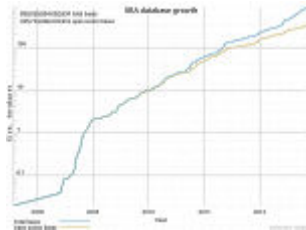


# NCBI News, September 2012

## How has the SRA grown!

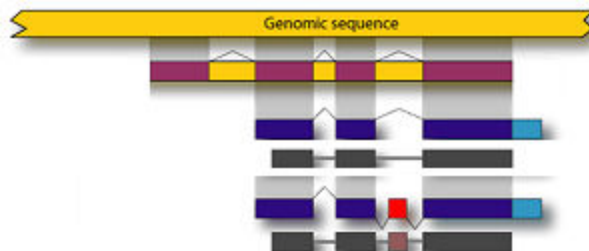
*Monday, September 24, 2012*



The [Sequence Read Archive \(SRA\)](#) now contains >859,000,000,000 bases with >335.7 open-access TeraBases available!

## RefSeq Release 55 is out!

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*



RefSeq Release 55 is available through Entrez, BLAST, and the [RefSeq FTP site](#). The current release includes 23,207,572 sequence records from 17,994 different organisms. The [Release Notes](#) provide more detailed information. Visit the [Reference Sequence Help Book](#) for more information on NCBI Reference Sequences.

## Now in PubChem: >6 million chemicals from SCRIADB with links to USPTO patents

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

More than 6 million structures from [SCRIPDB](#) are now available in ([PubChem](#)). Extracted from the complex work units of more than 300,000 USPTO patents between the years of

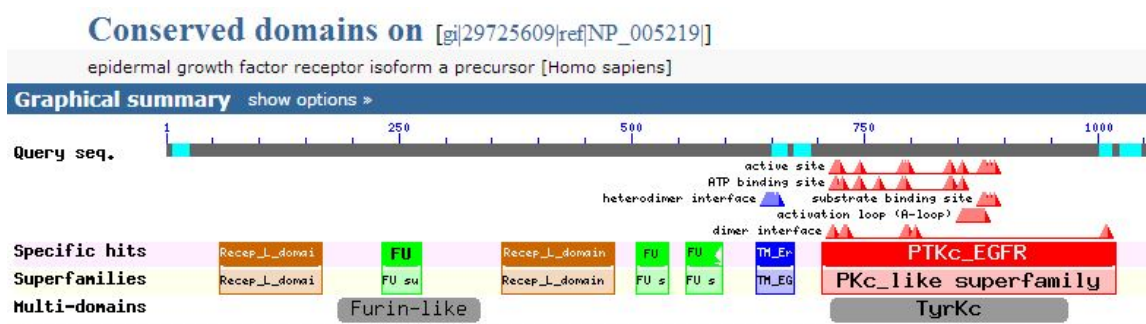
2001-2012, these PubChem Substance records link to both SCRIpDB and the USPTO websites.

Click [here](#) to retrieve the SCRIpDB records in PubChem Substance.

A [full text article](#) describing the SCRIpDB project is available in PubMed Central.

## New CDD release contains 239 new or updated NCBI-curated domains

Wednesday, September 19, 2012



Version 3.08 of the [Conserved Domain Database \(CDD\)](#) is now available. 46,507 conserved domain models have been indexed for searching with 239 as new or updated NCBI-curated domains. More detailed statistics are available from the [CDD News page](#).

CDD data has been incorporated in the Entrez and BLAST search services and CDD matrices and other information can be downloaded from the [CDD FTP site](#).

## PubChem databases and services are now HTTPS compatible

Monday, September 17, 2012

PubChem, NCBI's small molecule database and search system, is now Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) compatible, allowing encryption in interactions with the site.

## PubChem's PUG REST 1.0 is now available!

Thursday, September 13, 2012

PubChem Power User Gateway (PUG) REST interface 1.0 version is now available and replaces the April beta release!

This service allows access to PubChem data and services through simple HTTP requests, for use in scripts, javascript embedded in web pages, and 3rd party applications, without the overhead of XML and SOAP envelopes that are required for other versions of PUG. Unlike other PubChem services, PUG REST can deliver customized output or specific data elements without having to download the full record and can accept a variety of input types such as chemical name, InChIKey, SMILES in addition to numeric identifiers.

The [PUG REST help document](#) provides more information on formulation HTTP requests and the available functions. A new [PUG REST tutorial](#) provides examples of PUG REST.

## The BLAST+ User Manual has been revised & updated

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

The [BLAST+ manual](#) available on the [NCBI Bookshelf](#) has been extensively revised and updated. [Appendix C](#) now shows all available options for the different BLAST+ programs.

## Stand-alone BLAST has been updated

*Wednesday, September 12, 2012*

Stand-alone BLAST version 2.2.27+ is now available for download from the [BLAST Executables FTP site](#). This new version contains a number of important improvements and some bug fixes. Improvements include more accurate composition-based statistics for translating searches (blastx), the ability to run remote searches with deltablast, reduced memory usage by blastn with short queries, and improved gap placement by blastn in megablast mode. See the [Blast News](#) for more detail.

## PubChem reaches milestones on its 8th BDay!

*Wednesday, September 12, 2012*



PubChem now has more than 100 million live records in PubChem Substance, and nearly 200 million bioactivity outcomes PubChem BioAssay. More than 200 data submitters have submitted data to the PubChem project since its launch on September 16, 2004.

## A new version of Genome Workbench is available

*Thursday, September 06, 2012*

A new version (2.6.0) of NCBI's [Genome Workbench](#) is now available. Genome Workbench is a standalone sequence viewer, annotation, and analysis platform. This version has many new features, improvements, and a few bug fixes that are described in the [Release Notes](#).

## NCBI is now using Genome Annotation Release numbers

*Tuesday, September 04, 2012*

The NCBI eukaryotic genome annotation pipeline is now using Annotation Release numbers to decrease confusion regarding the independent notions of a genome assembly and its annotation.

Annotation Release numbers:

- are integer values that increment each time the genome annotation is updated.
- have initial values starting at 100 or higher. are incremented independently for each organism.
- are used for the set of annotations calculated on one or more genome assemblies.

Please see the documentation describing [The NCBI eukaryotic Genome Annotation Process page](#) for more information.