STN® Quick Reference Card

Basic STN commands

STN has two versions of command language:

- NOVICE (at least the first four letters of the command) - You are prompted for all information necessary to process the command.
- EXPERT (the first three letters of the command, and in some cases just the first letter) - You are not prompted for additional information, so you should supply all information that is not a default option.

The command table below identifies both the NOVICE (shown in purple) and EXPERT (shown in black) versions of the command. The commands are ordered as you might use them in a searching session.

Use this command:	When you want to:	Example
INDEX IND	Scan two or more databases or a cluster of databases for topics before you search them.	=> INDEX CAPLUS EMBASE => IND GOVREGS
FILE FIL	Enter a database or cluster to search or display answers.	=> FILE REGISTRY => FIL PATENTS
EXPAND E	Look at the neighboring terms in a search field to verify that it is a valid search term. Twelve terms are shown by default. To continue down the same index, enter E <RETURN>. If you do not append a search code, the Basic Index is used.	=> EXPAND BATES C/AU => E GLYCERIN
SEARCH S	Perform a search. If you do not append a search code, the search is performed in the Basic Index.	=> SEARCH BATES C/AU => S TSCA
TRANSFER TRA	Extract terms and search them in a single step.	=> TRANSFER L1 1- AU => TRA L2 PN, APPS 1-10
DUPLICATE DUP	Remove or identify duplicate records from one or more answer sets.	=> DUPLICATE REM L5 => DUP IDE L1 L2
DISPLAY D	Display answers. Non-consecutive answer numbers must be separated by commas or spaces. For a list of fields that may be displayed, enter HELP DFIELDS at an arrow prompt in the database.	=> DISPLAY 1-5,8 => D L2 1 4 TI AU
ARCHIVE ARC	Purchase the right to store STN search results for up to n users within your worldwide organization.	=> ARCHIVE 100 10 => ARC 100 10
REDISTRIBUTE RED	Purchase the right to redistribute STN search results for up to n users within your worldwide organization.	=> REDISTRIBUTE 250 5 => RED 250 5
DISPLAY BROWSE D BRO	Browse through an answer set. You can view consecutive answers, non-consecutive answers, change formats, and view additional answers without re-entering the DISPLAY command.	=> DISPLAY BROWSE L4 => D BRO
SELECT SEL	Extract terms from display fields that can then be used as search terms. For a list of fields that may be used, enter HELP EFIELDS at an arrow prompt in the database.	=> SELECT L1 1-5 RN => SEL L1 1-5 HIT RN
ANALYZE ANA	Extract terms from display fields and provide statistical analysis. For a list of fields that may be used, enter HELP EFIELDS at an arrow prompt in the database.	=> ANALYZE L3 1-PA => ANA HIT L1 AU

Use this command:	When you want to:	Example

SAVE
SAV
	Save an L-number query, answer set, or list in your long-term storage. A monthly fee is charged for saved items. You must enter an L-number and a name ending in /Q for a query, /A for an answer set, or /L for an L-number list.	`=> SAVE L6 VISION/Q`
		`=> SAV L1 COMIC/A`
		`=> SAV ALL C6H6/L`

SET	Set various terminal parameters and options. When you SET a parameter, it remains in effect until you log off or modify the SET parameter. For a list of SET commands, enter HELP SET at an arrow prompt.	`=> SET DFORMAT HIT`
		`=> SET PATENTS DERWENT`
		`=> SET UNIT MP=C`
		`=> SET PAGELENGTH 24`
		`=> SET DUPORDER FILE`

PRINT	Print answers offline or deliver them to an e-mail address.	`=> PRINT L3`
ORDER	Order a document from a document supplier. For a list of suppliers, enter HELP ORDER SUPPLIER at an arrow prompt.	`=> ORDER`
SDI (or **ALERT**)	Request that current-awareness searches be run automatically when a database or a set of databases is updated.	`=> SDI` `=> SDI MFILE`

NEWS	Display current news headlines on STN. To see a specific news item, enter NEWS followed by the number or name of the news item at the arrow prompt. To see current content information for a database, enter NEWS FILE at an arrow prompt in the database.	`=> NEWS`
		`=> NEWS 8`
		`=> NEWS HOURS`

HELP ?	Request online help. Enter HELP and a command name for help on how to use a specific command. Enter HELP MESSAGES for a list of all online help messages available. Enter HELP DIRECTORY in a database for a list of helps for the database. Enter HELP COST in a database for pricing details for the database. Enter HELP PRICE for STN pricing information.	`=> HELP INDEX` `=> ? DIS BROWSE`
LOGOFF LOG Y	End your online session.	`=> LOGOFF` `=> LOG Y`
LOGOFF **HOLD** LOG H	Temporarily end your online session and hold the entire session for 120 minutes at no charge.	`=> LOGOFF HOLD` `=> LOG H`

For more information

Enter HELP, followed by the name of the command, e.g., HELP ANALYZE.

See also other STN Documentation available at www.cas.org.