



# Wichita State University Libraries

## Ergonomics Abstracts Online

**Ergonomics Abstracts Online**—a bibliographic database abstracting over 350 journals, as well as books, reports, and conference proceedings in the fields of ergonomics and human factors. Coverage is from 1985 to the present.

**Access**—Ergonomics Abstracts Online <http://www.catchword.co.uk/ergonomics> is available on campus, or remotely. From the library's homepage <http://library.wichita.edu> click on "Databases and Other Electronic Sources." Select *Ergonomics Abstracts* from the "Alphabetic List." Remote users will then be prompted for the last ten digits of their Shocker id and PIN number. If you have not changed it, your PIN # is your birth-date without any spaces or dashes (i.e., 060882). Click on *USA* under location options. From the "Welcome screen", select *search* from the burgundy toolbar at the top of the screen.

**Basic Search**—Search defaults to Basic Search. This search mode offers more flexibility allowing the user to create very simple to very complex search strategies.

- ❑ **Phrases**—should be contained in either single or double quotation marks.

Example: *"repetitive motion" or 'repetitive motion'*

- ❑ **Boolean Operators**—*and*, *or*, *not* should be inserted between each word or phrase. An implied *or* will be inserted between each word if no operator is placed there.
- ❑ **Wildcard**—Truncating at the end of words and phrases with an \* is the only wildcard supported in this database.

- ❑ **Nesting/Grouping**—Use parentheses to group terms.

Example: *("repetitive motion" or rmi) and injur\**

- ❑ **Fielded Search**—The default is set to search all fields for chosen terms. More direct search strategies can be created by using either of the following methods:
  - Click on the box to the right of the field you wish to limit your search for under "**Fields to Search**" (this option is useful when doing an author or title search). You may select multiple fields. All terms entered in the textbox will be searched in all the fields selected.

- More complex search strings for searching specific fields can be created within the textbox by using the field abbreviations (For a list of abbreviations click on *help* from the burgundy navigation bar and scroll down to **Direct Search**). To create a fielded search string:
  1. Type the field abbreviation.
  2. Type '/' for words or phrases. OR Type a numeric operator (==, <>, >=, and <=) if searching a numeric field.
  3. Enter the search term (use operators, quotes, groupings, and truncation as explained under **Basic Search**).

Example: *(title/'repetitive motion' or abs/'repetitive motion') and year ==1999*

Results will include articles that contain the phrase *repetitive motion* in either the title and/or the abstract published in *1999*.

- Complete the search by clicking on *Search*.

## **Editing a Search**—

- Clicking on the *Modify Search* button takes you back to the last search performed. Make any changes necessary and click on *Search*.
- *Ergonomics Abstracts* allows you to re-run or combine searches from your search history.
  - The default is set to retain your last five searches which are displayed at the bottom of the search screen. From the **Options** screen you can increase your history file.
  - To re-run a search click on the numbered link.
  - To combine searches or add terms to a search type # followed by the number of the search. Add any additional terms or operators and click on *Search*.

Example: *(#4 or #5) and injur\**

## **Form Search**—This type of search is useful for searching specific fields.

- Type the numbers, symbols, words or phrases in the textbox next to the corresponding field.
- There is an implied “and” between each field that contains an entry. With each field selected your search narrows to include all the chosen concepts. Use **Advanced** or **Basic Searches** for greater flexibility in using operators.
- **Boolean Operators** may be used within the textboxes for individual fields.

**Advanced Search**—This search allows you to search in multiple fields. Unlike the *Form Search* you can select to combine terms in different fields with different operators.

- ❑ Select a field from the drop down menu under **Field**.
- ❑ Select a numeric operator from the drag down menu under **Operator**. Abstract #, Publication Year, and Number of References are fields searchable using only numerics. The menu defaults to “contain” which should be used for all searches NOT using numbers.
- ❑ Enter words, phrases, or numbers in the textboxes under **Search String**. Use truncation, quotes, and Boolean operators just as described in **Basic Search**.



- ❑ Select a Boolean operator between each search string by clicking on *and, or, not*.

## **Viewing Results**

- ❑ Select *Options* from the burgundy bar at the top of the page to set options for viewing search results and abstracts. Click on *Save Options* to apply any changes you have made to the default selections. Note: **Highlight color** refers to the color your search terms will be highlighted in when viewing the abstract.
- ❑ **Abstracts** may be viewed individually by clicking on *View Abstract* next to each citation. To view all the abstracts of a results set click on the green *View Abstracts* button at the top of the page.
- ❑ **Marking/Printing/Saving to File**
  - **Mark** citations or abstracts by clicking in the box *Add to selected list*. Before going to the Next Page click on *Update Selected*. When your list is complete click on *View Selected* from the burgundy bar.
  - **Print** citations/abstracts by using the printer icon from your browser.
  - **Save to File**—Click on File from your browser's tool bar. Click on Save As and select the A: drive to save to disk. **Note: Do NOT use the Save to File button on the Ergonomics Abstracts screen to save citations to disk (it runs all the citations/abstracts selected into one long text string which makes it very difficult to read).**
- ❑ Once you have a list of citations from *Ergonomics Abstracts* you will need to do a title search in the *Library's Online Catalog* to see if the library owns the journal or conference paper. You may request any items the library does not own through Interlibrary Loan.