





# **USER GUIDE**

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to ConSyn, Elsevier's Content Syndication Service. This system contains XML files of all journal articles (including articles in press), books and book series published by Elsevier. This user guide has been set up to help you to use the system correctly and efficiently, and to answer any questions you might have. It is a living document, so please contact us at <a href="mailto:consyn@elsevier.com">consyn@elsevier.com</a> whenever you need extra information or explanations to be added.

For more information on the XML file format of the ConSyn files, please refer to the document "The CONSYN schemas", which can be found under 'Help & Resources' in the top right hand corner of the ConSyn system.

#### **BROWSER**

ConSyn is accessed via a web browser. It is supported on Internet Explorer (version 7 and higher) as well as Firefox (version 3.5 and higher).

#### PERSONAL DETAILS

The moment your ConSyn account has been created, you will receive an e-mail with your user name and password.

After logging on to ConSyn for the first time, you will be asked to change your password. Please choose a password that adheres to the following rules:

- A minimum of 8 characters.
- ❖ A mix of lowercase, uppercase letters and numbers.
- ❖ The password may also contain regular symbols, e.g. \*, &, % /, ?, !, |.
- ❖ The password may *not* contain diacritic characters, e.g. é, à, Ø, ç.
- You will be prompted to reset your password after 60 days. After 90 days, the password will expire and the system will force you to change it.

If you are inactive in ConSyn for 60 minutes, the session times out. If you come back to this session, you will be asked to log on again.

After successful login, you can edit your personal details by clicking on your name at the top right hand corner. This will open your customer profile, which consists of 3 tabs (Fig. 1):

- Personal details. Here you can edit first name, last name and email address. Your username is fixed. Changes are saved upon pressing 'Submit': a message "Your personal details were successfully saved" will appear.
- \* Address details. Here you can edit your postal address. This address is required when you request to receive a large batch of ConSyn data on hard media. Kindly make sure this address is complete and kept up to date.
- Change Password. Here you can change your password whenever needed.

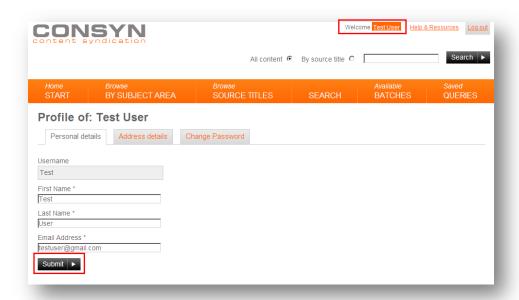


Fig. 1. Customer profile tabs, where you can edit personal details. Access it by clicking on your name in the top right-hand corner. Changes are saved by pressing 'Submit'.

#### **FORGOTTEN PASSWORD**

If you have forgotten your password, you can request a new password at login by entering the email address from your customer profile (Fig.2). It is not possible to receive the password at a different email address: it is your main identifier in the ConSyn system.

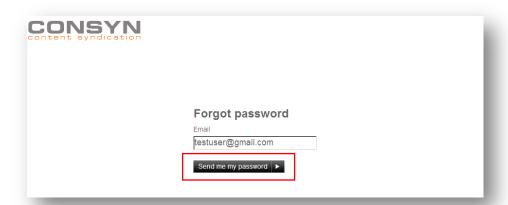


Fig. 2. Request a new password.

#### **ENTITLEMENTS**

Elsevier has defined access to various titles in your customer profile based on publication year, subject area and/or ISSN/ISBN.

Every title in ConSyn has been assigned to one or more subject areas. If a journal is added to a subject area defined in your profile, you will automatically get access to it. If you cannot find material to which you should have access, please contact us at <a href="mailto:consyn@elsevier.com">consyn@elsevier.com</a>.

#### **SELECTING FILES**

You can select XML files in several ways:

- By browsing subject areas
- By browsing specific titles
- By entering search terms
- ❖ By quick search

These options are explained in detail in the next sections.

#### **BROWSING BY SUBJECT AREA**

Clicking on tab 'Browse BY SUBJECT AREA' will produce a complete list of the subject areas and sub-areas in your entitlement. You can select either a whole subject class, e.g. 'Life Sciences', or select one or more smaller subject areas by ticking the box in front of them (Fig. 3). Pressing 'Show selection' will produce a list of all titles that fall within the subject areas you selected.

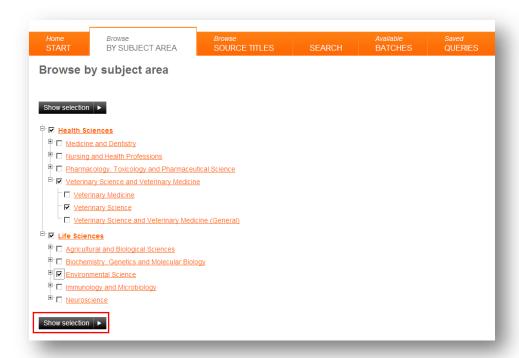


Fig. 3. 'Browse by subject area' tab showing the subject areas that you can access.

**Note:** The Browsing by Subject area tab is only shown when you have access to more than a single subject area and a large enough number of titles.

#### **BROWSING BY SOURCE TITLE**

You automatically reach 'Browse SOURCE TITLES' after pressing 'Show selection' in 'Browse BY SUBJECT AREA', but you can also access this tab straight away. Figure 4 below shows the titles selected by the highlighted subject areas in Fig. 3.

- The grey area displays the selected subject areas.
- The row of letters indicate the begin letter of available titles in ConSyn.
  - A black letter indicates that no titles starting with that letter are included in your selection.
  - An orange clickable letter indicates titles starting with that letter are included.
  - A white letter on an orange background indicates the group of titles you are currently looking at.
  - Some titles start with a number these can be found under '0-9'.
  - 'All' will list all titles in your selection.
- You can refine your selection in this screen by selecting 'Serial' (i.e. journals and numbered book series) or 'Non-serial' (i.e. books, unnumbered book series). Default option is 'Both', which will list books, book series and journals.
- 'Select all' selects all titles, so not just the ones listed on screen for that letter.
- 'Deselect all' removes whatever you selected on this tab.
- 'Export selected' will initiate the batch download process.

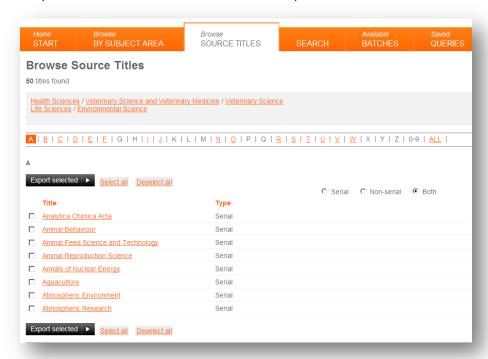


Fig. 4. 'Browse Source Titles' tab.

❖ You can select certain titles, but also drill down inside a journal to refine your selection further to journal, issue level and even article or chapter level (Figs. 5 & 6).



Fig. 5. Drilling down within a journal.



Fig. 6. Drilling down within an issue.

Whenever your selection covers more than 10 results, you can select the number of results you want to see on a page by picking the desired number from the list in 'Display results per page'.

#### **SEARCH**

On the 'SEARCH' tab, you can perform free format text searches (Fig. 7). You can also search for terms in specific text elements, e.g. in the title or abstract.

Tips for using the Search text box:

- ❖ A Google-like search is possible. Please note that the operators should be in UPPERCASE.
  - AND. Example 1: heart AND stress finds all files mentioning the heart which also mention stress.
  - OR. Example 2: heart OR stress finds all files mentioning either the heart or stress, or both.
  - A hyphen can be used as the 'not' operator. Example 3: heart AND -stress finds all files mentioning the heart which don't mention stress.
  - When searching for ISSNs or PIIs or similar the maximum number of items to submit per search is 1000.
- ❖ If you want to search for a string of words, it should be enclosed in double quotes.
- If you want to search for all content, leave the Search text box empty and press Search.
- You can also perform a search based on words in certain fields, e.g. acknowledgment, author, article title, abstract, key word, publication title, volume, issue, year, page number (see <u>Appendix</u>). Search term and prefix must be separated by a colon.
  - **Example 4:** author:Benjamin finds all files with authors called Benjamin.
  - **Example 5: author:** Benjamin Lewis" finds all files with an author called Benjamin Lewis.
  - **Example 6:** author:Benjamin Lewis -- finds all files with an author called Benjamin and where Lewis is named anywhere in the file.
- You can also combine the various options to make slightly more complicated queries.
  - **Example 7: abstract:"heart attack" AND -(title:stress)** finds all files with heart attack in the abstract which don't mention stress in the title.
  - **Example 8:** abstract: "heart attack" AND (title:stress OR all:surgery) finds all files with heart attack in the abstract; and also either mention stress in the title or surgery in the entire text, or both.

Search options in addition to the Search text box (Fig. 7):

- \* Match. You can choose to search for whole words only or also include parts of words.
- Across. You can search through serials (journals and book series), non-serials (books) or both.
- Subject area. You can choose to search through all subject areas or select specific areas in which to search.
- Dates. You can refine your search to certain publication years.
- Added to ConSyn since. You can also choose to search through material added after a certain date.

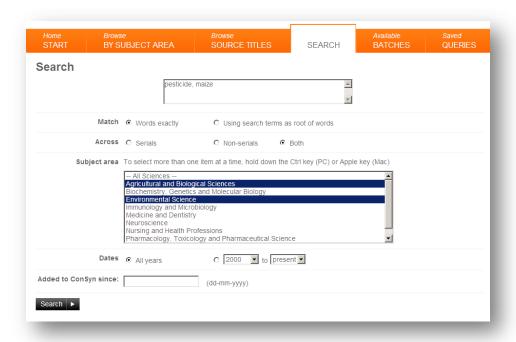


Fig. 7. Search options.

Once your selection criteria have been set, pressing 'Search' will fetch the articles/chapters fulfilling those criteria.

Another option is to upload a list of pii's or doi's. Enter all pii's/doi's on a separate line in a text file in the following format: PII,S0022-2836(10)00432-8 or DOI,10.1016/j.jmb.2010.04.044. The length of the list is constrained to 1000 items per file. Selecting the file and pressing the upload button will fetch the articles/chapters.

#### QUICK SEARCH

The search box above the tabs allows you to quickly search for specific titles or to use a few simple search terms.

- \* All content. If you select this option, you can enter a few search terms. Pressing 'Search' will fetch all articles/ book chapters containing these search terms.
- \* By source title. If you select this option, you can enter part of a journal or book title. Pressing 'Search' will fetch all journals, books and book series with those terms in their title (see 'Lancet' example in Fig. 8).

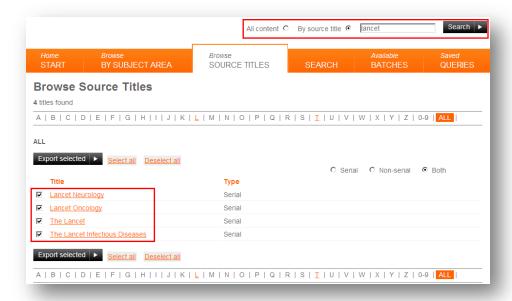


Fig. 8. Quick search.

#### ARTICLE VERSIONS IN CONSYN

There can be a considerable period of time (several months) between the moment an article is accepted and the moment it is published in its final version. The lag time depends on a number of factors; amongst others how quickly an author provides requested corrections.

ScienceDirect provides journals the option to publishing the article when it is still 'in press'. This 'Articles in Press' option provides users the opportunity to discover and read the article soon after acceptance, before it is available in its final form.

In ConSyn serial content (journal articles, book series chapters) is made available in different versions, in line with how article versions are published on ScienceDirect.com. This is a sequential process: when a new version is made available, the older version is no longer online. The ScienceDirect URL and the DOI of the article remain the same as the article progresses through the different stages.

Which versions are made available online for an article is journal specific. Not all articles go through all of the stages above. For some journals articles are published only in their final form.

In ConSyn, the version is tagged <dp:version-number>.

In ConSyn you will find the following versions for journal and book series articles:

- S5 Journal Pre Proof, available a few days after an article has been submitted.
- \$ \$100 Uncorrected Proof
- ❖ S200 Corrected Proof (no volume, issue, page numbers available yet)
- \$250 Article-based Published Journal Article (volume, issue, page numbers available)
- ❖ S300 Issue-based Published Journal Article (volume, issue, page numbers available)

\$ S350 Pre-cap PJA (final version for articles that do not have full-text XML, and that have a scanned (and OCRed) PDFs), typically older content or content not originally published with Elsevier.

S300 or S350 are indications for final versions. Articles are made available either in S300 or S350, but not both.

Non-serial book chapters are available in \$300 or \$350 only.

Chapters from Major Reference Works can be made available in S300 or S350 (for static reference works), or in S280, which is the version indication for chapter-based publishing in Major Reference Modules. S280 is an indication for a final version (which is not followed by any later version).

#### WHICH VERSIONS TO INDEX?

In principle, we recommend search and discovery tools to index all versions of the article to ensure their index reflects the content as it is available on ScienceDirect.com, including Articles in Press.

By default, all articles for which a new version is available are included in scheduled updates.

Databases that prefer to limit the number of different versions included in update batches and want to index only the final version can set up a query that includes only articles that have reached a final status since the last update.

You can do this by ticking the box "Exclude Article in Press".

Please note that as a consequence of limiting your index to articles that have reached their final version, there can be a considerable delay between the moment articles from journals that publish Articles in Press are discoverable in your application and the moment these were first made available on ScienceDirect.

#### **DOWNLOADING BATCHES**

In the previous sections, you saw how to select material. This section addresses how to download it. You always start with pressing 'Export selected' in any of the search or browse screens. This opens the 'Create batch for download' screen.

#### **SELECT CONTENT TYPE**

The number of articles/chapters items in your batch is displayed on the top line. Below, you can select in which content type you would like them to be downloaded (Fig. 9):

- Head-only RDF. Only an RDF file is created.
- Head-only XML (includes RDF). An XML file containing article/chapter title, author names, abstract, history, keywords the 'head' plus RDF is created.
- Head and tail XML (includes RDF). An XML file containing article/chapter head, references plus RDF is created.
- Full text XML (includes RDF). An XML of the complete article/chapter plus RDF is created.

**Note:** Almost all recent material published by Elsevier is available as fully structured XML. However, for some conversion titles and legacy material (e.g. The Lancet from 1823), the body of the articles/chapters is only available as raw text files. If you select 'full text', some of the material may therefore contain raw text instead of structured XML.

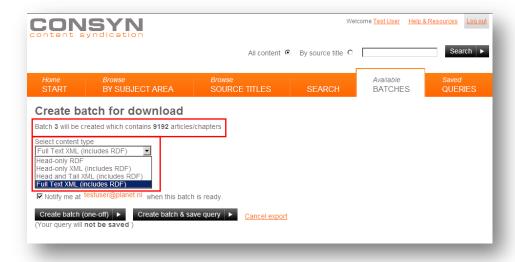


Fig. 9. Select format.

The estimated size of the batch is calculated on the fly when the content type is selected and visible below the content type.

#### CREATE BATCH

You can choose to be notified via e-mail when the batch is ready (Fig. 10). This mail will be sent regardless of the time it takes to create the batch.



Fig. 10. Batch size in file numbers and size.

Subsequently, you can choose to create this batch just once ('Create batch (one off')), or to save it and rerun it at certain intervals ('Create batch and save query'). You also have the option to cancel batch creation by pressing 'Cancel export'.

#### **SAVED QUERIES**

If you select to save the query, the 'Save query' screen opens (Fig. 11). Here you can enter a name and a frequency. ConSyn will run the query at the specified interval and retrieve all articles/chapters that have been added to ConSyn since the previous run.

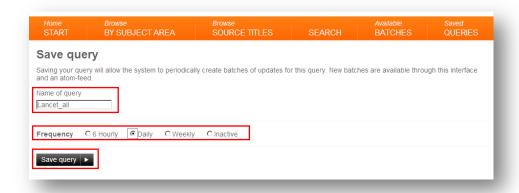


Fig. 11. Save query.

You can edit your saved queries on the 'Saved QUERIES' tab (Fig. 12).

You can delete several queries in one go by ticking the box in front of them and pressing 'Remove selected queries'.

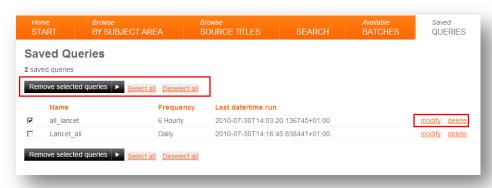


Fig. 12. Edit query: delete multiple queries.

- You can edit a query by pressing 'Modify' (Fig. 13). Subsequently, you can change the query name by typing in the 'Name' box. You can also change the frequency by selecting a value under 'Frequency'. Selecting 'Inactive' will stop the query from running. Pressing 'save' will save the changes.
- ❖ You can delete a single query by pressing 'delete'.



Fig. 13. Edit query.

#### LARGE BATCHES

If a batch is estimated to exceed 3 GB, it will be pushed into Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3). An email will be sent with S3 signed urls to download the batch once it is ready. The batch will be scheduled for weekend execution.



Fig. 14. Order large batch on Amazon S3.

#### AVAILABLE BATCHES FOR DOWNLOAD

On the Available batches tab, you can see the batches you created in the last 7 days (Fig. 15). After downloading a batch you can hide it after which it is no longer downloadable. You can also unhide the batch again after which it will be downloadable again. After 7 days the batches are deleted automatically.



Fig. 15. List of batches created in the last 7 days.

- Large batches that are still being built are listed as 'In Progress'. Once the zip file creation is complete for the batch, the timestamp and the link(s) for the zip file(s) will be displayed.
- Available batches consist of 1 or more zip files, which can be downloaded individually. Number of items (i.e. articles and chapters) is listed, as well as the total size of the batch. A single zip file contains a maximum of 50,000 items.
- The name of a batch file consists of a consecutive batch number (i.e. 7 for Batch 7 in Fig. 15), a consecutive number of a file in the batch (i.e. 00001), the format of the batch (i.e. FULL-XML), if generated by a saved query the name of the query, and the file type which is always ZIP.
- ❖ You can subscribe to an ATOM feed, which will notify you whenever a new batch is created.
- It is recommended to download batches in an automated manner upon availability of new batches based on the ATOM feed alerts. A sample Python script is available from the Help & Resources link in the top-right corner of the Consyn homepage.
- ❖ If you have created a batch larger than 3 GB, it is scheduled to run during the weekend and the 'Created' row will show as "Scheduled".

# **APPENDIX**

The table below shows the names of the text elements that can be searched. Please note that only keyboard quotation marks will yield the desired results (i.e. when copying one of the below examples remember to replace the copied quotation marks with quotation marks from the keyboard before pressing Search) and when using AND and/or OR operators to construct search strings a maximum of 1000 items can be submitted per search.

Prefix	Element	Meaning	Example
abs, abstract	<ce:abstract></ce:abstract>	Abstract	abs:"condensation nuclei counter" will find all articles with 'condensation nuclei counter' in the abstract.
ack	<ce:acknowledgment></ce:acknowledgment>	Acknowledgment	ack:"Department of Energy" will find all files mentioning 'Department of Energy' in the Acknowledgment section.
aff, affiliation	<ce:affiliation></ce:affiliation>	Affiliation	aff:"University of Göttingen" or affiliation:"University of Göttingen" will retrieve all files with an author affiliated to the University of Göttingen.
aip		Articles in press	aip:"0001-2092" will retrieve all articles in press of the journal with ISSN '0001-2092'
all		Entire XML file except the references	
auth, author	<ce:author></ce:author>	Author	
body	<ja:body></ja:body>	Main part of a publication, without article opening, abstract and references	
dst, docsubtype	docsubtype	Specifies the document subtype	dst:"fla,brv" finds all articles with a docsubtype attribute of 'fla' or 'brv', i.e., all full ength articles and book reviews.
doi	<ce:doi></ce:doi>	Digital Object Identifier	doi: "10.1016/S0006-3061(00)80277-X" will retrieve the article with that DOI
full, fulltext		Entire XML file	
head	<ja:head> or <ja:simple- head&gt;</ja:simple- </ja:head>	Entire article opening, i.e. document heading, title, authors, affiliations, article history, abstract and keywords.	head:Koivistoinen will retrieve files mentioning the name Koivistoinen anywhere in the article opening.
headonly		Articles without full text xml	headonly:all will find all articles that do not have full text xml available, but raw text taken from the pdf instead.

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isbn	<pre><prism:isbn></prism:isbn></pre>	ISBN, unique ID for the book	
iss	<pre><prism:number></prism:number></pre>	Issue	iss:3 will retrieve files published in a third issue of any volume.
isspii		Issue PII, unique identifier of the issue	
issn	<pre><prism:issn></prism:issn></pre>	ISSN, unique ID for the journal / book series	
key	<ce:keyword></ce:keyword>	Key words	key:"condensation nuclei counter" will find all files containing 'condensation nuclei counter' as a key word
oai	<oa: openAccessInformation&gt;</oa: 	Open access information	oai:all will find all files with open access information. oai:"ElsevierWaived" will retrieve all articles with an open access tag which contains 'ElsevierWaived'.
page	<ce:pages></ce:pages>	Page information	page:all will retrieve all articles with page numbers. page:"217" will retrieve all pages numbered as 217.
pii	<ce:pii></ce:pii>	Publishable item identifier, a unique ID of the article / chapter	
raw	<dp:raw-text></dp:raw-text>	Raw text. Only present if the body is not available in tagged XML, mostly for publications from before 2000	raw: "chromium chloride" will find all files with a raw text element that contains the words 'chromium chloride'.
ref	<ce-bib-reference></ce-bib-reference>	References	ref:Lancet will find all files which mention a publication from 'The Lancet' in the references.
st, srctitle	<pre><prism:publicationname></prism:publicationname></pre>	Source title	st:Hearing or srctitle:Hearing finds files from publications that have 'Hearing Research' in the title.
stage		Production stage	stage:S200 will find all articles in production stage 'S200' (corrected proof).
title	<ce:title></ce:title>	Article / chapter title	title:" particle growth system (PGS)" will find all files with 'particle growth system (PGS)' in the title
version	<dp:version-number></dp:version-number>	Version number	version:S200.3 will find all articles with a version number 'S200.3'.
vol	<pri>m:volume&gt;</pri>	Volume	vol:248 will find files published in a Volume 248.
vit, volisstitle	<pre><prism:issuename></prism:issuename></pre>	Name of a Proceedings or special issue	vit:"Cochlear Nucleus" or volisstitle:"Cochlear Nucleus" will find all issues with 'Cochlear Nucleus' in the issue name.