

Comparison Matrix

DialogLink 5 to DialogLink 4.0 and 3.0

For versions 2005.6.X and up, check the About section to determine your version

	DialogLink 5	DialogLink 4.0	DialogLink 3.0
Features			
Account management	Track usage by Searcher, Client, Project, Subaccount, Charge Code, Job and Database	Track usage by Searcher, Client, Project, Subaccount, Charge Code, Job and Database	Track usage by Searcher, Client, Subaccount, Charge Code, Job and Database
Automatic connection to default database	No default database in DialogLink 5	No default database in DialogLink 4.0	Yes
Automatic notification of software updates	Yes, at log on	Yes, at log on	No
Configure settings	Flexible new configuration feature enables set up of different “log on profiles.” Each profile associates a User ID and password, Searcher Name, Subaccount, Project, Charge Code, Job and Session preferences.	Flexible new configuration feature enables set up of different “log on profiles.” Each profile associates a User ID and password, Searcher Name, Subaccount, Project, Charge Code, Job and Session preferences.	Separate configuration menus for service and associated Searcher, Subaccount and Client. No option for pre-configuring Session preferences.
Marked Text window	Same as DialogLink 4.0 but DialogLink 5 interface provides an icon to show the Marked Text window. In addition, users can right-click from the retrieve buffer to send text to the Marked Text window.	Opens new window in which Marked Text, from the Retrieve buffer, is automatically appended. Save contents of Marked Text window in Text, HTML or RTF, or as a Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat® PDF document.	No; must copy and paste Marked Text to separate file
Secure connection (HTTPS)	Yes; choose option in Settings	Yes; choose option in Settings	No
“Undo” and “Redo” menu options	Yes	Yes	No
X.25 (Dial-up) support	No; TCP/IP only	No; TCP/IP only	Yes
Special Features			
Chemical Structure Searching (CSS)	Yes; users can conduct a chemical structure search using any structure drawing package that supports .MOL files. Substructure highlighting and edit molecule capabilities are also available in search output.	No	No
Session Navigator	Allows users to link directly to searches, commands, and output within their entire DialogLink 5 session.	No	No
Set Links	Enables users to access research assistance, full text document ordering, and shortcuts to commonly used tasks (SORT, RANK, etc.)	No	No
Document Links	Enables users to access research assistance, fulltext	No	No

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	document ordering, and create user defined formats (UDF's).		
Help & Information Links	Links users to Bluesheet, Rate, and search tip information based on the files being searched.	No	No
Alerts in XML format	Yes	Yes	Yes
Custom E-mail Alerts	Yes, with drag-and-drop conversion functionality to create reports in Microsoft Word.	No	No
Picklist	Choose titles of interest by clicking items from a list window.	No	No
Alerts	Yes; opens window form to enter Alert specifications (database(s), commands, output format(s), delivery address, frequency, time, etc.).	Yes; opens window form to enter Alert specifications (database(s), commands, output format(s), delivery address, frequency, time, etc.).	Yes; follow text prompts to enter Alert specifications (database(s), commands, output format(s), delivery address, frequency, time, etc.).
CURRENT qualifier	No	No	Yes
DIALINDEX[®]	Same as DialogLink 4.0 with the addition of links to Dialog OneSearch categories directly from the window.	Yes; opens DIALINDEX display in a new window; click check boxes to select databases of interest.	Yes
Dialog eLinks to journals and reports in Adobe[®] Acrobat[®] PDF and other formats	Yes	Yes	No
EDIT Alerts and Saved Searches	Edit windows make it easier to edit Alerts and Saved Searches	Edit windows make it easier to edit Alerts and Saved Searches	Uses Dialog system line editor
EXPLODE	Yes; click terms to EXPLODE within VISUAL EXPAND window when searching databases with an online thesaurus.	Yes; click terms to EXPLODE within VISUAL EXPAND window when searching databases with an online thesaurus.	Yes; use EXPLODE operator (!) appended to thesaurus term with SELECT when searching databases with an online thesaurus.
Images	Images in .png format	Images in .png format	Images in .bmp format
Hyperlinks active	Yes	Yes	No
Tradeline	No	No	Yes; available through a gateway to Tradeline.
Functionality - Preferences			
SET and SHOW Commands & Preferences	Configure (SET) and display (SHOW) preference in software. New SHOW PREFERENCES command displays current settings.	Configure (SET) and display (SHOW) preference in software. New SHOW PREFERENCES command displays current settings.	Store SET Commands in account profile or enter at start of online session. All SET Commands enabled. Use SHOW command to display SET command setting.
SET HI	Bold only, no special characters	Bold only, no special characters	No bolding; user-defined highlighting with special characters
SET PASSWORD	Yes; use fill-in-the-blanks form.	Yes; use fill-in-the-blanks form.	Yes; follow text prompts to set password alias

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Connection to Dialog DataStarClassic.com	Yes; to Dialog DataStarClassic via Telnet session	Yes; via link to Dialog DataStarClassic on the Web	Yes; via telecom connection to Dialog DataStarClassic service
Connection to STN Classic	Yes, via Telnet session	No	No
EXPAND List	In PREFERENCES, users can set how many items appear in their Classic EXPAND list (20, 30, etc.)	No	No
Functionality - Commands			
Command line length	2,000 characters maximum	2,000 characters maximum	256 characters maximum
ARCHIVE	Yes; opens window form in which to record the number of copies archived electronically for ERA copyright compliance.	Yes; opens window form in which to record the number of copies archived electronically for ERA copyright compliance.	Yes; follow text prompts to enter number of copies archived electronically for ERA copyright compliance.
CAPTURE	Yes; use to create a log of the search session in HTML.	No	Yes; using the File > Capture option for the menu bar
COST	Yes; displays estimated session costs in a graphical tabular summary.	Yes; displays estimated session costs in a graphical tabular summary.	Yes; displays estimated session costs in separate lines of text.
CSS	Allows a user to execute a Chemical Structure Search against a .MOL w/out using drawing package.	No	No
DISPLAY	Synonymous with TYPE	Synonymous with TYPE	Displays one record at a time.
EDIT	Yes; opens an edit window for easy updating of addresses, Alerts, saved searches, etc. Replaces the Dialog system line editor.	Yes; opens an edit window for easy updating of addresses, Alerts, saved searches, etc. Replaces the Dialog system line editor.	Yes; uses Dialog system line editor.
EDIT PROFILE	No; Profile file settings are superseded by preferences configured in software.	No; Profile file settings are superseded by preferences configured in software.	Yes
EXPAND, see also VISUAL EXPAND	Yes	Yes	Yes
HELP	Yes; links to Help text on Web pages.	Yes; links to Help text on Web pages.	Yes; displays internal DialogLink HELP text.
HELP FILE <file number>	Yes; displays entire Bluesheet, for file specified, in a separate window.	Yes; displays entire Bluesheet, for file specified, in a separate window.	Yes; displays text of description section excerpted from Bluesheet.
LOGOFF HOLD	Yes. Will hold your session for 30 minutes. Note: Logoff Hold does accrue Internet charges at the current rate.	No.	Yes. Will hold your session for 30 minutes.
PAUSE	Yes; Allows users to hold sessions for 30 minutes.	No; Logoff Hold is available allowing users to hold sessions for 30 minutes.	Yes; holds sessions for 10 minutes will preserving sets
PICK, see also Picklist	Command that creates a Picklist.	No	No
RANK, see also VISUAL RANK	Yes	Yes	Yes
REDIST	Yes; opens window form to record the number of copies redistributed for ERA copyright compliance.	Yes; opens window form to record the number of copies redistributed for ERA copyright compliance.	Yes; follow text prompts to enter number of copies redistributed for ERA copyright compliance.

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SAVE ALERT see Special Features- Alerts			
SAVE, SAVE SEARCH	Yes; opens window with option to save or edit SearchSave.	Yes; opens window with option to save or edit SearchSave.	Yes; SAVE; use Dialog system line editor to EDIT.
SAVE FILE	Enables users to save files on Dialog (e.g., .MOL or .XSLT) for use in Alerts and Saved Searches	No	No
TARGET	No	No	Yes
VIEW	Displays files on default directory	Displays files on default directory	Displays records in a RANK display
VISUAL EXPAND (VE)	Yes; opens EXPAND display in a new window; click check boxes to select index entries of interest.	Yes; opens EXPAND display in a new window; click check boxes to select index entries of interest.	No; must use text-only EXPAND command.
VISUAL RANK (VR)	Yes; opens RANK display in a new window; click check boxes to select RANK entries of interest.	Yes; opens RANK display in a new window; click check boxes to select RANK entries of interest.	No.
Functionality - Output Commands			
TEXT	Save, append or replace output to a file in ASCII text format	Save, append or replace output to a file in ASCII text format	No
HTML	Save, append or replace output to a file in HTML format	Save, append or replace output to a file in HTML format	No
XML	Save, append or replace output to a file in XML format	Save, append or replace output to a file in XML format	No
WORD	Save output to a file in Microsoft® Word format using the XML command and a template specification	Save output to a file in Microsoft® Word format using the XML command and a template specification	No
EXCEL	Save output to a file in Microsoft® Excel format using the XML command and a template specification	Save output to a file in Microsoft® Excel format using the XML command and a template specification	No
XSLT	PRINT command qualifier that used to generate a formatted Word or Excel report using an existing DialogLink report template	No; but PRINT statements in Alerts to support XSLT statements	No; but PRINT statements in Alerts to support XSLT statements

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