Hardware/Software Requirements

The requirements needed to run an operational copy of STORET for actual management of monitoring data are listed below. To access the Data Warehouse, only a Web browser is needed.

The minimum hardware requirements are:

- Pentium II 200 MHz or equivalent processor
- 128 MB RAM
- CD-ROM drive
- 300 MB free hard disk space (software only installation)
- 2 GB free hard disk space (software and database installation).

The minimum software requirements are:

- Windows 98/NT/2000/XP
- STORET System v2.0 CD-ROM
- Oracle Connection:
  - Database on Workstation - Personal Oracle v8.1.7

    - or -
  - Database on Server - Oracle Server v8.1.7 or higher.

User Support and Training

EPA provides training and user support for states and other organizations interested in using STORET. Training sessions are scheduled according to need. You can view a list of currently scheduled trainings on the Internet at **http://www.epa.gov/storet/training.html.** Requests for training can be made through your EPA STORET Regional Coordinator. User support can be obtained by calling 1-800-424-9067 or by e-mailing STORET@epa.gov.

Contact Information:

For more information, visit the STORET Web site, **www.epa.gov/STORET**, or contact the EPA STORET assistance hotline at 1-800-424-9067, or at STORET@epa.gov.

Electronic copies of this document along with many others are available online at **www.epa.gov/STORET**

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US EPA, MC 4503T, Washington, DC 20460

STORET

EPA's repository for water quality, biological, and physical data.

STORET is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) database of ambient environmental data relating to water quality. The original STORET was developed in the 1960s, and today the system continues to serve as EPA's principal repository for marine, freshwater, and biological monitoring data. STORET is currently used by a variety of groups, including federal agencies, states, tribes, local governments, academic groups, watershed and volunteer monitoring organizations, and the public.

Benefits of using STORET

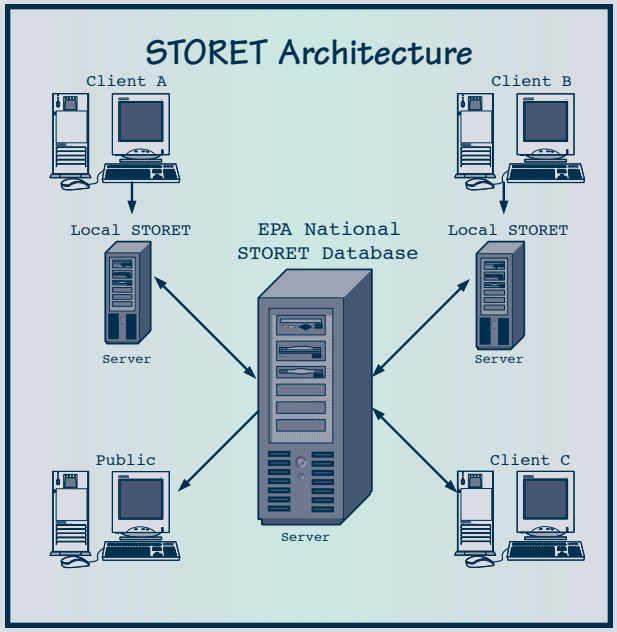
STORET is a nationally consistent framework for water quality data. This common framework enables users to share data across multiple organizations. Once data are entered into STORET, agencies will always have access to their data in the event of internal data losses or staff turnover. STORET eliminates the need for organizations to develop and maintain separate databases for each type of monitoring activity. STORET is maintained by EPA, which reduces database maintenance costs for participating agencies.

Other benefits include the following:

- Users can generate data reports.
- STORET supports Data Logger results.
- The system uses automated procedures to upload data into STORET.

Who should use STORET?

STORET is a useful data management tool for any organization that collects water quality monitoring information. Agencies and individuals can use STORET to query and access data available in the national repository. STORET is a powerful tool because it makes data collected in a geographic location by multiple agencies available in one database. Organizations that enter data into STORET maintain control by managing the data in a local copy of the database. Agencies can then export finalized data and provide them to EPA for inclusion in the national Data Warehouse.



Database Organization

The data in STORET can be grouped into five main categories:

- **Organization:** The agency responsible for collecting and otherwise generating the data or for sponsoring the activity for which the data set was created.
- **Projects:** The activities during which or for which the data set was created.
- **Sites:** Information that identifies and describes the physical location at which monitoring occurs.
- **Samples:** Water quality samples, observations, and measurements; comprehensive descriptors of the event during which samples were collected or measurements performed.
- **Results:** The findings of the sampling events, measurements, and field activities.

What data can be managed in STORET?

Data currently managed in STORET include:

- More than 300,000 taxa with full hierachy for benthic macroinvertebrates, fish species, and periphyton
- Thousands of chemical parameters, including dissolved oxygen, pH, salinity, and conductivity
- Physical characteristics, including measurements of substrate, stream canopy, and habitat
- Field sampling and monitoring methods (quantitative and qualitative)
- Graphics and text documents (e.g., jpegs and pdfs)

Main components included in STORET

- Data Entry Module: Interface for data to be entered into STORET
- STORET Import Module (SIM): Module used to import configured data into STORET from other databases
- Report Module: Module for generating reports about the data in STORET
- Data Warehouse: STORET data that are accessible to the public via a Web browser.