



**How to Use CAplus  
STN Easy Research Guide  
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**Before you begin:**

Start your research using Augustana databases like Science Direct, ACS journals and multiple Ebsco databases. This will allow you to narrow your terms and have a good idea of what we already have available. By doing so you can focus on material not available through other resources when you are using a fee based database.

If you have not done this, do so before you go into CAPlus today. There is plenty of time for you to do this preliminary research.

**STN Easy Address:** <http://stneasy.cas.org>

**Hours of Use:**

Monday through Thursday: 5 p.m. to 5 a.m.  
Friday 5 p.m. to Saturday 5 p.m.  
Sunday 1 a.m. to Monday 5 a.m.

*Do not use STN at times other than those listed.* These times are for academic accounts with a 90% discounted rate. You will be able to get in at other times, but we will be charged the full price. If you want access to Chemical Abstracts Plus after this class period, contact Connie Ghinazzi about Log-In ID's.

STN Easy academic rate applies only to the database **CAplus**. Other STN Easy databases are charged at the full rate at all times.

**CAplus:**

CAplus is the most current and comprehensive chemistry database available through CAS. It chronicles bibliographic information and available abstracts from 1500 key chemical journals from 1907 to the present. CAplus covers all areas of chemistry and chemical engineering. The major subdivisions are Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Biochemistry, Macromolecular Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physical, Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry. You can use CAplus to investigate by CAS numbers, chemical names, chemical formulas, titles, subjects and author(s).

**Please note that CAplus is only abstracts.** There is no free full text connected with this database. To find the full text of these articles, you will need to first look in Augustana's Periodicals to see if we own the journal. If we do not have a subscription, then order the articles through ILL. Do not use the full text link options in CAplus.

## Hints on using CAplus:

- Tip:** To find journal articles, the first screen field should be Chemical References.
- Tip:** The first screen gives the options available; Easy Search, Advanced Search or CAS Number. Before searching, look at the STN Easy Strategies screens to help you decide the search that best fits your needs.
- Tip:** Use double quotation marks when searching a phrase like "green chemistry."
- Tip:** **Use truncation wildcards \* or ? at the end of a word segment to represent many word endings.** Using distill? retrieves distill, distillery, distilling, distillation, etc.
- Tip:** Use Easy Search to locate:  
Topic searching using keywords to describe scientific/technical areas of interest.  
Papers containing general or specific information on technical topics.  
An individual search term or phrase.
- Tip:** Use Advanced Search:  
When you have several search terms or descriptors to narrow the field.  
When looking for a specific author or scientist.  
When you have a patent number and want additional information.  
When you know the chemical structure and want substance information.  
Advanced Search includes the browse index feature.
- Tip:** Use CAS Number Search to locate:  
CAS number  
Chemical Formula  
Chemical Name Lookup  
CAS Number Search includes the browse index feature.
- Tip:** Before submitting a search, use the browse index feature to preview your term. If you have multiple words, it will browse only the first one. This index is free and allows you preview your search before you submit it. In browse index you can:  
Find multiple spellings and word endings  
Catch spelling or typing errors  
Check that your term is used in the database
- Tip:** Keep initial search relatively broad. When you generate your first results page, you will be given a "Refine your search" option. This will allow you to add limiters at no additional charge.
- Tip:** Print all citations and abstracts you want to find later. After you've finished in CAplus, then use Augustana's Periodicals and ILL to locate full text.
- Tip:** Always use log off button to get out of STN Easy. This ends your session and produces a final cost page which you should print out and submit to the library. CAplus is billed by search and by individual citation opened.

## Final Tip, finally:

Dr. Christoffel is very familiar with STN Easy, and I am also available if you have questions. If you are not sure about your strategies or the results you've generated, ask one of us for help.