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Title

Energinfo Vol 6 No 6-7

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7nh9b24j>

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Publication Date

1982-07-01

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User Meeting Highlights (Part 1)

Vol. 6, No. 6-7

June-July, 1982

CONTENTS

User Meeting Highlights (Part 1).....	1
Data Base Summaries Debut.....	2
New Data Base.....	3
The NTB Data Base	
TULSA Renewed.....	4
DOE/RECON Statistics.....	4
New Publications.....	5
Telenet Expands Service.....	5
Calendar of Events.....	6

The annual DOE/RECON User Meeting took place May 24-25, 1982, at the Technical Information Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The meeting opened with a welcome from TIC Deputy Manager William M. Vaden. Joseph Coyne, TIC's Manager, reviewed RECON's progress since 1978.

In 1978, he noted, the problems were those of an overworked and underfunded staff. Since then, however, the RECON system has been transferred to a new computer, the RECON User Group has provided feedback on user needs, and the system has undergone marked improvement. The number of RECON users has increased from 141 in 1978 to 750 in 1982.

TIC has in the meantime speeded up the availability of reports, making standard distribution within 24 hours in many cases, and coordinating the acquisition of reports. TIC has made great strides toward its goal of comprehensiveness on EDB, Mr. Coyne said, and the Research in Progress files are being built and maintained on a current basis.

Recently, the DOE data base was evaluated for productivity, and a dollar value was obtained, perhaps the first time that such a study has been done. This report, by King Research, was discussed later by Bonnie Carroll.

For FY 1983, the major issues, according to Mr. Coyne, are: (1) to continue to improve technical information feedback channels; (2) to improve bibliographic control of international documents; (3) to control classified and sensitive information; (4) to integrate information services; (5) to improve access and control of numeric data; and (6) to address public-private sector relationships constructively by generating factual and relevant information and by continuing analysis of contracting options.

Barbara Corey, RECON Systems Analyst, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, talked about *recent improvements* to RECON. Ms. Corey explained the save-search features that were implemented in fall 1981. She also illustrated how to use the automatic Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) Service on RECON

files. The SDI service enables users to keep current in their areas of interest by providing automatic biweekly updates according to their search profiles. Online ordering was also reviewed.

Benita Gately, RECON staff, gave an update on RECON *software, hardware, and future plans*. She reported that communications improvements have resulted in simplified Telenet access and elimination of data loss over Telenet. Data base and software improvements include a shortened list of 9 stopwords; abstracts directly searchable with the AB = prefix; fixed data base numbers; the renumbering of print formats; the delete line capability; the "dial-up only" version of RECON; improved LOOK command capability; and the save-search features, SDI services, etc. These features (all reported in *Energinfo*) have tremendously increased the reliability and performance of the RECON system.

Future improvements will include super select — the capability of using the select command and a combine command (Boolean operators) in one search statement; adjacency searching; multiword field sort capability; online costs per session; and an enhanced method of communicating with users during a long execution.

David Bost, Director of the Science & Technology Division at TIC, talked about RECON *files policy and plans*. He stated that RECON is a DOE system that is primarily for DOE files. Non-TIC files from DOE include FED, FRC and GEO. He explained that non-DOE files will not be added to the RECON system if (1)

(Continued on page 2)

PUB 41

the file is already available on a commercial system, (2) the size of the file is too large (over 1 billion bytes), and (3) the user pool is too small to justify the file's existence.

Plans for modifications to existing files include a few more indexes for EDB to access conferences by place, date and title and to improve access to patents; and increased coverage of GIDEP (file 30) to include engineering information.

Plans for future files include the loading of a subset of the API file covering exploration; a holdings file of the DOE library in Washington, D.C.; a file containing DOE travel reports, primarily from foreign travel; a file containing unclassified, limited distribution applied technology reports and other limited-distribution report records covering the period from 1974 onwards; and TIC's reports holding list for unclassified reports not found on EDB. It is thought that a mechanism can be developed to use RECON as a gateway to numerical data files where users can access these files, manipulate them, and get a printout of their efforts.

Jo Robinson, LBL, reported on the RECON *training program*. Budgetary problems will restrict workshop sites. Training for FY 83 will be held at Oak Ridge, Washington, D.C., and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. Instructional video packages for RECON training will be produced later this year to complement the training program.

Charles E. Spath, Assistant Manager for Information Services, talked about RECON *access and pricing policies*. DOE/RECON, he noted, serves the DOE community first and foremost, other federal agencies with energy missions next, and then others who are eligible for access to RECON. He reported that although the number of users is going up, usage is going down. The decrease may be attributed to a combination of the new IBM-3033 computer and better search strategies,

resulting in less online time being used for a typical search.

Pricing has been set and will take effect as of July 1, 1982. There is a new front-end access fee for RECON. It includes one training slot and \$75 worth of printed search tools (thesaurus, etc.) necessary to conduct a literature search effectively. A new fee schedule for training was also reported, as follows:

DOE employees—no fee for access, no charge for training

DOE contractors and subcontractors—\$125 per 2-day session; \$200 start-up fee for new passwords

Other federal agencies—\$150 per 2-day session; \$225 start-up fee for new passwords

Others (e.g. state energy agencies)—\$175 per 2-day session; \$250 start-up fee for new passwords

The foregoing describes the first morning of the 1982 User's Meeting. The afternoon and part of the second morning was devoted to workshops. These will be described in Part 2 of this article in the next issue of *Energinfo*.

—Rita LaBrie, LBL



Data Base Summaries Debut

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory's Information Research Group has compiled data base summaries for 30 data bases currently on DOE/RECON. These summaries were distributed for the first time at the May User Meeting in Oak Ridge. They are expected to become part of the DOE/RECON User's Manual.

Draft copies were also sent for review to each institution having a data base on DOE/RECON. Revised summary sheets will be issued to all *Energinfo* recipients some time this summer. They will be dated to indicate currency.

Each sheet includes the following information: institutional source and representative; description and subject coverage, size, inclusive dates and update frequency; search aids, a sample typical record, available formats, and a table describing retrieval methods.

A limited number of interim packets are available upon request from TIC.

—Rita LaBrie, LBL

energinfo

Published by the Information Research Group, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, under Contract No. DE-AC03-76SF00098 for the Department of Energy's Technical Information Center to fulfill requirements that DOE and its contractor organizations be informed about the Department's technical information program and activities.

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NEW DATA BASE

The NTB Data Base

NASA Tech Briefs (NTB) is a quarterly journal promoting transfer and use of technology developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Prepared by NASA's Technology Transfer Division, each issue gives brief information on new processes, advances in basic and applied research, improvements in shop and laboratory techniques, new sources of technical data, and computer programs. The information is loaded annually into the DOE/RECON system as file 29.

Of particular interest to the DOE/RECON user community is NASA's commitment to lend its technical support to the Department of Energy's programs. Whether following up a specific NASA contribution such as its work in energy absorption films, researching nonconventional energy sources for small-scale air-conditioning systems, or collecting the contributions of a NASA author or center to some energy field, you may find that this file has interesting possibilities.

The following indexes are available on NTB:

- AU = Author
- CN = Contract Number
- CS = Corporate Source
- IT = Keywords
- RN = Report Number
- SC = Subject Categories
- SP = Sponsor
- TL = Title
- YM = Publication Date
- YR = Publication Year

For authors' names, NASA uses the last name and initials only. The "Corporate Source" is entered as it appears in each article, so form and use of abbreviations are variable. In both cases, the EXPAND command is most useful. The subject categories correspond to the *NASA Tech Briefs* table of contents. They are:

- 1-Electronic Components and Circuits
- 2-Electronic Systems
- 3-Physical Sciences
- 4-Materials
- 5-Life Sciences
- 6-Mechanics
- 7-Machinery
- 8-Fabrication Technology
- 9-Mathematics and Information Sciences

The title index is made up of single words. Keywords are taken from the NASA Thesaurus.¹ Although the alphabetical thesaurus is online, the thesaurus structure is not included; to select narrower, broader, and related terms, use the printed thesaurus. The "IT = Keywords" index is the default file.

You can follow up specific "Briefs" by requesting "Technical Support Packages" that give more detailed information on products and processes. These packages

are available directly from the sponsoring center, which is indicated under "Sponsor" in formats 0 and 5. If you are in another format, you can find a clue to the sponsor in the letter prefixes to the report designation. The *Dictionary of Report Series Codes*² usually will be helpful here. Support packages also may be obtained by writing to:

Director
NASA Technology Transfer Division
P.O. Box 8757
Baltimore/Washington International Airport
Baltimore, MD 21240

Search example

Question: Do you have any information on what NASA has done on installation of solar equipment?

```
SET HISTORY (*=PRINTS, NPT=NO PRINTS)
SET DESCRIPTOR CIT
1 IT=SOLAR COLLECTORS 88
2 IT=SOLAR ENERGY 267
3 IT=SOLAR ENERGY
  CONVERSION 43
4 IT=SOLAR HEATING 63
5 IT=SOLAR ENERGY
  ABSORBERS 18
6 1-5/OR 315
7 IT=INSTALLATION
  MANUALS 7
8 IT=INSTALLING 32
9 6AND(7OR8) 8
ENTER:d9/4/1-8
>PROCESSING<
DIS 9/4/000001-000008//1 PAGE 1
<ACCESSION NO.> 80*0010198
<TITLE> Installation guidelines for the
  Pennsylvania system
<ABSTRACT> Installation of solar-energy
  system is documented in report. Included
  are procedures for filling and testing
  entire system, along with installation
  guidelines for each major subsystem.
DIS 9/4/000001-000008//2 PAGE 1
<ACCESSION NO.> 79*0010063
<TITLE> Cost analysis of hot-air
  solar-heating systems
<ABSTRACT> Report describes results of study
  of two operational test sites (Huntsville,
  Alabama and Carlsbad, New Mexico)
  furnishing estimates of actual costs and
  potential cost savings of new and retrofit
  hot-air solar heating and hot-water system
  for single family dwellings.
DIS 9/4/000001-000008//3 PAGE 1
<ACCESSION NO.> 79*0010060
<TITLE> Design of a concentrating solar
  collector
<ABSTRACT> Design package for concentrating
  solar collector includes detailed set of
  design drawings and parts list for all
  components and subcomponents of system
  (including its tracking drive).
```

(Continued on page 4)

Since terms are not upposted, you must select specific terms that you feel will cover the subject adequately.

The accompanying table lists the NTB data elements and the PRINT/DISPLAY formats in which they appear.

For help with searching problems on this data base, write or call Hal Wynne, NASA Scientific and Technical Information Facility, P.O. Box 8757, Baltimore/Washington International Airport, Maryland 21240 (FTS 922-3311, ask operator for 859-5300; commercial 301/859-5300 or 202/621-1910).

References

1. *NASA Thesaurus*, vol. 1: *Alphabetical Listing*; vol. 2: *Access Vocabulary*. NASA SP-7050, vol. 1, vol. 2, 1976.
2. Lois E. Godfrey and Helen F. Redman, *Dictionary of Report Series Codes*, second ed. Special Libraries Association, 1973.

—Lesley Whitaker,
NASA Ames Research Center,
Moffett Field, California

Table 1. NASA Tech Briefs (NTB) Data Base Unit Record

Data Element	Searchable Field	Printable Fields in Formats							Search by	Example
		0	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Accession										
Title	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	TL	TL = DOMESTIC
Author	X	X	X	X		X		X	AU	AU = HALL, J.E., JR.
Sponsor	X	X				X			SP	SP = AERONAUTICS
Report Number	X	X	X	X		X		X	RN	RN = GSFC-112
Publication Date	X	X	X	X		X		X	YM	YM = 8008
Vol. No., Page		X				X				
Entry Date		X				X				
Sales Agreement & Price		X				X				
Contract No.	X	X	X			X		X	CN	N = NSG-2511-62
Set Code		X	X			X		X		
Title Class		X								
Availability		X	X			X		X		
Financial Type		X				X				
Subject Category	X	X	X			X		X	SC	SC = 1
Access Level		X				X				
Abstract	X	X			X	X		X	LOOK	LOOK3/a/'GREENHOUSE'
Subject Terms	X	X	X			X			IT	IT = SQUARE WAVES

TULSA Renewed

Financial considerations that led to the discontinuance of the lease for the TULSA (TUL) file from Petroleum Abstracts have been re-evaluated, and the lease has been renewed. This renewal will considerably augment the ERG (Enhanced Oil and Gas Recovery) file.

—Julia S. Redford, TIC

DOE/RECON Statistics

DOE/RECON uptime for April was 97.6%. There were 5,716 user sessions, and 137,099 citations were output via the PRINT commands.

—Leon Yount, DOE/RECON Staff,
ORNL

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Insert: Revised Guide

DOE/RECON Brief Guide, revised edition (DOE/TIC-4624), is inserted in this issue. This handy one-sheet guide contains the newest features of the DOE/RECON system and can be removed and posted for quick reference at your terminal. Additional copies are available from TIC upon request.

The following volumes are available from the National Technical Information Service at the prices indicated.

Coal Conversion

Coal Conversion and the Environment (DE82000105; CONF-801039), the twentieth annual Hanford Life Sciences symposium, was held in Richland, Washington, in October 1980 and was sponsored by the Department of Energy and Pacific Northwest Laboratories. The conference proceedings contain 43 papers dealing with the potential health and environmental conse-

quences of coal liquefaction and gasification processes. Price: \$24.75.

Fusion Wave Review

The Alfvén Wave (DE82001702; DOE/TIC-11197), a Critical Review Series publication by Akira Hasegawa and Chanchal Uberoi, is a new reference work for plasma and fusion physics. It describes the linear properties of Alfvén waves in homogeneous media, the effects of inhomogeneities on linear properties, the appearance of continuum spectra and the associated absorption of Alfvén waves, plasma instabilities, and the application of Alfvén waves to fusion. Price: \$11.50.

Atmospheric Diffusion

Handbook on Atmospheric Diffusion (DE82002045; DOE/TIC-11223), by Steven R. Hanna, Gary A. Briggs, and Rayford P. Hosker, Jr., deals with basic meteorological concepts, plume rise, source effects, and diffusion models, including discussions of cooling tower plumes and suggestions for calculating diffusion in special circumstances. Price: \$10.75.

Telenet Expands Service

A number of cities have been added to the Telenet network in recent weeks; in other cities, 1200 bps service expansion and network upgrades have resulted in access number changes. Here are the new access numbers:

New Cities

City	110-1200 bps Dial-In
Florence/Sheffield, AL	205/766-9101
Tallahassee, FL	904/224-6824
Evansville, IN	812/424-5250
Bowling Green, KY	502/843-9026
Princeton, NJ	609/683-1312
Nederland, TX	713/724-6761

1200 bps Service Added

City	1200 bps Dial-In
Frankfort, KY	502/875-3920
Abilene, TX	915/676-8545
Auburn, WA	206/939-9982

Upgrades and Access Number Changes

City	110-300 bps Dial-In
Los Angeles, CA	213/937-3580
Minneapolis, MN	612/341-2459
New York, NY	212/785-2540*
San Angelo, TX	915/944-7621
San Antonio, TX	512/225-8004
City	1200 bps Dial-In
Los Angeles, CA	213/937-3580
Colorado Springs, CO	303/635-5361
Denver, CO	303/694-2710*
Minneapolis, MN	612/341-2459
San Angelo, TX	915/944-7621
San Antonio, TX	512/225-8004

*These are additional dial-in numbers; existing facilities are unchanged.

If you have any questions, call Dean Brogan, Telecommunications Management Specialist, at FTS 626-1111, commercial (615) 576-1111.

—Daun Sample, TIC

Calendar of Events

1982			
July 2, 5	DOE/RECON Holidays	July 15-16	System-Independent EDB and Advanced DOE/RECON Training (for experienced DOE/RECON searchers). Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM (July 15, System-Independent EDB, is also open to experienced searchers on commercial systems).
July 12	Basic DOE/RECON Training; Introductory Module on Using Terminals (optional afternoon session for novice users). Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM		
July 13-14	Basic DOE/RECON Training (for newer users). Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM		

Please send training reservations to DOE/RECON Training Coordinator, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Bldg. 50, Room 130, Berkeley, CA 94720, telephone: (415) 486-6307 or FTS 451-6307.

The following fee schedule for 2-day DOE/RECON training sessions is effective July 1, 1982:

	<u>Existing password</u>	<u>Start-up fee (includes one training slot plus search aids)</u>
DOE Employees	Free	Free
DOE Contractors	\$125	\$200
Other Federal Employees	\$150	\$225
All Others	\$175	\$250

The fees are payable to the Regents of the University of California.

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FIRST CLASS

For Reference

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