SEC FILINGS RESEARCH 101

A STREAMLINED SEARCH PAGE MAKES FINDING FILINGS EASIER

Any company, U.S. or foreign, whose securities are traded in U.S. markets is required to make regular filings with the SEC. Lexis® Securities Mosaic® can make it easier to pinpoint the information you wish to find with the recently enhanced SEC Filings search page. Its user-friendly tools help you share, save or analyze information. See how easy searching this complex area can be.

Click the **SEC Filings** tab, which will take you to our [SEC Filings search page](#).

The SEC Filings page contains more than 17 million documents, going back to 1960. Our collection of electronically searchable filings (via SEC EDGAR®) is comprehensive and dates back to 1993. Filings are continuously updated.
A quick primer on filings

There are hundreds of types of SEC Filings, but fortunately, most of the valuable information people seek can be found in a few key filings.

**Annual reports**
Form 10-K for most U.S. companies and Form 20-F for most non-U.S. companies sum up the year’s business, including risk factors, financials, business descriptions, Management’s Discussion & Analysis, and information on executives, officers and beneficial owners.

**Quarterly reports**
Form 10-Q for most U.S. companies is a less extensive quarterly version of the information contained in the annual report.

**Proxy statements**
They’re also referred to as Schedule 14A, but depending on the type of proxy statement, they are commonly indexed as DEF 14A or PRE 14A. Proxy statements are required to be filed a minimum of once a year, corresponding to a company’s annual shareholder meeting. They disclose and explain upcoming matters or proposals that require the approval of shareholders via a “proxy” vote.

**Current reports (8-K)**
Form 8-K for U.S. filers and Form 6-K for non-U.S. filers announce a significant event or change to the company. Such events include bankruptcy, delisting, hiring or firing of an executive, the incurring of a significant debt or material impairment, and the revision of company bylaws or code of ethics.

**Registration statements/prospectuses**
Common form types are S-1 and S-3 for U.S. filers, and F-1 and F-3 for non-U.S. filers. These forms are for required registration of securities being offered on the public market. They announce the filer’s intention to offer securities, and offer a preliminary prospectus describing the company and its stock. They include, but are not limited to, IPOs.

**Final prospectuses**
They’re commonly filed in a 424B or “Rule 424” filing. Once a registration statement has been declared effective by the SEC, the registered securities are now ready to be sold. At this point, a “final prospectus” is typically filed, including the final price of the securities as they go to market.

**Beneficial ownership/insider filings**
They’re filed as Schedule 13D or 13G, or as Form 3, 4 or 5. When individuals or entities holding at least a 5 percent or 10 percent stake in a company acquire or sell off stock, one of these filings is triggered (depending on the situation).

**Tender offers**
They’re commonly filed as some variation of Schedule TO. If an accepted offer would result in a party owning more than 5 percent of a class of the target company’s securities, then that party must file a Schedule TO.
Searching filings

TO SEARCH FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF FILINGS

You have the option to do a text search using the SEC Filings Text Search Bar across the top of the page.

Searching by filing type

TO SEARCH FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF FILINGS

To focus your search to specific types of filings, click on the blue Change link at the end of the top line under Filings Search. It opens an easy-to-use dialog box that allows you to quickly focus your search.
Searching by company name information

**TO SEARCH FOR FILINGS BY A SPECIFIC COMPANY**

To search for a specific company, scroll down to the search box under **Filer Information** and enter the company name, ticker or CIK. Then select it from the list of suggested matches as in the screenshot below.

**TIP:** If a company has alternate ticker symbols, it will show up multiple times in the list of suggested matches. It doesn’t matter which entry you select—your query will be the same.

**TIP:** If a company’s name has changed, you can still search its former name. (However, all results returned will reflect the most current name.)
Searching by other company characteristics

It can sometimes be important to search a group of companies that share a particular characteristic rather than a specific company. Filter by the following attributes found under Filer Information:

- Index Membership
- Exchange
- Industry
- Accelerated Filer status
- SEC Designation (e.g., Well-Known Seasoned Issuer, Foreign Private Issuer)
- Place of Incorporation
- Principal Office Location
- Market & Financial information

Simply click the blue **Change** link to open a dialog box to select your desired search parameters.
Item searching within filings

TO CONDUCT ITEM SEARCHING

Select items you’d like to search within a filing at the same time as you search for a specific filing. Simply click Item Search and the type of filing you’re searching. Then click the blue Select link to open a dialog box of item options you can add to your search.

Exhibits attached to filings

Adding to the value of SEC Filings is the variety of “exhibits” that may be appended to them. Exhibits can include a broad variety of documents, including press releases, legal agreements, opinions, bylaws, charters, plans and more.

TO SEARCH FOR EXHIBITS

Select Exhibits only under Filings Search and you gain the option to Specify Exhibits Number or Specify Exhibits Label.
More learning resources

**Research support**
Call toll-free 866.650.3600 or email us at LSMSupport@lexisnexis.com between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. PT for immediate personal assistance. We are also available by email on evenings and weekends.

**Weekly Web Training**
Sign up for our weekly Lexis® Securities Mosaic® Web Training Conference offered every Tuesday from 2:00 P.M. to 2:50 P.M.

**Sign up**
lexissecuritiesmosaic.com/net/public/Training.aspx

**Self-guided learning**
Go to the [Lexis® Securities Mosaic® Support & Training](#) to find:

- **Getting Started**: Watch the short Show Me How video for an overview. Also turn to the [Quick Reference Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions on how to use Securities Mosaic.

- **Using Lexis Securities Mosaic**: Find more Show Me How videos for specific searches like Agreements & Exhibits Searching. Also find day-to-day examples of how to conduct real searches as well as guides covering specific Securities Mosaic tools and practice areas.

- **Subject Matter Insight**: Find out how you can use Securities Mosaic to address some of today’s key issues like proxy access.

Contact us to learn more.

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