

SUBJECT SEARCHING IN THE ADAMS LEGACY LIBRARIES --
How the Keywords were assigned to the ADAMS LEGACY¹ Library Profiles?

ADAMS Legacy Library and **ADAMS Public Legacy Library**: There should be values in the Keyword property of all the Legacy records. The Keywords were generated by two different processes depending of the source of the legacy record.

For the records captured in **NUDOCS**, Keywords were produced automatically by a software process called BRS Control Title Searching (CTS), rather than by trained document indexers. They were derived the title lines of the records. The words or phrases from the NUDOCS Title field are compared electronically against a CTS Source Dictionary. When matches are found, the resulting words or phrases were added to what is now the Keyword property.

For the **PRDI and PRI** pre-1978 records, the Keywords were assigned by professional indexers. In some cases, these terms may differ from records from the NUDOCS database.

Subject searching with Keywords in the Legacy Libraries is advantageous because:

- Only a small portion of the Legacy records that associate text files and
- The related synonyms, abbreviations, and varied word endings have been analyzed and added to the dictionary. The user is not required to think of every possible combination of a word if a key term is available.

However, the subject searching with Keywords also has certain limitations that the searcher should be aware of when analyzing the results of a search:

- The title field usually consists of a description rather than a title; this may not accurately reflect the subject content of the document.
- The descriptions are freeform prose so the source dictionary cannot capture every form of a word the indexer may have used, which often includes non-standard abbreviations.
- Context and meaning of the words could not be analyzed by the CTS program
- The program only finds exact matches between approved words or phrases in the title lines and the CTS Source Dictionary entries.
- New terms are added to the Dictionary periodically but there may be a considerable time lag from the first appearance of a new term and it's inclusion in the CTS Dictionary. If search do not appear complete, search also for the words in the Title field.

A list of preferred terms and their relationships is available in the NRC **Public Document Room's Thesaurus**. See ML023380725. This reference tool was developed in 1994 and has now been reformatted for use in searching the NRC ADAMS Legacy Libraries Keyword property. It **is not applicable for searching ADAMS Main and PARS libraries** Keyword property.

¹  **WARNING:** Do not search by Keywords in the **Main Library** or the **PARS Library** unless you know how and under what circumstances this field is being used for documents of interest to you. The values in the Keyword property in these libraries are added by staff who generate or finalize a document based on local rules and procedures and template instructions, not by professional indexers. This is **not** a mandatory field. Keywords will not be added to documents submitted to the Agency from external sources. Therefore, use of this field will only retrieve a sample of documents on a topic.