

Fast Start to Dialog Featuring DialogClassic Web™, Part 2: Refining Your Search

Review: the five basic commands on Dialog

begin	begin 9 b 9,16,148 b 9,16,15 current
select	select renewable(3n)energy s s1 and (forecast? or predict?)
display sets	ds
type	type s1/8,k/1-10 t s1/9/3-4,6
logoff	logoff

New command:

expand	expand au=perls t e co=air products
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Dialog Bluesheets

SEARCH SUFFIX	DISPLAY CODE	FIELD NAME	INDEXING	SELECT EXAMPLES
/None	None	All Basic Index Fields	Word	\$ FINGERPRINT?
/AB	AB	Abstract (or Short Text)	Word	\$ SALES(W)DIRECTOR/AB
/CO	CO	Company Name ¹	Word	\$ BIOMETRIC(W)IDENT?/CO
/DE	DE	Descriptor ^{2,3}	Word & Phrase	\$ PRODUCT(W)INFORMATION/DE \$ UNITED STATES?/DE
/EN	EN	Event Name ¹	Word	\$ PRODUCT(W)INFORMATION/EN
/GN	GN	Geographic Name ^{1,4}	Word	\$ UNITED(W)STATES/GN
/IN	IN	Industry Name ^{1,4}	Word	\$ ELECTRONICS/IN
/LP	LP	Lead Paragraph ⁴	Word	\$ FINGER(S)TOUCH/LP
/PN	PN	Product Name ^{1,4}	Word	\$ DATA(W)ENCRYPT?/PN
/TI	TI	Title	Word	\$ BIOMETRICS/TI
/TN	TN	Trade Name ^{1,4}	Word	\$ HP(W)DESKJET/TN
/TX	TX	Text	Word	\$ BIOMETRIC(W)TEMPLATE/TX

¹ Searchable in the Basic Index and in the Additional Indexes.
² Includes SIC description, NAICS description, and Event Name.
³ Also DE*, DF*, DF*.
⁴ Searchable only in File 16.

Check file [Bluesheets](#) before starting a search to learn what searchable fields are available in particular databases.

Every Dialog database has a [Bluesheet](#) – a guide page that provides a description of content, tips for searching, a sample record, fields available as suffix qualifiers (the Basic Index), e.g., title (/TI), abstract (/AB), text (/TX), descriptor terms (/DE), the Additional Index, non-subject fields available as prefixes, e.g. author name (AU=), company names (CO=), journal names (JN=), publication year (PY=), publication date (PD=). Some fields are available both in the BASIC

Index and in the Additional Index. One example is the Company Name Field (/CO, CO=). The Bluesheet explains this with a footnote next to the field name.

Fields in the **Basic Index** are usually word-indexed. That is, Dialog searches the subject section of each record word-by-word to find records that fit your search criteria. You must use proximity operators. The only place phrases are searchable is in the descriptor field where the descriptor field is both word and phrase-indexed.

s skin(1n)cancer?/ti	Limits to the Title field
s melanoma/de	Limits to the Descriptor field
s photovoltaic/ti,de	Limits to the Title or the Descriptor fields
s windmill?/ti,lp	Limits to the Title or the Lead Paragraph fields

Fields in the **Additional Index** are often phrase-indexed. That is, terms are placed on the fields by indexers as entire phrases, including punctuation. For example, CO=E.I. DUPONT DE NAMOURS; AU=SMITH, E.B.

See how the author field is structured. Does it index authors as AU=<last name> comma space <first initial>? Perhaps this database you want to search indexes author names as AU=<last name> space <at least the first initial> (no comma).

SEARCH PREFIX	DISPLAY CODE	FIELD NAME	INDEXING	SELECT EXAMPLES
AA=	AA	Supplier Accession Number	Phrase	S AA=55348285
AU=	AU	Author ²	Phrase	S AU=WEBB, JULIA?
None	AZ	DIALOG Accession Number		
CC=	CC	Country Code	Phrase	S CC=USA
CN=	CN	Country Name	Phrase	S CN=UNITED STATES
CO=	CO	Company Name ¹	Phrase	S CO=BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION?
DL=	DL	DateLine ²	Phrase	S DL=LONDON
DT=	DT	Document Type ³	Phrase	S DT=TRADE
EC=	EC	Event Code ²	Phrase	S EC=330
EN=	EN	Event Name ¹	Phrase	S EN=PRODUCT INFORMATION
GC=	GC	Geographic Code ¹	Phrase	S GC=USA
GN=	GN	Geographic Name ^{1,4}	Phrase	S GN=UNITED STATES
IC=	IC	Industry Code ³	Phrase	S IC=ELEC
IN=	IN	Industry Name ^{1,4}	Phrase	S IN=ELECTRONICS
JN=	JN	Journal Name	Phrase	S JN=ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING TIMES
LA=	LA	Language	Phrase	S LA=ENGLISH
NC=	NC	NAICS Code ³	Phrase	S NC=51121
PC=	PC	Product Code ^{3,4}	Phrase	S PC=7372691
PD=	PD	Publication Date	Phrase	S PD=19990802
PN=	PN	Product Name ¹	Phrase	S PN=DATA ENCRYPTION SOFTWARE
PY=	PY	Publication Year	Phrase	S PY=1998.1999
RT=	RT	Record Type	Phrase	S RT=FULLTEXT
SC=	SC	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code ¹	Phrase	S SC=2086
SE=	SE	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code ¹	Phrase	S SE=2086

Common Additional Index fields:

S py=2010	Searches a publication year or range of publication years
S py=2006:2010	Searches a particular publication date or range of publication dates.
S pd=20100615	Searches a particular publication date or range of publication dates.
S pd=20100201:20100615	Searches a particular publication date or range of publication dates.
S au=koop, c?	Searches an author name. Note the use of truncation to ensure retrieval for various reasons, such as full first name or a period after the first initial, or a second initial following the first name or initial. Authors are indexed as full phrases .
S jn=popular mechanics	Searches a journal title. Indexed as full phrase .

For more information on indexing on Dialog, see Dialog At a Glance [Understanding Word and Phrase Indexing on Dialog](#).

Find information on a specific topic:

Search topic: Find forecasts regarding the renewable energy industry.

Search Worksheet

- **Topic:** Find forecasts regarding the renewable energy industry.
- **Database:** Business & Industry Database™ (File 9), Cengage/Gale PROMT® (File 16), Cengage Gale Trade & Industry Database™ (File 148)

Important Ideas:

Concept 1	AND	Concept 2	AND	Concept 3
Renewable energy		forecast		
OR		OR		OR
Alternative energy		predictions		
green		future		

Figure out which database(s) to search:

- What is the general subject?
- What is the perspective of the question?
- How much information is desirable?
- What type of database is needed?

Database selection tools:

Dialog-DataStar Database Catalog

- Databases by subject
- Database description shows type of data:
 - Bibliographic
 - Full text
 - Directory
 - Numeric
- <http://support.dialog.com/publications/dbcat/>

Dialog OneSearch® subject categories

<http://library.dialog.com/bluesheets/html/blo.html>

Help available from Dialog

- Call the Knowledge Center for help
 - 1-800-3 DIALOG (1-800-334-2564, North America)
 - 00-800-33-DIALOG (0-800-33-34-2564, outside North America)
 - Available 24/7 Mon.-Fri.
- Other live training sessions
 - <http://support.dialog.com/training/english/>
- eLearning
 - <http://support.dialog.com/training/>
- Dialog At a Glance – on-demand recorded short modules
 - <http://support.dialog.com/training/ataglance/>
- Use the free Practice ONTAP® Databases
 - http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/ontap_pw.html
- Stay informed of the latest developments on Dialog by subscribing to the *Chronolog* at
 - <http://support.dialog.com/enewsletters/chronolog/subscribe/>
- *Subscribe to the Training Newsletter at*
 - <http://support.dialog.com/enewsletters/training/subscribe/>

Contact the Dialog Knowledge Center

Within North America **1 800 3 DIALOG (334 2564)**
 Outside North America **00 800 33 DIALOG (33 34 2564)**
 Email: Customer@dialog.com

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