

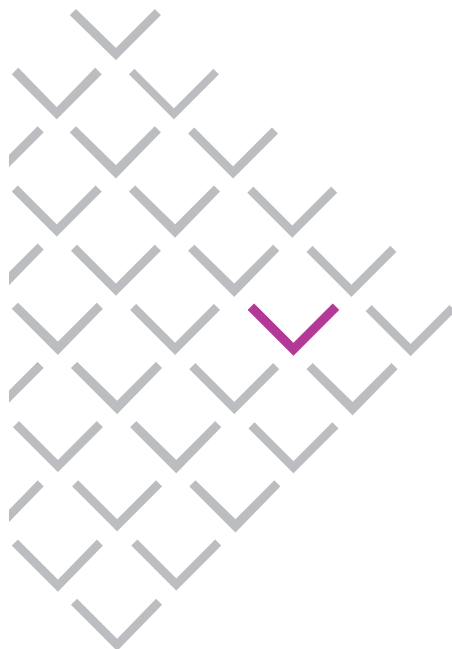


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# STNNotes

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No. 2



In response to customer requests for more detailed information on new and enhanced system features, we have created STNotes. STNotes gives you the in-depth technical details you need for efficient use of STN. We hope you find this information useful. Please let us know how we can continue to improve in meeting your technical information needs.

## FAMILY SEARCH and FAMILY SORT

**Save time, money,  
and effort with two  
new commands that  
make your multifele  
patent searching  
on STN easier, faster,  
more efficient, and  
comprehensive.**

**Two new commands,  
FSORT (Family  
SORT) and FSEARCH  
(Family SEARCH)  
give you powerful  
tools that simplify  
your patent searching.**

### **More smart and powerful tools for patent searches**

With the FSORT command you can automatically sort the results of patent searches into families.

With the FSEARCH command you can automatically search for and sort patent family members from multiple files. Here are some details.

Just enter your command and unleash the power of STN to work for you. The system automatically and quickly executes all the steps and shows them to you. There is no charge for either FSORT or FSEARCH commands. However, search term fees are charged in files that have them.

See the details in the following annotated examples. The commands you enter are highlighted in boldface. All other steps are automatically performed by the system.

With FSORT, you can group patent records by invention, i.e., you can sort records into patent families. These records may be retrieved from a single file or multiple databases. They may be patents filed in different countries or they may represent divisions or continuations of patents.



# FSORT to Group Patents by Invention

FSORT works in any one or more of the files currently included in the PATENTS or HPATENTS cluster. Enter DISPLAY CLUSTER PATENT (or HPATENT) at the arrow prompt to see the list of files included in the cluster.

Enter FSORT followed by any L-number answer set that includes at least one patent reference. FSORT creates an L-number and displays a list of patent families and the corresponding answer numbers of each family.

The system sorts patent documents into families using patent and application numbers. Two patent records are considered to be members of the same family if any of their patent numbers, application numbers, or priority numbers are the same.

The order of records in the resulting L-number is:

1. All patent families, followed by individual patents not belonging to any of the families, followed by non-patent records.
2. The order of the patent families is determined by the order in which a record from the family was first encountered in the original L-number.
3. Records within a given patent family appear in the same relative order in which they appeared in the original L-number.
4. Individual patent records and non-patent records appear in the same relative order in which they appeared in the original L-number.

An L-number created by FSORT may be used in the DISPLAY, DUPLICATE, FSEARCH, FSORT, ORDER, PRINT, SAVE, SELECT, AND SORT commands.

## FSORT example

```
=> FILE IFIPAT HCA WPINDEX
=> S PROSTAT? AND MERCK/PA
      .
      .
      .
TOTAL FOR ALL FILES
L4      111 PROSTAT? AND MERCK/PA

=> DUP REM 14

L5      107 DUP REM L4 (4 DUPLICATES REMOVED)

=> FSORT 15

SET SMARTSELECT ON
SET HIGHLIGHTING OFF

SEL L5 1- PN,APPS
L6      SEL L5 1- PN APPS :      454 TERMS
'L6' DELETED

L6      107 FSO L5
          35 Patent Families      Answers 1-90
          Family 1                Answers 1-2
          .
          .
          Family 35                Answers 88-90
          17 Individual Patents    Answers 91-107
          0 Non-patent records

SET SMARTSELECT OFF
SET HIGHLIGHTING DEF

=> D TI PI 88-90

L7      ANSWER 88 OF 107 IFIPAT COPYRIGHT 1994 IFI
          FAMILY 35
TI      METHOD AND AGENT FOR THE IMMUNOLOGICAL
          DETERMINATION OF ENZYMES; ANTIBODIES,
          ISOELECTRIC POINTS
PI      US 4366242 821228 (CITED IN 007 LATER
          PATENTS)

L7      ANSWER 89 OF 107 CA COPYRIGHT 1994 ACS
          FAMILY 35
TI      Method and agent for the immunological
          determination of enzymes
PI      DE 2952478 810730

L7      ANSWER 90 OF 107 COPYRIGHT 1994 DERWENT
          INFORMATION LTD FAMILY 35
TI      Quantitative immunological determination
          of enzymes in fluids - by incubating with
          enzyme-specific immobilised antibodies and
          measuring residual enzymatic activity of
          enzyme-antibody complex.
PI      EP 32204 A 810722 (8131)* DE 20 pp
          R: AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI NL SE
```

Enter the desired set of files and perform your search.

Remove duplicates. (optional step)

Enter FSORT and the L-number of the answer set to be sorted.

The system automatically selects patent and application numbers from each answer, automatically sorts the answers, places them in a new answer set, and displays a list of patent families and the answer numbers for each family.

DISPLAY of the members of family 35 shows each file covered a different member.

# FSEARCH to Find and SORT Patent Families

FSEARCH is a new command that gathers into one answer set all records that cover the same invention. FSEARCH finds all the patent family members resulting from a search in one or more patent-containing files.

To use the command, first enter the patent file or files. Any of the files currently included in the PATENTS or HPATENTS clusters may be used. The order in which you enter the files determines the order in which the final set of answers is sorted within each family.

Then enter FSEARCH followed by search terms such as patent numbers, application numbers, any E-numbers or an L-number resulting from QUERY, SEARCH, SELECT, DUPLICATE, SORT, or FSORT.

The system automatically performs all the steps necessary to find and group patent documents from the same family:

- execution of the search in all the specified files
- collection of all family members by extracting patent numbers and application numbers from the answers and searching those extracted terms in the current files. This process is repeated until the search results of two consecutive iterations give the same number of answers.
- arrangement of the final set of answers into families by automatically executing FSORT.

You can use the final answer set with the DISPLAY, PRINT, SELECT, SORT, SAVE, and ORDER commands.

```
=> FILE USPATFULL HCA WPINDEX

=> FSEARCH EP262334/PN

SEA EP262334/PN
FILE `USPATFULL`
L1          0 EP262334/PN

FILE `HCA`
L2          0 EP262334/PN

FILE `WPINDEX`
L3          1 EP262334/PN
              (EP262334/PN)

TOTAL FOR ALL FILES
L4          1 EP262334/PN

FSE
*** ITERATION 1 ***

SET SMARTSELECT ON
SET COMMAND COMPLETED

SET HIGHLIGHTING OFF
SET COMMAND COMPLETED

SEL L4 1- PN,APPS
L5          SEL L4 1- PN APPS :      15 TERMS

SEA L5

FILE `USPATFULL`
L6          1 L5

FILE `HCA`
L7          1 L5

FILE `WPINDEX`
L8          1 L5

TOTAL FOR ALL FILES
L9          3 L5
```

Enter the desired set of files to be searched.

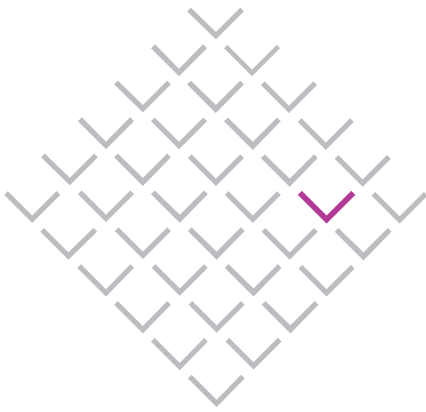
Enter FSEARCH and the search term.

STN first automatically searches the files to produce an answer set.

FSEARCH automatically begins the family collection process.

The patent and application numbers are selected from L4 and collected in L5.

The selected patent and application numbers are searched in the current files to find additional family members.



```
*** ITERATION 2 ***
.
.
.
TOTAL FOR ALL FILES
L9          3 L5

FSORT L9
L10         3 FSO L9

                1 Patent Family      Answers 1-3
                0 Individual Patents
                0 Non-patent Records

SET SMARTSELECT OFF
SET COMMAND COMPLETED

SET HIGHLIGHTING DEF
SET COMMAND COMPLETED

=> D TI PI 1-3

L10 ANSWER 1 OF 3 USPATFULL1 FAMILY 1
TI   Therapeutic treatment of
     leukotriene-mediated dermal
     inflammation by topical administration
     of 3,4-dihydro-2H-1-benzopyran
     derivatives
PI   US4885309 891205

L10 ANSWER 2 OF 3 HCA COPYRIGHT 1994 ACS
     FAMILY 1
TI   Benzopyran derivatives as antiinflammatory
     agents
PI   JP63041474 A2 880222 Showa

L10 ANSWER 3 OF 3 COPYRIGHT 1994 DERWENT
     INFORMATION LTD FAMILY 1
TI   3,4-Di hydro-2H-1-benzopyran-2-
     carboxylic acid derivs. - used as
     antiinflammatory agents in the topical
     therapeutic treatment of
     leukotriene-mediated dermal
     inflammations.
PI   AU8776566 A 880204 (8813)* 31 pp
     JP63041474 A 880222 (8813)
     EP-262334 A 880406 (8814) DE

.
.
.
```

Patent and application numbers are selected again. Interim L-numbers are deleted. Selected patent and application numbers are automatically searched again in the current files.

FSEARCH stops when the number of answers is the same as in the previous iteration.

FSORT is run automatically to group the answers by invention.