IHS Standards Expert®

Continuous Search Refinements

IHS

The Source
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Innovation in Standards Management

At IHS, we are listening to you. You've told us that you depend on IHS Standards Expert to quickly and easily find the standards, codes and specifications you need to create increasing value for your organization. And the faster you can find the documents you need, the more value you can create.

That's why IHS is working continuously to refine the Search functionality in IHS Standards Expert to help you swiftly and reliably find the precise information you need. These enhancements are ongoing and seamless for users; the only change you will experience is in the increased speed and accuracy of your searches.

Bringing You Better Search Results

The IHS Standards Expert team compiles and reviews weekly reports that document the search terms that our 600,000 users are employing on a daily basis as part of their regular workflows. This analysis is done anonymously to preserve privacy, but the results help us to surface trends in the publications that users are seeking, how they are using the search functionality, and where we have opportunities to enhance Search.

In particular, the IHS Standards Expert team is now able to review searches that result in zero hits, that is, instances in which a user's search turns up no documents in the results. By analyzing these instances, we are able to make changes to the search logic and to the data in the IHS Standards Index of more than 1.6 million documents to better deliver the results that a user expects when employing specific search terms. The result is an overall improvement in the user's experience as the correct documents are reliably returned in the search results.

Recent Updates

Examples of recent updates to Search include the enhancements related to the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (BPVC).

IHS has reconfigured the way the BPVC sections are handled within IHS Standards Expert to create consistent revision histories. This makes it easier for users to find the current code books. For example, ASME/BPVC Section I now has the full revision history of Section I in one family dating back to 1971 rather than separated into multiple document histories.

In addition, search aliases have been added for many of the code books so that users can search on parts or subsections and still get accurate results. For example, IHS analysis revealed that many users were searching on the "SA" specs in Section II and getting zero hits. These specs have all been added as aliases within the index and can now be searched.

Similarly, the IHS Standards Expert team has added "search synonyms" to the index to make many document searches, including the BPVC, more flexible. For example:

- BPVC = BPV or B&PV or Boiler Code or Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code
- Sec = Section or Sectn or Sect
- Pt = Part

More Enhancements

IHS has built many Search enhancements into the most recent major release of IHS Standards Expert.

<u>"Type Ahead"</u>

When a user begins typing a document number into the Document search box, after the user types in at least three characters, the Type Ahead tool begins searching ahead in the organizations and active documents within the index for a match to the user's query. As the user types additional characters, the Type Ahead tool continuously refines the results. (Type Ahead works with or without the organization.)

Type Ahead is a good way to confirm that you're typing valid information and that you're on the right track, or to help you see how IHS has set up document numbers in the IHS Standards Index, which could be different from how the document number is formatted in other reference materials.

<u>"Type Ahead"</u>

Relevancy Ranking places the most relevant documents at the top of the search results list, based on the user's search criteria and filter selections. Relevancy is calculated based on many different variables, including:
- If the search terms are an exact or a partial match
- The order of multiple search terms (Position)
- The number of times the terms appear (Frequency)
- How close the words are together (Proximity)

<u>"Did You Mean...? Tool"</u>

The "Did You Mean..." tool provides search results even when the original search terms are misspelled. For example, a user might enter "glucose monitroing" rather than "glucose monitoring" in the Keywords search box. The system recognizes the misspelling and comes back with results based on the correct spelling. The search engine is going to make an interpretation of what it thinks the user meant to type, leveraging the built-in dictionary to return better results that more closely match what the user is truly looking for.

<u>Regional Language Variations</u>

The IHS Standards Expert search engine also supports regional language variations, so typing "aluminium" rather than "aluminum" will show results for both "aluminium" and "aluminum." The search engine also is able to recognize synonyms that are based in regional language variations, such as "lift" and "elevator." The search engine also supports "term expansion" through what is called *lemmatization*. For example, a search for "brake" will also return "brakes". A search for "mice" will return "mouse".

This technology allows users to employ the vocabulary and terminology that they are accustomed to, without having to think about how the search engine works. Instead, the search engine is thinking about how YOU work, and providing you with results that better match your query.

How Can We Make Search Better for You?

The Search enhancements in IHS Standards Expert are a direct result of user feedback. We welcome your input on how we can further refine Search capabilities to deliver increased value in your use of IHS Standards Expert. Please use the contact information below to share your thoughts on how we can better serve your needs.

– The IHS Standards Expert Team

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