

# STN Express<sup>®</sup>, Version 8.4

## WINDOWS<sup>™</sup> ARCHITECTURE AND INSTALLERS.

### [LINK TO TECHNICAL SUPPORT ON THE WEB](#)

The software architecture of STN Express<sup>®</sup> 8.4 follows the changes originated in STN Express 8.3. Both versions follow Microsoft suggested software practices for current Windows<sup>™</sup> operating systems.

STN Express 8.4 introduces a choice of installers –

- **Windows Microsoft Installer<sup>™</sup> (v8\_4msi.exe) [recommended]**  
Note: the MSI installer will be delivered in an executable shell file, v8\_4msi.exe, that enables several pre-install options and starts the MSI.
- **The classic scripted installer (v8\_4.exe).**

The installers are Microsoft<sup>®</sup> Windows XP<sup>™</sup> and Windows Vista<sup>™</sup> operating system compliant and the default installed locations of the STN Express, Version 8.4 files and folders comply with Microsoft<sup>®</sup> Windows<sup>™</sup> software design “best practices”.

## STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.4 SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE:

### ❖ Program Files are located in C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\

- Files that are essential to run the STN Express program are located in C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\. Multiple versions of STN Express (8.3 or newer) may be installed on one computer using separate version folders:
  - C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\
  - C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.3\  
Examples using the default installation paths.
- Sub-Folders of C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\ are:
  - Jre: Contains all of the required Java Runtime Environment files.
  - Scripts: STN Express script files that, generally, are read only.
  - Template: Contains predefined template files.

### ❖ Master Template files are created in:

C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\STN Express 8.4\

that will contain one file, uninstal.inf and one folder \DefaultUser.

Master Template Files allow for multiple users on a single computer to have individually customized user files in their own user profiles.

- Version specific folders are used so that multiple versions of STN Express may be installed on individual computers.
- The DefaultUser folder contains a template file for express.ini, the file that will contain paths to your User Folders and Files and your host setup files and stnterm.ini, a file that will contain your customizations of your online experience.
- Folders that will be sub-folders of \STN Express 8.4\DefaultUser\ are:
  - AnaVist: A place holder for files to and from STN AnaVist<sup>®</sup>.
  - Data: Data files that may be updated automatically by STN Express.
  - MMS: Merged Markush files.
  - Queries: Default save location for your structure query files.

- Trnsrpt: Default save location for your transcript and report files.
- Uscripts: For any user created or modified scripts.

❖ **User file locations:**

For each individual user on the PC, copies of the master folders and files will be placed in each **User Profile** location during the **first use** of STN Express 8.4. For example, with the login "Oliver":

- Windows 2000 or XP:  
C:\Documents and Settings\Oliver\My Documents\STN Express 8.4\
- Windows Vista:  
C:\Users\Oliver\Documents\STN Express 8.4\

❖ No files are placed into the C:\Windows or C:\WINNT folders.

## UPDATING FROM PRIOR STN EXPRESS VERSIONS:

### STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.2 OR EARLIER:

STN Express 8.4 architecture is a significant change from STN Express 8.2 and earlier versions. STN Express 8.2 and earlier placed almost all files in the STN Express application folder (typically C:\stnexp\) except for a few critical system files placed in C:\Windows\, e.g. express.ini and stnterm.ini.

Please note that the MSI and the scripted installers have different behaviors when encountering STN Express 8.2 or prior versions. Both will move prior version *user files* into the *user file* locations in STN Express 8.4.

- The MSI installer will not uninstall the prior version. The STN Express uninstall shortcut may be used to remove prior versions, after STN Express 8.4 has been installed and after you have launched STN Express 8.4 once to create your user files.
- The scripted installer will uninstall the program files of STN Express 8.2 or earlier and remove STN Express related \*.ini files from C:\Windows.

Details are in the STN Express, Version 8.4 Installers section.

### STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.3:

STN Express 8.3 and STN Express 8.4 share the same architecture. Both follow Microsoft suggested software practices for current Windows operating systems and security.

Beginning with STN Express 8.3, parallel installations are possible. You may have both STN Express 8.3 and STN Express 8.4 installed "side-by-side" on your computer. Normally, only the most recent version should be retained on a system; however, support staff may wish to have multiple versions available. Running versions simultaneously is not recommended.

*User Files* and *setups* from STN Express 8.3 will be copied into the STN Express 8.4 user file location.

## STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.4 INSTALLERS:

### MSI INSTALLER: (v8\_4MSI.EXE) [RECOMMENDED]:

#### SINGLE USER INSTALL:

The executable wrapper file and the MSI installer for STN Express 8.4, contained within, are digitally signed using a VeriSign® code signing certificate registered to The American Chemical Society. The executable program files are also digitally signed.

The installation end results are identical to the classic scripted installer provided with this and prior releases. Primarily, an MSI installer appeals to companies that “repackage” installers or publish them to Active Directory; however, individuals may use the MSI installer. You might be more familiar with the MSI installer screens and interactions since this installer type is widely used with software for Windows systems.

- ❖ The installer will not over-install STN Express 8.3 or prior versions.
- ❖ The installer does not perform any uninstall of prior versions.
- ❖ The Windows MSI installer should be run under a domain administrator login, a local administrator login or a login that is part of the local Administrators group.
  - Windows XP®: If you are in a Domain, group policy may block running an MSI installer under a User Login. On privately owned computers, that is not usually an issue. RunAs may be used to start the executable shell file and the elevated permissions will be passed to the contained MSI installer.
  - Windows Vista® operating system may allow the MSI installer to start under a USER login, but it will not complete without an administrator login in the UAC pop-up. RunAs may be used to start the executable shell file and the elevated permissions will be passed to the contained MSI installer.
  - If you do not have administrator level permissions, a warning dialog will display and the installation will terminate (roll-back) before making any system changes. This feature should prevent incomplete installs.
- ❖ We very strongly recommend that you accept “C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\” for your installation path.
- ❖ Selecting the Custom installation type will give you several options, including the option to block automatic file updates after installation completes. More information is in the **Automatic File Updates** section.
- ❖ The first time that you run STN Express 8.4 after the installation,
  - Any existing connection setups will be copied to your new express.ini file.
  - Transcripts, Queries and other **User Files** will be copied into your \My Documents\STN Express 8.4\ folder.

#### NETWORKED INSTALL:

The MSI shell file may be run from a command line to create a Network Server install. The syntax is v8\_4msi.exe /a The /a switch (Administrator install) will be passed to the contained MSI installer so that:

- A network server install is created
- An MSI client installer is dynamically created.

The MSI client installer is not digitally signed because it is created during the installation process. More details are in the Readme.txt file.

## **SCRIPTED INSTALLER: (v8\_4.EXE)**

### **SINGLE USER INSTALL:**

The scripted installer for STN Express 8.4 is digitally signed using a VeriSign® code signing certificate registered to The American Chemical Society. The executable program files are also digitally signed.

The look and feel of the installer has not significantly changed from prior versions.

- ❖ WinZip® Pro self-extractor, a 32-bit program continues to be the first part of the installer. Running the v8\_4.exe file will extract files to a temporary folder and then start the main installer, setup.exe.
- ❖ The STN Express 8.4 installation program will check to see if your system login grants you local or domain administrator permissions on Windows® operating systems. (Note: Windows Vista® operating system UAC [User Account Control] does not permit program installation by non-administrators) If you do not have administrator level permissions, a warning dialog will display and the installation will terminate before making any system changes. This feature should prevent incomplete installs.
- ❖ We very strongly recommend that you accept "C:\Program Files\STN Express 8.4\" for your installation path.
- ❖ There is an option to disable automatic file update upon completion of the installation. More information is in the **Automatic File Updates** section.
- ❖ The installer will **not** over-write a prior STN Express 8.3 install. Rather, a new "parallel" STN Express 8.4 installation will be created. Files and data from the STN Express 8.3 version will not be erased until you uninstall that version.
- ❖ If you are upgrading from STN Express 8.2 or earlier, the program will detect STN Express 8.2 or older. If detected, User Files, such as transcripts, queries, etc will be backed up in the STN Express application folder and copied into new locations in My Documents for STN Express 8.4.
  - **Windows 2000 and XP:**  
C:\Documents and Settings\username\My Documents\STN Express 8.4\
  - **Windows Vista:**  
C:\Users\username\Documents\STN Express 8.4\
  - After completion of the STN Express 8.4 install, the older version program files will be uninstalled and any STN Express related \*.ini in C:\Windows will be removed.

### **NETWORKED INSTALL:**

A network server install may be selected from the **Setup Options** screen in the scripted installer. The server files will be installed to a shared folder and the client installer, SETUP.EXE, will be installed. Client installs are performed from the client computer by connecting to the network share and running setup.exe. More complete instructions for this type of install may be found in the README.TXT file present in the application folder.

## **STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.4 - AUTOMATIC FILE UPDATES:**

The STN database files may be updated several times between STN Express software releases to add value to your STN International searches because new files may be added to STN, existing files may have new data fields, the STN thesaurus may be

improved, and, occasionally, a file may be retired. All of those types of change are communicated to STN Express 8.4 via **Automatic File Updates**.

Automatic File Update is enabled by default. At the end of the installation process, and when STN Express 8.4 starts, a standard Microsoft application is used to send a query to: <http://www.cas.org/support/stnexp/tsupp/autoupdate/>, using the standard HTTP port 80. If newer support files are available, then the automatic update process starts. Depending on the speed of the computer, the bandwidth (speed) of your Internet connection, and the size of the files to be updated, the process may take from 15 seconds to several minutes.

Automatic update might be blocked by your company firewall or proxy servers. In that case, STN Express 8.4 will present an information window. Some companies use Internet bandwidth allocation servers that could make the auto-update slower than other web processes, or other factors might make the process unacceptably slow for you. Auto-update was used in STN Express 8.3. If you encountered problems with auto-update in that version, you may wish to turn off auto-update within the installation program. If auto-update is disabled during installation, then it will be disabled within the STN Express 8.4 program preferences. Auto-update may be enabled or disabled after installation using the Preferences tool.

#### **Disabling auto-update in the install process:**

- MSI installer: (v8\_4msi.exe) [recommended installer]
  - Start the installer.
  - Choose the Custom installation type in the **Setup Type** screen.
  - Uncheck the box labeled "Enable Automatic Updating"
  - Note that there is an information icon – the blue **i** – that provides information to help make the choice.
  - Complete the installation.
- Scripted installer: (v8\_4.exe)
  - Start the installer.
  - Proceed to the **Setup Option** window.
  - Uncheck the box labeled "Enable Automatic Updating"
  - Note that there is an information icon – the blue **i** – that provides information to help make the choice.
  - Complete the installation.

#### **ENABLING AUTO-UPDATE IN STN EXPRESS, VERSION 8.4:**

- Start STN Express 8.4.
  - Click on the **Prefs** button in the main toolbar.
  - Choose **STN Online and Results** from the drop-down menu.
  - Choose the **Other** tab.
  - **Uncheck** the option "Shut off automatic updating of support files".
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