

COMPETITOR SEARCH

on CAS STNext

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AGENDA

- Typical workflow of a multi-file company name
- Tipps and Tricks
- How to add the final touch
- US reassignments
- Inventor search

Patent Assignee Search

- Keep track of your competitor's specific patenting activities
- Assess the value of a company's IP portfolio in due diligences
- Review IP Landscape for potential collaborations
- Identify relevant competitor's patents of a particular technology to analyze white spots, mitigate infringements, evaluate potential licensing

Available Patent Search Fields

Typical company name search fields in STNext main patent databases

	Search field
–Patent assignee	/PA
–Patent Assignee Code	/PACO
–Company	/CO
–Ultimate owner	/UO
–Agent	/AG
–Inventor	/IN

=> S ZOETIS/PA

=> S ZOET-C/PACO

=> S ZOETIS INC/CO

=> S ZOETIS/UO

=> S ZOETIS/AG

=> S BERGERON L M/IN

Not all fields are available in all databases.

USE CASE

Identify all patents of **Zoetis**, a spin-off from Pfizer, working in the area of veterinary medicine.

USE CASE

- Start in **DWPI**

=> S ZOETIS/PA **L1**

=> S ZOET-C/PACO **L2**

=> S (ABAXIS OR ADIVO OR BASEPAWS OR EMBREX
OR NEXVET OR PHARMAQ OR SCANDINAVIAN MICRO
BIODEVICES OR SMARTBOW)/PA **L3**

=> S ZOETIS/AG **L4**

=> S L1 or L2 or L3 or L4 **L5**

L5 **609** L1 OR L2 OR L3 OR L4

- Extend to INPAFAM

Identification of the Current Owner of a Patent

Ultimate Owner

- Company name changes, mergers, acquisitions can often complicate an organization-based IP search
- **Ultimate owner shows the latest owner of IP rights**
- Added to several patent fulltext and CAS files, e.g.: CAPLUS, INPA*, USPATFULL, PCTFULL, EPFULL
 - /UO** Ultimate owner
 - /UOS** Ultimate owner standardized
- Data obtained from PatentSight through their manual and algorithmic curation of IP ownership and M&A analysis
 - Significant effort to reduce spelling errors and further standardization
 - Does not provide historical changes or date of transfer of IP rights
 - Updated weekly
- Available to all STN users

USE CASE

- Start in DWPI

- Proceed in **HCAPLUS**

- Extend to INPAFAM

=> S ZOETIS/PA	L6
=> S (ABAXIS OR ADIVO OR ALPHARMA OR BASEPAWS OR EMBREX OR JUROX OR PETMEDIX OR PHARMAQ...)/PA*	L7
=> S ZOETIS/UO	L10
=> S L6 or L7 or L10	L11
L11 831 L6 OR L7 OR L10	

* Not all included

Adding Comprehensiveness...

Reassignments in INPAFAM

- Changes of owner, inventor, applicant (CHG) or of representative (REP) are defined legal events in INPADOC/FAM in /LSC2
- The new owner of the patent is documented in the field **legal status patent assignee /LSPA**

```
AN 73634322 INPAFAMDB EWF 202126 UWF 202243 EDF 20210701 UPFB 20221027
TIEN METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR CANCER DETECTION, CHARACTERIZATION OR
MANAGEMENT IN COMPANION ANIMALS.
TIFR PROCEDES ET COMPOSITIONS POUR LA DETECTION, LA CARACTERISAT
PRISE EN CHARGE DU CANCER CHEZ L'ANIMAL DE COMPAGNIE.
INS CHORNY ILYA, US; GROSU DANIEL, US
PAS PETDX INC, US
UOS Zoetis
PI US 20220333211 A1 20221020
WO 2021126997 A1 20210624 *
```

LEGAL STATUS
20250115 USAS

ASSIGNMENT

[US 2022-17806238 A 20220609]

ZOETIS SERVICES LLC, NEW JERSEY

ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST;ASSIGNOR:INSOLVENCY
SERVICES GROUP, INC.;REEL/FRAME:069877/0313
20240405

CHG Change of Owner, Inventor, Applicant
R PARTY DATA CHANGE

.....20250130

USE CASE

- Start in DWPI
- Proceed in HCAPLUS
- Extend to **INPAFAM**

=> S ZOETIS/PA **L12**

=> S ZOETIS/PAS **L13**

=> S ZOETIS/UO **L14**

=> S ZOETIS/LSPA **L15**

=> S L12 or L13 or L14 or L15 **L16**

L16 **969** L12 OR L13 OR L14 or L15

In INPAFAM the **Super Search Field /PASS** can be utilized instead of /PA,PAS,UO,UOS,LSPA

USE CASE

- Start in DWPI
- Proceed in HCAPLUS
- Extend to INPAFAM
- **Optional:**
 - refinement in each file
- **Combine answer set + deduplicate**
- **Extract PNs**

```
L5      609 L1 OR L2 OR L3 OR L4
L11     831 L6 OR L7 OR L10
L16     969 L12 OR L13 OR L14

=> DUP IDE L5 L11 L16                                L17
=> FSORT L17                                           L18
                                                    (= 1047 inventions)

=> D PFAM=1- 1
=> ANA L17 PNK 1-                                     L19
=> D L19 DELIM
```

USE CASE

- Start in DWPI
- Proceed in HCAPLUS
- Extend to INPAFAM
- **Optional:**
 - refinement in each file
- **Combine answer set + deduplicate**
- **Extract PNs**

L5 **609** L1 OR L2 OR L3 OR L4

L11 **831** L6 OR L7 OR L10

L16 **969** L12 OR

=> DUP IDE L5 L11 L

=> FSORT L17

=> D PFAM=1- 1

=> ANA L17 PNK 1-

=> D L19 DELIM

```
1;7;7;0.29;AU2012306067 A1
2;7;7;0.29;AU2012306067 B2
3;7;7;0.29;AU2012306067 B9
4;7;7;0.29;CA2847824 A1
5;7;7;0.29;CA2906505 A1
6;7;7;0.29;CA2906505 C
7;7;7;0.29;CN103906764 A
8;7;7;0.29;CN105833268 A
9;7;7;0.29;CN105999261 A
10;7;7;0.29;EP2753645 A1
```

Tipps and Tricks

...for searching company information

- Search unique company names from company thesauri in field /PA

Procter *and* Gamble Procter & Gamble The Procter Gamble Company USA P&G

- Patent assignee /PA:

- Expand first!
- (s)-proximity → will find all versions of Procter Gamble

=> S Procter Gamble/PA
= S Procter(s)Gamble/PA

- Ultimate owner /UO:

- (w)-proximity → will find „(The) Procter Gamble“
and „Procter & Gamble“

=> S Procter Gamble/UO
= S Procter(w)Gamble/UO

Adding Comprehensiveness...

Additional company name search fields in STNext

Search field

/PAS, PAN	Patent assignee standardized, normalized
/PASS	Super search field Patent Assignee, database-specific
/PAO	Patent assignee original

How about patent full-text files?

→ Include them when timeliness or particular countries (e.g. IN) are important

Adding Comprehensiveness for US patents

/PPA in IFIALL

- In US, companies are oftentimes not listed on the patent application
- The **Probable Patent Assignee field /PPA** assumes a US patent assignee (US assignment file IFICLS, from other documents within the patent family)

```
L26 ANSWER 1 OF 272 IFIALL COPYRIGHT 2025 IFI on STN
AN 21485534 IFIALL Full-text
TI ANTIMICROBIAL PEPTIDES AND METHODS OF USING SAME
IN Kuhn Michael; Zook Christopher A; Sheehan Derek James; Baima Eric; Ewin
Richard Andrew; Phelps Hilary
PA Unassigned or assigned to individual (68000)
PPA Zoetis Services LLC (Probable)
PI US 20250074947 A1 20250306
```

US Reassignments

Transfer of IP ownership after filing

- In the US, many patents are filed in the name of the inventor and afterwards transferred to a company

- Two search options:

Search field

- Legal status patent assignee in **INPAFAM**

/LSPA

- Reassignment company in **IFICLS**

/RAC

PA Zoetis Services LLC
PI **US 12181468** 20241231
DT REASSIGNED
RAI RAD: 20210308
RAK: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).
PAO: ARON, KENNETH P., DATE SIGNED: 01/16/2013 MEHRA, RAJESH K., DATE SIGNED: **01/16/2013**
RAC: ABAXIS, INC., 3240 WHIPPLE ROAD, UNION CITY, CA, 94587
RAA: COOLEY LLP / PATENT DEPARTMENT, 1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, SUITE 700, WASHINGTON, DC 20004
MRN: 055524 MFN: 0353

RAD: 20210308
RAK: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).
PAO: ABAXIS LLC, DATE SIGNED: **03/02/2020**
RAC: ZOETIS SERVICES LLC 10 SYLVAN WAY, PARSIPPANY, NJ, 07054
RAA: COOLEY LLP / PATENT DEPARTMENT, 1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW 700, WASHINGTON, DC 20004
MRN: 055527 MFN: 0818

US Reassignments

Transfer of IP ownership after filing

- In the US, many patents are filed in the name of the inventor and afterwards transferred to a company
- Two search options: Search field
 - Legal status patent assignee in **INPAFAM** /LSPA
 - Reassignment company in **IFICLS** /RAC
- **Search** reassigned patents of a company in INPAFAM (/PA, /UO, /LSPA), maybe add a /PPA-search in IFIALL
- **Review** details of reassignment in INPAFAM and IFICLS

Inventor Search

for searching smaller companies

- To hide their corporate identity in patents, inventions are often only filed in the name of an inventor

- Identify principal scientists, CEOs, research directors/managers, check press releases

- Use /IN or /INO fields

- Restrict further by keyword, MC, IPC codes, ...
- Check inventor's address in full-text file

DWPI:

=> S SMITH J/IN

=> S SMITH(S) JONATHAN/INO

Name formats are database-specific: surnames are initials (e.g. DWPI) or written out first names (e.g. CAplus).

→ Better EXPAND the name index before searching

Summary

Patent Assignee Search

- Address your search from different angles.
- The company/PACO thesauri in CPlus and DWPI are good starting points for comprehensive patent assignee searches.
- Further relevant patents are added by including the current ownership as a search feature (/UO, /LSPA etc.)
- Utilizing all three major patent databases ensures a reliable set of answers and provides valuable options for refinement.
- Detailed US reassignment information can be found in the IFICLS database.

Glossary of Competitor Search Fields

/AG	Agent = legal representative	DWPI, selected full-text files
/CO	Company name (thesaurus)	CAplus
/IN	Inventor	All patent files
/INO	Inventor original	DWPI
/LSPA	Legal status patent assignee = Patent assignee according to a specific legal event	INPADOC/FAM
/PA	Patent assignee	All patent files
/PACO	Patent assignee code (thesaurus)	DWPI
/PAO	Patent assignee original	DWPI, USPATFULL/USPAT2
/PAS (/PAN)	Patent assignee standardized (normalized)	INPADOC, (selected) full-text files
/PASS	Super search field Patent assignee, file-specific	INPADOC/FAM, selected full-text files
/PPA	Probable patent assignee = assumed PA for US patents	IFIALL
/RAC	Reassignment company = patent assignee after change of ownership for US patents	IFICLS
/UO(S)	Ultimate owner (standardized) = current owner of a patent	CAplus, INPADOC/FAM, full-text files

Thank you

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Product Specialist IP

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