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Chapter 1. About the NOTAM Search User’s Guide

This user’s guide supports individuals using the Federal NOTAM System (FNS) NOTAM Search System to search for active Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs). This chapter describes the purpose, the intended users, and the contents of this document.

1.1 Purpose

This user’s guide serves as the primary resource for information regarding the use of NOTAM Search. In the event that you have a question that is not addressed by this user’s guide, contact the Federal NOTAM System (FNS) support team by using the method listed in Chapter 2.

1.2 Intended Users

This user’s guide is designed for individuals searching for active NOTAMs in the National Airspace System (NAS) using NOTAM Search. These individuals are typically pilots, airline dispatchers, and airport authority personnel. These users can search for NOTAMs based on location, flight path, geography, lat/long, free text, accountability, archives and NOTAMs in proximity to location. Users can filter the results, as well as generate reports based on search results.

1.3 Content Overview

This user’s guide provides information about NOTAM Search in a series of three chapters, as follows:

Chapter 1 describes the purpose of this document, the intended users, and provides an overview of the contents of subsequent chapters.

Chapter 2 provides background information on NOTAM Search, access to the web site, how to submit feedback about the site, and an overview of the use of NOTAM class in NOTAM Search.

Chapter 3 provides an overview of the NOTAM Search features and functions.

1.4 Navigating This User’s Guide

This user’s guide is intended to be used in electronic format. The electronic version allows you to search for words or strings of characters using the “Find” function in Adobe Acrobat®.

Accessing the NOTAM Search User’s Guide Version 2.6 through the Help link in NOTAM Search ensures that you are using the most up-to-date version of the user’s guide. Printing this user’s guide is not recommended; hard copies will not be provided.

Notes are provided to call attention to important or additional information. Notes—indicated by the word “NOTE” in upper case letters and enclosed in a border—immediately follow the information to which they apply.

1.5 Limitations

This is Version 2.6 of this user’s guide. This user’s guide is written for and supports NOTAM Search Version 2.6.

This user’s guide contains many figures to help illustrate NOTAM Search functions and serve only as examples. To make the document easier to read, every effort was made to present the figures on the same page that they are referenced.
This user’s guide should not be considered a training document. It does not identify learning objectives, nor does it contain structured practice exercises to assess learning or skill acquisition. However, it does represent a comprehensive source of information about NOTAM Search and could be used to guide training for NOTAM users.
Chapter 2. Introduction to FNS NOTAM Search

This chapter provides a general overview of NOTAM Search, including background, access to NOTAM Search, and how to submit feedback. See Chapter 3 for an overview of NOTAM Search features.

2.1 Background

The Federal NOTAM System (FNS) is the modernized Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) system designed to digitize the collection, dissemination, and storage of NOTAMs. The goal is to create a single authoritative source for NOTAM entry and dissemination to improve the efficiency, safety, and data quality of NOTAM information. For more information about the FNS, please visit the following URL: https://notams.aim.faa.gov/.

NOTAM Search was developed as a web interface searching tool leveraging digital NOTAMs for the general public. The site provides the general public, such as general aviation pilots, airline dispatchers and airport operations personnel the ability to search the FNS for active digital and non-digital NOTAMs. Capabilities of digital NOTAMs include NOTAM translations from domestic FAA format, to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) format and plain text. NOTAM Search also allows the ability to sort NOTAMs by location, NOTAM number, Class, Start and End Date and the NOTAM condition. The NOTAM Search tool allows all members of the public to search for active NOTAMs in the United States NOTAM System (USNS).

2.2 Access to NOTAM Search

To reach NOTAM Search directly through your Web browser, use the following URL: http://notams.aim.faa.gov/notamSearch/. NOTAM Search is designed for use with Microsoft Internet Explorer® (version 10 or later), Mozilla Firefox® or Google Chrome®

2.3 NOTAM Search Points of Contact

Users of NOTAM Search can submit comments directly to the FNS development team through the Feedback link on the NOTAM Search main screen. Click the Feedback link in the Administrative toolbar located at the top right corner of the main screen to open the Feedback pop-up. Enter your Name, Organization, Email and Comments, and click Submit to send your comments.

**NOTE:** The comments you provide help improve the NOTAM Search application. The Feedback pop-up is not intended to be used to report issues with the USNS or any NOTAM in particular.
2.4 Overview of Class Definitions

The FNS NOTAM Search application will include a categorization of NOTAMs by class in the NOTAM Summary. Query results in NOTAM Search can be sorted, however not filtered, by class.

NOTAM Search will initially support the following classes with associated keywords:

- **AERODROME** – NOTAMs issued on the aerodrome (airport), movement areas and associated lighting
  - Keyword: AD
  - Keyword: APRON
  - Keyword: CONSTRUCTION
  - Keyword: RWY
  - Keyword: TWY

- **AIRSPACE** – NOTAMs issued on special activity airspace and navigation warnings
  - Keyword: AIRSPACE
  - Keyword: CARF

- **CHART** – NOTAMs issued on aeronautical information
  - Keyword: CHART

- **COMMUNICATIONS** – NOTAMs issued on communications and surveillance facilities
  - Keyword: COM

- **GPS** – NOTAMs issued on elements of the Global Positioning System.
  - Keyword: GPS
- **OBSTRUCTION** – NOTAMs issued on obstructions and other advisories
  - Keyword: OBST
- **MILITARY** – NOTAMs issued by the Department of Defense pertaining to flight safety for unique military situations
- **RNAV** – Navigational Procedure NOTAMs
- **SECURITY** – Keyword used for Department of State advisors, Special Federal Aviation Regulations (SFARS), advisories of national emergency, national security actions, special security instructions, air defense identification zone (ADIZ) procedures.
  - Keyword: SECURITY
  - NOTE – Keyword SECURITY is not used for NOTAMs that describe a defined restricted area or TFR. Such NOTAMs would use Keyword AIRSPACE.
- **NAVAID** – NOTAMs related to Navigational Aids and the availability or usability of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS)
  - Keyword: NAVAID
- **PROCEDURE** – NOTAMs containing information on published flight procedures and holding procedures
  - Keyword: FDC/Other
  - Keyword: ODP
  - Keyword: SID
  - Keyword: SID
  - Keyword: STAR
  - Keyword: IAP
  - Keyword: VFP
  - Keyword: SPECIAL
- **SERVICES** – NOTAMs issued for Air Traffic Management and Aerodrome Services
  - Keyword: SERVICE
- **ROUTE** – NOTAMs issued on Air Traffic Service (ATS) routes
  - Keyword: ROUTE
- **OTHER** – NOTAMs that do not meet any of the above criteria
  - Keyword: (O)
  - Anything that does not match another class criteria
- **INTERNATIONAL** – NOTAMs originated in other countries
LETTERS TO AIRMEN – Letters to publicize new or revised services, anticipated interruptions of service, procedural changes, and other items of interest to users.

○ Keyword: LTA
Chapter 3. Overview of NOTAM Search Features

This chapter briefly describes the features of NOTAM Search. More specifically, this chapter includes descriptions of the main screen search options, panes, toolbars, action buttons, and other special features.

3.1 Create an account

Creating a personal account allows the user to save queries. When the user is logged in, their saved queries can be accessed on the NOTAM Search homepage at any time.
3.2 Log In

Once registered, user may log into the account by clicking the “Log In” tab found in the Administrative Toolbar (See Figure 2). Enter email address and password. A “Forgot Password” tab is available if the user has forgotten their password.

NOTE:
- Accounts will be suspended if password is entered incorrectly 3 times.
- The account will be suspended for 20 minutes before the user can attempt to log in again. The user will still be able to access NOTAM Search during suspension.
- Passwords are required to be changed every 90 days. The system will prompt the user to change password.

Figure 3: Log In
3.3 Search Screen

In this section, you will find a brief description of the panes and toolbars found on the NOTAM search screen. Figure 4 below shows the main screen that is displayed when you initially load the page.

NOTE:
The Saved Queries function is available to all users. It will retain the last 20 searches completed and saved by the user. The History tab will display the last 10 searches completed by the user.

3.4 Search Options

The search options are located on the left hand side of the Search screen. These search options are described in more detail on the following pages.
3.4.1 Search By: Location allows you to search for active NOTAMs based on the affected location designator(s) of the NOTAM.

![Search NOTAMs](image)

**Figure 6: Search By Location**

*NOTE: Multiple locations can be entered using the “Search By: Location” option. Ex: “ORD, JFK” will return all NOTAMs with affected location designators matching ORD or JFK airports.*

3.4.2 Search By: Flight Path allows you to enter 2-20 airport, navigational aid, named fix, and/or route/airway designators to define a flight path.

Additional Flight Path search parameters include:

- **Buffer**
  - 1-125 NM on each side of the flight path (default is 4 NM)
    - For the en-route designators; if an airfield and a navaid have the same identifier, the navaid coordinates are used.
  - 1-125 NM on each side of the departure and arrival airfields
    - For the first and last entries in the flight path, the airfield coordinates are used.

**NOTE:**

- If no buffer is entered by the user for the departure/arrival airfields, FNS NOTAM Search shall automatically use the buffer entered for the flight path.
- If a buffer is entered by the user for the departure/arrival airfields, it must be greater than or equal to the buffer entered for the flight path.
- If an airfield does not share an identifier with a navaid, the airfield coordinates are used.
- If a navaid does not share an identifier with an airport, the navaid coordinates are used.
- Named fixes used their assigned coordinates.
- **Alternate Airfields**
  - Return NOTAMs for 0-5 alternate airfields in addition to the flight path

- **En-Route Facilities (Selected by default)**
  - Return all query results for designators that fall within the user-defined flight path and buffer

- **ARTCC NOTAMs**
  - Return NOTAMs against ARTCC locations whose boundaries contain or are intercepted by the flight path and buffer.

- **ARTCC TFR NOTAMs (Selected by default)**
  - This option is a subset of the “ARTCC NOTAMs” checkbox. Only TFR NOTAMs that are issued against ARTCC locations whose boundaries contain or are intercepted by the flight path and buffer will be returned.

- **Regulatory Notices**
  - Return all regulatory notices

- **Runway Minimum Length/Minimum Width** will return all query results for a minimum surface length and/or width (in feet). Only airports that have at least one runway that meets all of the entered criteria will be returned in the results summary. These options are only applied to airfields (not Navaids or ARTCCs for example), and they are not applied to the departure, arrival or alternate airfields identified by the user.

- **Runway surface type** will return all queries for a specific Runway Surface Type:
  - Hard surface types include: Asphalt, Asphalt-Concrete, Asphalt-Dirt, Asphalt-Gravel, Treated Asphalt, Asphalt-Turf, Concrete, Concrete-Gravel, Treated Concrete, Concrete-Turf, and Porous European Mix (PEM)
  - Soft surface types include: Caliche, Coral, Dirt, Dirt-Gravel/Gravel-Dirt, Treated Dirt, Grass, Graded or Rolled Earth (GRE), Gravel, Treated Gravel, Gravel-Turf/Turf-Gravel, Mats, Oil and Chip, Perforated Steel Plate (PSP), Sand, Treated, Turf, Turf-Dirt, Turf-Sand, and Treated Turf
  - Water surface types include: Water
3.4.3 Search By: Geography allows you search for active NOTAMs within a geographic area. Search parameters include:

- A location designator
- A radius (up to 100 Nautical Miles – (NM))

3.4.4 Search By: Lat/Long allows you to search for active NOTAMs based on specific coordinates for the desired location.
3.4.5 Search By: Free Text allows you to search for active NOTAMs based on a keyword, airport designator, NOTAM number and/or scenario.

Some Sample Tips for Using Free Text Search:

For narrowed results, search with the location identifier and additional information:

- “ORD TWY” (to see all Taxiway NOTAMs at Chicago O’Hare International)
- “JFK CLSD” (to see all NOTAMs indicating closed surfaces at New York JFK)

To search a geographic area, such as a state or country enter:

- “VIRGINIA” (to see all NOTAMs with affected locations in Virginia)
- “CANADA” (to see all Canadian NOTAMs)

3.4.6 Search By: Accountability allows you to search for NOTAMs based on the accountability designator. Accountability refers to the facility/airport responsible for the issuance of the NOTAM (i.e. DCA, DEN, LAS).

Examples:

**FDC NOTAM with accountability of DCA:**

!FDC 5/9744 (KDCA A1530/15) DCA IAP RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON NATIONAL, WASHINGTON, DC. ILS OR LOC/DME RWY 1, AMDT 41B... S-LOC MDA 540/HAT 529 ALL CATS.
VDP NA. TEMPORARY CRANE 240 MSL 1.62 NM S OF RWY 1. 1509121155-1603101155EST

**Domestic NOTAM with accountability same as location:**

!DCA 09/369 (KDCA A1573/15) DCA TWY A BTN RWY 4/22 AND TWY B CLSD DLY 1200-1900 1509221200-1509251900
Domestic NOTAM with accountability different than the location:
!DCA 10/102 (KDCA A1367/14) OTT NAV VOR OUT OF SERVICE 1410081634-PERM

3.4.7 Search By: Archive Search allows you to search for active NOTAMs for a specific date.

![Figure 12: Search by Archive](image)

3.4.8 Search By: NOTAMs around Me will display all NOTAMs within 20 nautical miles (NA) of your current Lat/Long location.

![Figure 13: Search by NOTAMs around Me](image)

3.4.9 Search By: Predefined Queries allows you to search for specific groups of NOTAMs.

![Figure 14: Search by Predefined Queries](image)

- **ARTCC TFR NOTAMs** will return all FDC accountability NOTAMs that contain the text “FLIGHT RESTRICTION(S) in the first 200 characters of the NOTAM text.

  **Example:** IFDC 5/3611 ZDC PART 8 OF 8 DC., AIRSPACE WASHINGTON, DC., TEMPORARY FLIGHT WITH PRIOR COORDINATION WITH THE ASOC. H. THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION /FAA/ NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COORDINATION CENTER/ NCRCC/ PHONE 866-598-9522, IS THE COORDINATION FACILITY. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL AIRCRAFT OPERATORS CHECK NOTAMs FREQUENTLY FOR POSSIBLE REQUIRED CHANGES TO THIS TFR PRIOR TO OPERATIONS WITHIN THIS REGION. 1509221930-1509242030 END PART 8 OF 8
- **CARF NOTAMs** will return all NOTAMs that have an accountability of CARF.
  
  **Example:** !CARF 09/065 (KZAK A3699/15) ZAK AIRSPACE DCC WEDGETAIL STATIONARY ALTITUDE RESERVATION WITHIN AN AREA DEFINED AS 2100N16100E TO 2100N16400E TO 1700N16400E TO 1700N16100E TO POINT OF ORIGIN FL310-FL310 1509272300-1509280700

- **FDC Special Notices** will return all FDC NOTAMs that contain the text "SPECIAL NOTICE" in the first 55 characters of the NOTAM condition text.
  
  **Example:** !FDC 4/0811 FDC ...SPECIAL NOTICE... THIS IS A RESTATEMENT OF A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED ADVISORY NOTICE. IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, PILOTS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO AVOID THE AIRSPACE ABOVE, OR IN PROXIMITY TO SUCH SITES AS POWER PLANTS (NUCLEAR, HYDRO-ELECTRIC, OR COAL), DAMS, REFINERIES, INDUSTRIAL COMPLEXES, MILITARY FACILITIES AND OTHER SIMILAR FACILITIES. PILOTS SHOULD NOT CIRCLE AS TO LOITER IN THE VICINITY OVER THESE TYPES OF FACILITIES.

- **GPS NOTAMs** will return all NOTAMs that have an accountability of GPS.
  

- **Pacific Tracks** will return all INTL (international) classification NOTAMs where the ICAO identifier is KZAK or RJJJ and the first 150 characters of the NOTAM condition contains the text "PACOTS" or the first 50 characters of the NOTAM condition contains the text "TDM TRK".
  
  **Example:** A3700/15 - (TDM TRK 8 150925070001 1509250700 1509252100 PASRO POWAL PLADO PINSO POOFF PINN PTZGR 58N170W EHM ODK CJAYY GRIZZ HMPNTN KATCH RTS/PEXEL A590 PASRO KATCH YZP UPR KDFW RMK/0). 25 SEP 07:00 2015 UNTIL 25 SEP 21:00 2015. CREATED: 24 SEP 18:34 2015

- **North Atlantic Tracks** will allow a user to retrieve and display North Atlantic Tracks data from Gander, Canada (CZCQZQZX) and Shanwick, Ireland (EGGXZOZX). *NOTE: These are not actual NOTAMs*
3.5 Main Screen

- In this section, you will find a brief description of the Main Screen. This screen is displayed when the search feature is activated. Figure 11 below shows the different panes and toolbars within the main screen. These panes and toolbars are described in more detail on the following pages.

Figure 15: Overview of the Main Screen
3.6 Administrative Toolbar

The Administrative toolbar is located in the top right corner of the main screen. It contains the following options:

- **Log In** allows the user to log into the registered account. Once logged in, the user’s account name will display. The user may then click on their name to perform additional tasks such as:
  - Change profile information: First and Last name may be modified.
  - Change password: Password may be updated at any time.
  - Saved Queries: All queries saved by the user will be listed. The queries may be edited or deleted and will display the date and time it was saved.
- **Preferences**: User may preset particular filters to display; Keywords such as Navaid, Runway, or Obstruction.
- **Preferences**: User may preset NOTAM results to display specific “sort” options such as Location, Class, or Condition.
- **Preferences**: User may preset NOTAM display be viewed via List, Table, or Map. As well as Location, Number, Class, Start Date, or End Date.
- Log Out allows the user to log out of their account. If the user does not log out, they will remain logged in for up to 1 week (depending on personal computer settings) before the system requires the user to log in again.

- Disclaimer displays the NOTAM Search disclaimer.

- Feedback allows you to submit comments about NOTAM Search.

- Help provides the following support:
  - Access to a PDF version of this user’s guide
  - Access to “How To” Videos. These videos created via You Tube® will walk the user through the functionality of the NOTAM Search site.
  - “What’s New” provides up to date information regarding NOTAM Search enhancements.

- External Links provides a link to the Notices to Airmen Publication (NTAP) and FAA Web Policies and Notices.

3.7 Search Results

The Search Results pane is located in the upper left corner of the Main Screen and contains the following features:

![Figure 18: Search Results Pane and Options](image)

- Displays the date and time (UTC) in which the search was conducted.
- Specifies the selected search option (i.e. Location, Flight Path, etc).
- Displays the number of NOTAMs found.
- Provides a link to change the search parameters.
- Provides a link to display saved search queries

3.8 Filters and Special Icons Pane

The Filter and Special Icons pane is located above the NOTAM Summary Pane. The user can view, filter, and sort the displayed NOTAMs.

![Figure 19: Filters and Special Icons Pane](image)
3.8.1 List View will display the NOTAM information in block format. The following information will be displayed:

- Location (affected location identifier)
- NOTAM #
- Class (Aerodrome, Airspace, Chart, Communication, Data, International, Military, Navaid, Obstruction, Other, Procedure, Route, Security, Services)
- Issue Date UTC (Date and time of NOTAM publication)
- Start Date UTC (Effective start date and time of the NOTAM)
- End Date UTC (Expiration date and time of the NOTAM)
- NOTAM Condition (Full NOTAM text)
- NOTAM Domestic Format

Figure 20: List View
3.8.2 Table View will display the NOTAMs in a condensed format. Column headers along the top will allow the user to sort NOTAMs by selecting a specific column header.

![Table View](image)

Figure 21: Table View

3.8.3 Map View will display a map of the selected search parameters (i.e. location, flight path, etc.) Specific icons can be selected to view: Airports, Navaids, ARTCC facilities, Weather, and RCO.

![Map View](image)

Figure 22: Map View
3.8.4 Filters allow the user to select one or more classes of NOTAMs and filter the list accordingly. The user can also specify a particular date and time.

![Figure 23: Filters](image)
3.8.5 Sort By allows sorting by affected location, NOTAM #, class, start date (UTC), end date (UTC) and NOTAM condition in ascending or descending order.

Figure 24: Sort By
3.8.6 The Counts filter contains the following two options:

- The NOTAM Counts are displayed for each affected location contained in the search.
- The check boxes located to the left of each location identifier allow filtering of the search results by checking/unchecking the boxes.

![Figure 25: Counts](image-url)
3.8.7 Construction Notices

NOTAM Search contains a special feature that displays the Construction Notices for the affected airports that are included in the search results. The Construction Notices can be identified by a special icon: 🛠️ This icon will appear in the Special Icons Pane, as well as next to the Construction Notice in the Search Results. Clicking on the Construction Notice Link icon in Special Icons Pane will display a pop-up with a link to the PDF as well.

![Construction Notice](image)

Figure 26: Construction Notices in the Search Results

3.8.8 Letters to Airmen Notices

NOTAM Search contains a special feature that displays the Letters to Airmen Notices for the affected airports that are included in the search results. The Letters to Airmen Notices can be identified by a special icon: 📜 This icon will appear in the Special Icons Pane, as well as next to the Letters to Airmen Notice in the Search Results. Clicking on the Letters to Airmen Notice Link icon in the Special Icons Pane will display a pop-up with a link to the PDF as well.

![Letters to Airmen Notice](image)

Figure 27: Letters to Airmen Notice in the Search Results
3.8.9 Export to PDF

The Export to PDF function allows the user to save the search results in a Microsoft PDF file. Upon clicking on the PDF icon, a pop-up screen will appear to prompt the user to either Open or Save the File. The PDF file indicates the conditions entered for the search and contains the following column headings:

- Location (affected location identifier)
- NOTAM #
- Class (Aerodrome, Airspace, Chart, Communication, Data, International, Military, Navaid, Obstruction, Other, Procedure, Route, Security, Services)
- Issue Date UTC (Date and time of NOTAM publication)
- Start Date UTC (Effective start date and time of the NOTAM)
- End Date UTC (Expiration date and time of the NOTAM)
- NOTAM Condition (Full NOTAM text)
3.8.10 Export to Excel

The Export to Excel function allows the user to save the search results in a Microsoft Excel file. Upon clicking on the Excel icon, a pop-up screen will appear to prompt the user to either Open or Save the File. The Excel file indicates the conditions entered for the search and contains the following column headings:

- Location (affected location identifier)
- NOTAM #
- Class (Aerodrome, Airspace, Chart, Communication, Data, International, Military, Navaid, Obstruction, Other, Procedure, Route, Security, Services)
- Issue Date UTC (Date and time of NOTAM publication)
- Start Date UTC (Effective start date and time of the NOTAM)
- End Date UTC (Expiration date and time of the NOTAM)
- NOTAM Condition (Full NOTAM text)

3.9 Save Query

The Save Query button appears after the user performs a query.

- Users are limited to 20 saved queries
- User must delete saved queries in order to add new ones
- After the query is saved the user can access it by clicking on the display name in the Administrative Toolbar. Here the name of the query can be changed.
3.10 Special Icons/NOTAM Summary Pane

3.10.1 Aerodrome Surface CLSD

NOTAM Search features a special icon that appears in the Search Results is the Aerodrome Surface CLSD (Closed) icon: 🛑. This icon will appear next to NOTAM results that indicate an Aerodrome (AD), Runway (RWY), or Taxiway (TWY) is Closed (CLSD).

3.10.2 Military NOTAM

NOTAM Search features a special icon, 🇲, that appears in the Search Results to indicate that a NOTAM result is a Military NOTAM.

3.10.3 Digital NOTAM

NOTAM Search features a special icon, 🌐, that appears in the Search Results to indicate that a NOTAM result is a digital NOTAM. Digital NOTAMs are originated or transformed using FAA digital event scenarios and are stored in Aeronautical Information Exchange Model (AIXM) 5.1 format. The digital NOTAM can be translated into domestic, ICAO and plain text formats and is geo-referenced to the latitude and longitude of the feature that is the subject of the NOTAM.
3.10.4 Field Condition (FICON)

NOTAM Search features a special icon, 🛑, that appears in the Search Results to indicate that a NOTAM result pertains to a Field Condition (FICON) NOTAM indicating contamination on the surface.

3.11 NOTAM Details

The NOTAM Details pane appears when a NOTAM is selected from the NOTAM Summary Pane. NOTAM Details displays details about the NOTAM such as the full NOTAM text translated in Domestic, ICAO and Plain Text format, affected airport name, the NOTAM number, Class, Status and Effective Time period.

![Figure28: NOTAM Details Pane and Options](image)