

New common EXFOR master file

As explained in memo CP-D/435, as of July 2005, a recent version of the complete common master file, as well as the latest EXFOR/CINDA dictionaries, are available from the website www-nds.iaea.org/exfor-master/backup. In between the new master files, all TRANS files processed at NDS as also made available. So every centre may either continue to update their master with the latest TRANS files, or wait for the next master.

As of 1 October, the contents of this website if the following:

Index of www-nds.iaea.org/exfor-master/backup

Name	Last modified	Size	Description
exfor-2005-03-24.zip	04-Apr-2005 14:10	81M	EXFOR Backup
DICTS-2005-07-01.zip	13-Jun-2005 18:33	1.1M	EXFOR Dictionaries
EXFOR-2005-06-16.zip	17-Jun-2005 11:09	83M	1-st Master file
TRANS.1333.zip	08-Jul-2005 13:13	366K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.1334.zip	08-Jul-2005 13:14	140K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.1335.zip	08-Jul-2005 13:14	297K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.L007.zip	08-Jul-2005 13:15	31K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.T020.zip	08-Jul-2005 13:15	42K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.3117.zip	05-Aug-2005 11:46	55K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.C074.zip	05-Aug-2005 11:47	263K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.D039.zip	12-Aug-2005 10:18	156K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.D040.zip	12-Aug-2005 10:19	245K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.D041.zip	12-Aug-2005 10:19	207K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.M037.zip	12-Aug-2005 10:19	67K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.2172.zip	12-Aug-2005 10:19	483K	EXFOR Trans
EXFOR-2005-08-12.zip	12-Aug-2005 15:33	84M	Master file
TRANS.F021.zip	31-Aug-2005 09:53	203K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.F022.zip	31-Aug-2005 09:53	193K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.G012.zip	31-Aug-2005 15:05	2.0K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.S011.zip	31-Aug-2005 15:05	4.2K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.1336.zip	19-Sep-2005 14:10	209K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.L008.zip	19-Sep-2005 14:11	66K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.E032.zip	19-Sep-2005 14:11	164K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.J003.zip	19-Sep-2005 14:11	3.7K	EXFOR Trans
TRANS.R015.zip	19-Sep-2005 14:12	10K	EXFOR Trans
DICTS-2005-09-21.zip	22-Sep-2005 15:00	851K	EXFOR Dictionaries
exfor-2005-09-14.zip	26-Sep-2005 11:02	84M	EXFOR Backup

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Memo CP-D/435

Date: 24 June 2005
To: Distribution
From: O. Schwerer, S. Dunaeva, V. Zerkin
Subject: Common EXFOR master file and Dictionary Transmission 9088

According to Actions A20, A21 of last year's NRDC meeting, NDS has produced a common EXFOR master file which is now available for downloading as described in WP 2004-11.

At the same time, a new dictionary transmission (9088) was produced which can also be downloaded. As in the last transmission 9087, both the "old" and "new" dictionaries are included (compare memo CP-D/432).

Full EXFOR Master Files and Dictionaries and EXFOR TRANS Files can be downloaded from

<http://www-nds.iaea.org/exfor-master/backup/>

with contents like this:

DICTS-2005-07-01.zip	01-Jul-2005	<i>Dictionaries as of 2005-Jul-01</i>
EXFOR-2005-06-16.zip	16-Jun-2005	<i>EXFOR Master File as of 2005-Jun-16</i>
TRANS.0054.zip	15-Jul-2005	<i>EXFOR Trans 0054 (fictitious example)</i>
TRANS.1524.zip	17-Jul-2005	<i>EXFOR Trans 1524 (fictitious example)</i>
exfor-2005-07-18.zip	18-Jul-2005	<i>EXFOR Backup File as of 2005-Jul-18</i>

New versions of the master file, synchronized with dictionaries, will be made available every 3 months. (See WP 2004-11 for more details). By displaying the above web directory sorted by date ("Last modified"), the chronology of updates can easily be followed.

The comparison of the master files was mainly based on comparing the NDS with the NNDC file. The reason is that at NNDC many unilateral corrections and modifications were done which were not made available to the other centers. NDS checked all cases individually and decided whether the NDS or the NNDC version was to be taken. On the other hand, NDS never made unilateral changes to data received from other centers. Therefore, all new or corrected entries properly transmitted to NDS should exist unchanged in the NDS file, and no systematic differences between the NDS file and the originating center's own file exist.

A complete list of all differences found between the NDS and NNDC files, and the decision which version was taken for the common master file, can be found in:

<http://www-nds.iaea.org/exfor-master/x4merge/Results/>

The resulting file is certainly better than any previously existing master file, and all centers are invited to take it over, so that from now on only NDS has to do the regular updates. Anyway, every center still has the option of keeping their own file and updating it with the individual TRANS files (which will also be available through the web page given above), if so desired. However, all retransmissions from now on must be based on the common master file as starting version, to keep the data compatible.

In order not to lose any data and information, and being able to roll-back to the original data of each center, we recommend to all centers to keep an archival version of their own area. We also propose to all centers to send these archives to NDS, where the data will be stored and will always be available.

While this common file can be considered a significant improvement concerning quality and efficient file maintenance, it is understood that further corrections will be needed. E.g., mistakes which are the same in all master files, are not found in such an exercise and need to be corrected in the usual way. Furthermore, all centers are invited to go through the comparison list mentioned above. Should there be cases where the version of an entry adopted for the common master file is considered incorrect by the originating center, a retransmission should be made in the usual way (with brief explanation by e-mail).

As a consequence of the new procedure of data exchange via the central place, we need a new operation on the master file to be introduced, that was not foreseen in the old rules: complete replacement of a whole ENTRY. This procedure was implemented at NDS for the present merging project, and probably will be needed occasionally in the future. This topic will be proposed for discussion at the next NRDC meeting.

The latest TRANS files included from each area are:

1332, 2171, 3116, 4133, A060, B019, C073, D038, E031, F020, G011, J002, L006, M036, O023, P003, R014, S010, T019, V026.