /PR to limit to priority application countries.	s s1 and ac=(jp or cn or kr) s s1 and ac=(de or fr or ca)/pr
Patent Country	Use the Patent Country (PC=) prefix to limit a search to countries in which a patent application has been published or granted. Use /PB to limit the search to the country in which the patent was first published.	s s1 and pc=(jp or cn or kr) s s1 and pc=(de or fr or ca)/pb

## Patent File Selection Guide

Database (File #)	Coverage	File Content
INPADOC/Family and Legal Status (File 345)	1850+	Patent family data for over 62 million patents issued by 80 patent authorities. Includes a patent table with country, number, kind code and date for each patent in the family. The bibliographic data consists of patent title in one or more languages, patent assignee and inventors, International Patent Classification (IPC) codes including IPCR/8 reclassification, European Classification (ECLA) codes, and national classification codes. Legal Status actions are provided for 39 countries. Abstracts and cited references are available in most records. Use <b>HELP KIND 345</b> for explanation of kind codes.
<i>Derwent World Patents Index®</i> (File 351, 352) <sup>1</sup> Japanese customers only	1963+ Pharmaceuticals 1965+ Agrochemicals 1966+ Polymers & Plastic 1970+ All Chemicals 1974+ All Technologies No design/plant patents	<i>DWPI</i> provides access to information from more than 30 million patent documents from 41 patent-issuing authorities. Patent data are now organized into two sections: <b>Invention Level</b> data and <b>Member Level</b> data. Invention Level data are the unique, Derwent value-added enhanced title, abstract, and patent family data previously available. Member Level data include details from original patent filings in different countries or granting authorities, including: patent titles and abstracts in original filing language(s), inventor full name and address, original Assignee name and address, original US classification assigned by the USPTO, main claim from USPTO patents, legal representative/agent name and address, and language of original patent document. Use <b>HELP KIND 351</b> for explanation of kind codes.
<i>Derwent World Patents Index First View<sup>SM</sup></i> (File 331)	Rolling companion file to <i>Derwent WPI</i> (File 351)	Faster alerting companion file with complete coverage of all patent documents from 41 patent-issuing authorities, enhanced bibliographic data, differentiation between new patents (basic patents) and recent additions to patent families. Original titles, abstracts and technical drawings for major patenting authorities.
WIPO/PCT Patents Fulltext (File 349)	1978+	Fulltext coverage of PCT published applications available approximately 5-7 days after publication. Records contain the complete text of the specification and claims in the original filing language for English, French, German or Spanish patents.
European Patents Fulltext (File 348)	1978+ Bibliographic data 1986+ Fulltext of published applications (A docs.) 1991+ Fulltext of granted patents (B docs.)	Complete text of EPO published applications ("A" documents), EPO granted patents ("B" documents), and PCT applications filed at the EPO. About 50–60% of documents are in English (remainder in French or German). Legal status and search report data are part of the fulltext record. Strengths include one-stop shopping for EPO and PCT documents; additional text provides broader search capabilities. PCT → EPO transfers are bibliographic only.
German Patents Fulltext (File 324)	1967+	Fulltext coverage of all German published applications ("A" documents), granted patents ("B" and "C" documents), and utility models ("U" documents). Bibliographic data for all patents from 1967 forward. From 1980, the abstract, text of the specification, and the claims are provided in German. Machine-generated English translations are available between 1980-2007.
JAPIO—Patent Abstracts of Japan (File 347)	10/1976+	Bibliographic citations and abstracts for Japanese unexamined patent applications (KOKAI). Strengths include English language abstract with a priority filing in Japan; most patent records have abstracts. Images also available.
U.S. Patents Fulltext (Files 654,652) <i>B PATFULL starts both files.</i>	File 654 (1976-present) File 652 (1971-1975 Selective coverage)	Fulltext coverage of U.S. utility, design and plant patents. Complete text is provided with clipped images. Post-issuance legal status data is included in records for granted patents. Strengths include timeliness, superior indexing, and legal status data incorporated into granted patent records. Fulltext of pre-grant published applications included separately from granted patent record.
CLAIMS®/U.S. Patents (File 340)	1950+ Chemical patents 1963+ All other utility patents 1976+ Design & plant patents	U.S. patent coverage includes bibliographic citations and exemplary claim, and from 1971-present also includes abstract and all non-exemplary claims. Utility, plant and design patents are included. Published pre-grant applications and issued patents based on the same application number are combined into a single merged record. Probable Assignee data is generated for pre-grant published applications and business method patents are indexed from 1998–present. Also includes calculated expiration dates, annual reload of U.S. class codes, IPCR/8 reclassifications back to 1950, and CAS registry numbers.
CLAIMS®/Current Patent Legal Status (File 123)	1980+	Includes the most current U.S. post issuance legal status data available for granted U.S. patents. Provides data on certificates of correction, reassignments, reexaminations, extensions, expirations, reinstatements, reissue requests, adverse decisions and disclaimers/dedications.
LitAlert® (File 670)	1973+	Contains records for patent and trademark infringement lawsuits filed in the 94 U.S. District Courts, and reported to the Commissioner of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Also included are records for thousands of lawsuits filed since the early 1970s that have never been reported in the <i>Official Gazette</i> .

Summary Patent Database Chart	Abstracts	Claims	Fulltext	Images	Family Data	Legal Status	Litigation	Cited Patents/Refs	Citing Patents	CAS Reg. No.
INPADOC/Family and Legal Status (File 345)	X				X	X		X		
Derwent World Patents Index (File 351, 352 <sup>1</sup> )	X	X		X	X					
Derwent World Patents First View (File 331)	X	X		X	X					
WIPO/PCT Patents Fulltext (File 349)	X	X	X	X		X				
European Patents Fulltext (File 348)	X	X	X			X		X		
German Patents Fulltext (File 324)	X	X	X	X						
JAPIO—Patent Abstracts of Japan (File 347)	X			X						
U.S. Patents Fulltext (Files 654, 652)	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Claims/U.S. Patents (File 340)	X	X						X		X
Claims/Current Patent Legal Status (File 123)						X				
LitAlert (File 670)							X			
Patents Citation Index <sup>2</sup> (File 342)					X			X	X	
IMS Patent Focus <sup>3</sup> (File 447, 947 <sup>3</sup> )	X					X				X
EI EnCompassPat <sup>TM3</sup> (File 353)	X									X

<sup>1</sup>Japanese customers only

<sup>2</sup>Subscriber access

<sup>3</sup>Not shown on Page 3

## Post-Issuance Legal Status Information

Legal Status Changes by Category and Database	File 345	File 349	File 348	File 123	Files 654,652	File 670	File 447
<b>Changes to the patent:</b>							
Certificates of correction	X	X	X	X			
Requests for reexaminations	X			X			
Reexamination certificates	X			X	X		
Reissued patents	X			X	X		
<b>Changes to the patent term:</b>							
Expirations, fee non-payment	X		X	X	X		
Extensions	X		X	X	X		X
Reinstatements	X		X	X	X		
Disclaimers	X			X			
<b>Changes in ownership:</b>							
Reassignments	X		X	X	X		
Security interests	X			X	X		
Dedications	X			X			
<b>Challenges to patent rights:</b>							
Adverse decisions in interference proceedings	X			X			
Infringement lawsuits						X	

### Patent Country Codes

Kind Codes HELP KIND 345 / HELP KIND 351

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