Exercise 3: Database Navigation

Goal

Learn how to use the Database Explorer to browse database content, export data to another database and open a diagram.
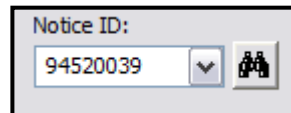
Introduction

Once a database is open, its content can be viewed.

Task 1 : Search a Particular Notice

- Begin by ensuring that REFDB is the current database.
- Then, select the **Database | Explore** menu or click on the corresponding icon on the database toolbar.

You should then have in front of you the database explorer.

You may search for a particular notice by typing its ID in the text box at the top left-hand corner.

- For example, try entering the value 94520039 and clicking on the button just to the right or pressing *Enter*.

The corresponding notice is then highlighted. You may also choose an ID previously selected from the list.

Task 2 : Filter Database Content

The content of the browser can be filtered according to three criteria: satellite name, administration code or notification reason.

- In the list under the words "Filter by", select "Satellite Name"
- Type "intelsat" in the box on the right
- Click on the filter button beside the box or press Enter

The browser will now display all the notices in which the satellite name contains the string of characters "intelsat".

- Now select filtering by administration code
- Type the code "hol".

Only satellites notified by the Netherlands will be displayed.

You will by now have noted that the filter is applied **recursively** and that the second filter thus applies to the result produced by the first one.

- Finally, we will select only those notices that have notification reason "C".

To cancel the filter(s) and again have all the notices displayed, simply click on the filter button with a cross on it.

Task 3 : Export Data

It is in the database explorer that you can apply operations to all the diagrams of a given notice.

For example, it is sometimes useful to copy all the diagrams of a given notice into another database.

To perform this operation,

- Select a notice by clicking on the notice ID 90998027

- Bring up the context menu by clicking the right-hand mouse button.

- Next, select "Export".

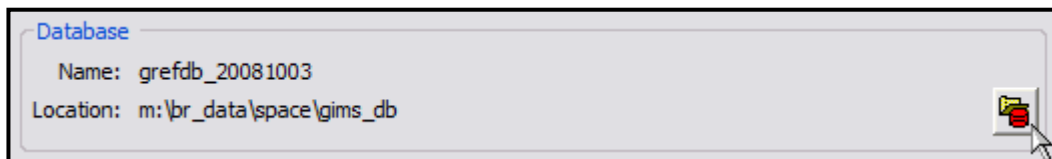A dialogue box will appear in which you must select the destination database;

- select the database that you previously created,

  o if you had skipped that exercise you can still use the same dialog box to create a new empty database now

- then click on the OK button.

Note that the other operations are not accessible since they would require a modification of the database in which you are currently browsing. Since that database is the REFDB, the software does not authorize you to modify it.

Task 4 : Open a Diagram

We can now check that the notice has been correctly exported by opening the target database. This can be done without closing the explorer

- by simply clicking on the top right-hand button in the "Database" block.

- By double-clicking on the notice number you will see all of the beams.

To display a diagram, simply place a tick in the boxes corresponding to the diagrams you wish to see. For example,

- we can open all the diagrams for the EH beam by ticking the box to the left of the EH line.

- To complete the operation, click on the "Open" button.