Searching EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source

*EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source* saves Intellectual Property managers time by providing a single search of the largest non-patent literature repository available.

The *EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source* search engine enhances discovery of relevant prior art by:

- Applying our comprehensive subject index to an unprecedented range of content (where prior art may be “hiding”)
- Using our embedded relevance feedback engine (to link “unusual” terms to more commonly used terms for a given subject)

In this help sheet, we look at three use cases for using *EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source* to find non-patent literature in scientific, technical, and medical (STM) full text journals.

Use Case 1: Keyword Search for Prior Art

A scientist at a chemical company is looking for prior art on polymer liquid crystals in optics.

1. On the Basic Search Screen, enter “polymer liquid crystals in optics” in the **Find** field and click **Search**.

2. A result list is displayed with thousands of results related to keywords.

   Results show “prior art” in STM literature, from the huge *EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source* index and other resources available to the institution.
Use Case 2: Use Patent Application to Search for Prior Art

A chemical company is applying for a patent on a dental implant using a specific non-surgical insertion technique.

In this example, the application includes a number of claims of novel ideas that can be patented.

A patent attorney is hired to conduct a prior art search against some of these claims.


2. EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source returns several results from STM literature that could be proof of prior art.
Use SmartText Searching to Search for Prior Art

*EBSCO Non Patent Prior Art Source* also allows large blocks of text to be searched at one time using SmartText Searching.

In this example, the patent attorney wants to search for an entire claim from the patent application and limit the results to only articles from STM journals.

1. Patent attorney changes the Search Mode to **SmartText Searching**, enters entire text of Claim 16 into the **Find** field, and clicks **Search**.

![SmartText Searching example](https://help.ebsco.com/interfaces/EBSCO_Discovery_Service/EDS_User_Guide/Searching_EBSCO_Non_Patent_Prior_Art_Source)

2. A result list is displayed.

Next, the patent attorney and limits the results to STM journals only by clicking the Academic Journals source type in the left-hand column.

![Result list with STM journals](https://help.ebsco.com/interfaces/EBSCO_Discovery_Service/EDS_User_Guide/Searching_EBSCO_Non_Patent_Prior_Art_Source)

3. The result list is refreshed and limited to only articles from STM journals.