BIOTECHNICA: Professional Online Databases in Biotechnology

3.4 million biosequences from patent documents: DGENE and PCTGEN files allow homology searching/ new full-text patent databases/ from literature references directly to full-texts / FIZ Karlsruhe at BIOTECHNICA 2003 Hannover, stand no. A40, hall 3

NEW PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Hannover/Karlsruhe, October 2003 - On the occasion of the BIOTECHNICA exhibit to be held from 7-9 October 2003 in Hannover/Germany, FIZ Karlsruhe is pleased to present its offering of sci-tech online databases in the fields of biotechnology and patent information, made accessible worldwide via STN International (The Scientific and Technical Information Network). With its portfolio of more than 220 databases containing over 400 million documents from all areas of science and technology, including important patent information, STN International is the worldwide leader in the field.

Research in biotechnology is booming, and specialists in information science and information technology compile and structure this knowledge in sophisticated databases which, in turn, are made available to the scientific community as effective information sources. One of the most remarkable knowledge tanks of this kind is the DGENE biotechnology and patents database offered via STN International. DGENE (Derwent Geneseq file) contains more than 3.4 million biosequences from international patent documents. A highly developed database, it provides in no time identical sequences of the approximately 1 million amino acid and over 2.1 million nucleic acid sequences and, equally importantly, also offers similarity searching. The brand new database PCTGEN (World Patent Application Biosequences) is jointly produced by FIZ Karlsruhe and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and was released in February. It contains information on more than 1.5 million nucleic acid and protein sequences from patent applications submitted by WIPO from August 2001 to date. Similarity (homology) searching is available as well. The
from August 2001 to date. Similarity (homology) searching is available as well. The GENBANK database contains information on more than 21 million nucleic acid sequences. The BIOTECHABS and BIOTECHNO databases cover worldwide literature on all aspects of biotechnology, from genetic manipulation through biochemical engineering and fermentation, to downstream processing, from basic research to applications in industry.

Biotechnological information provided by STN International includes subjects such as the application of biotechnology in agriculture, biopolymers, environment, laboratory technology, fermentation, food production, genetic engineering, medicine, pharmacy as well as related business information. Its wide range of databases in biotechnology comprises, e.g.:

- **BIOBUSINESS** - Business aspects of life sciences
- **BIOCOMMERCE** - Commercial aspects of biotechnology
- **BIOSIS** - The world's largest and most comprehensive database in biosciences
- **CA/Chemical Abstracts** - Worldwide literature in all areas of biochemistry, chemistry and chemical engineering
- **CEABA-VTB** - International literature in chemical engineering and biotechnology
- **CROPU** - All aspects of pesticides incl. their use in crop protection and pest control
- **ESBIOBASE** - Worldwide literature in biology / biosciences
- **REGISTRY** - Chemical substances and structures

29 databases containing exclusively patent information provide access to patent applications and granted patents from national and international patent offices of the 42 most important industrial nations worldwide. Additionally, trademark databases are available.

Novelties:

- FIZ Karlsruhe's new database PATDPAFULL provides online access to the full texts of almost one million German patents and utility models published by the German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA), thus complementing the already existing range of full text databases containing data from the European and U.S. patent offices and the WIPO.
- Highly interesting is the new, worldwide unique full-text database RDISCLOSURE. It is the electronic version of the defensive publication journal Research Disclosure which for over 40 years has held an unrivalled place as the primary rapid-disclosure mechanism for companies and individual inventors wishing to place their research findings in the public domain. At the time of publication, the inventions are not patent-protected and thus can be used for product development by everyone. The Database RDISCLOSURE covers descriptions of inventions from all areas of science and technology, i.e. all classes of the IPC. Up to now (May 2003), 27,000 individual publications from 1960 to the present have been recorded.

In addition to the entire bibliographical information of the original articles, records contain abstracts, classifications, keywords, indexing terms etc. Users can order the electronic full-texts of the documents of interest via links to the document delivery services which are part of the STN Full-Text Solution (e.g. Chemport / FIZ AutoDoc). If the text is electronically available with one of the cooperating suppliers, it can directly be accessed online. Print copies can be ordered for delivery by fax or by mail.

On STN International, scientists and researchers, information and patent specialists, as well as corporate decision-makers are provided with fast and effective online access to current and reliable information from all fields of science and technology.
STN online databases can be accessed via commercial data networks, e.g. Datex-P, BT Concert X.25 via academic networks, and via the internet. STN Easy (http://stneasy.fiz-karlsruhe.de) is a convenient web service for novice users, while STN on the Web (http://stnweb.fiz-karlsruhe.de) offers a powerful search interface for advanced database users.

For further information, please contact: FIZ Karlsruhe, STN Europe, P.O. Box 2465, 76012 Karlsruhe, Germany, Phone: +49-7247/808-555, Fax: +49-7247/808-259, E-mail: helpdesk@fiz-karlsruhe.de

http://www.stn-international.de

A non-profit scientific service institution, FIZ Karlsruhe produces and markets scientific and technical information services in print and electronic form worldwide. Its main business area is the world's premier online service for science and technology databases, STN International (The Scientific & Technical Information Network), jointly operated by FIZ Karlsruhe, Germany; Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS), Columbus OH, USA; and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Tokyo. STN International offers access to bibliographic, numerical, factual and full-text databases from all fields of science and technology, among them the world's largest and most important patent files. At present, STN's comprehensive product range encompasses more than 220 databases with approx. 400 million documents.

In cooperation with national and international institutions, FIZ Karlsruhe produces databases in the fields of energy, nuclear research and technology, mathematics, crystallography, plastics, computer science, and physics. In addition, FIZ Karlsruhe's search service performs online searches for enterprises and institutions involved in R&D activities. FIZ Karlsruhe is a member of the Wissenschaftsgemeinschaft Gottfried W. Leibniz (WGL) e.V., an association of non-academic scientific research and service institutions sponsored by the German Federal Government and the Federal States.

Paesi

Germany

Contributore

Contributo di:
FIZ Karlsruhe
Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1
76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen
Germany

Sito web

Contatti:
Rudiger Mack
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