



# Using Safe Assign

BLACKBOARD'S PLAGIARISM DETECTION RESOURCE

**Source:** Blackboard SafeAssign Building Blocks Student Manual

# ABOUT SAFE ASSIGN

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SafeAssign compares submitted assignments against a set of academic papers to identify areas of overlap between the submitted assignment and existing works.

SafeAssign can be used to prevent plagiarism and to create opportunities to help students identify how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.

# HOW SAFE ASSIGN WORKS

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SafeAssign is based on a unique text matching algorithm capable of detecting exact and inexact matching between a paper and source material.

SafeAssignments are compared against several different databases, including:

**Internet** – comprehensive index of documents available for public access on the Internet;

**ProQuest ABI/Inform database** with over 1,100 publication titles and about 2.6 million articles from 1990s to present time, updated weekly (exclusive access);

**Institutional document archives** containing all papers submitted to SafeAssign by users in their respective institutions

\* **Global Reference Database** containing papers that were volunteered by students from Blackboard client institutions to help prevent cross-institutional plagiarism.

OPTIONAL



# GLOBAL REFERENCE DATABASE

\* Blackboard's Global Reference Database is a separate database where students **voluntarily** donate copies of their papers to help prevent plagiarism. It is separated from each institution's internal database, where all papers are stored by each corresponding institution, and students are free to select the option to check their papers **without submitting them to the Global Reference Database.**

Students submit their papers to the database voluntarily and agree not to remove papers in the future. Submissions to the Global Reference Database are extra copies that are given voluntarily for the purpose of helping with plagiarism prevention. Blackboard does not claim ownership of submitted papers.

OPTIONAL

# ORIGINALITY REPORTS

Once a paper has been processed, a report is available that details the **percentage** of the submitted paper that matches **existing sources**.

It also shows the **suspected sources** of each section of the submitted paper that returns a match. (Instructors can remove matching sources from the report and process it again. This may be useful if the paper is a continuation of a previously submitted work by the same student.)

Because SafeAssign identifies all matching blocks of text, it is important to **read the report carefully and investigate whether or not the block of text is properly attributed**.

# INTERPRETING REPORTS

Sentence matching scores are the **percentage probability** that two phrases have the same meaning.

This number can also be interpreted as the **reciprocal to the probability that these two phrases are similar by chance.**

For example, a score of 90 percent means that there is a 90 percent probability that these two phrases are the same and a 10 percent probability that they are similar by chance and not because the submitted paper includes content from the existing source (whether or not it is appropriately attributed).

# INTERPRETING REPORTS

An overall score is an indicator of what **percentage** of the submitted paper matches **existing sources**.

This score is a **warning indicator only**.

Papers should be **reviewed** to see if the matches are properly attributed.



# SCORES **BELOW** 15 %

These papers typically include **some quotes** and a **few common phrases or blocks of text** that match other documents.

These papers **usually** do not require further analysis, as there is no evidence of the possibility of plagiarism in these papers

(**Instructor Comment:** However, it's always a good idea to double-check anyway.)

# SCORES **BETWEEN** 15 & 40 %

These papers include **extensive quoted or paraphrased material.**

They may also include **plagiarism.**

These papers should be **reviewed** to determine if the matching content is properly attributed.

# SCORES OVER 40 %

There is a **very high probability** that text in this paper was **copied from other sources**.

These papers include quoted or paraphrased text **in excess**. These papers should be **reviewed** for **plagiarism**.

(**Instructor comment:** They should also be **revised** for interest and readability. Who wants to read a paper that's overwhelmingly outside sources, anyway?)

# HOW TO **SUBMIT** A PAPER TO SAFE ASSIGNMENT

Follow these steps to submit to a SafeAssignment:

- ✓ From a content area within a course, select the SafeAssignment and click **View/Complete**.
- ✓ The **Upload SafeAssignment page** will appear.
- ✓ **Complete the page** using the table below as a guide and click Submit.



# UNDERSTANDING A SAFE ASSIGNMENT


## THE SAFE ASSIGNMENT PAGE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING FIELDS:

- **Name:** Displays the title of the SafeAssignment.
- **Instructions:** Displays the instructions for the SafeAssignment.
- **Comments:** Enter any comments for the Instructor in this field.
- **File to Attach:** Click Browse to locate a file to upload as a SafeAssignment.
- **Global Reference Database** (optional): Select this option to upload your paper to the Global Reference Database. It will be used to check papers from other schools for plagiarism. The paper will only be used to check for plagiarism.)

My PalomarCourses

ATRC User SupportContent > SafeAssign Test > Upload SafeAssignment

ATRC User SupportContent



## Upload SafeAssignment

By submitting this paper, you agree: (1) to the Terms of Use at [SafeAssign Terms of Use](#); (2) that your institution may use your paper in accordance with your institution's policies; and (3) that your use of SafeAssign will be without recourse against Blackboard Inc. and its affiliates.

Cancel Submit

### 1. ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Name	SafeAssign Test
Instructions	SafeAssign is a tool that Palomar College instructors use to help their students ensure that the writing they turn in is original (i.e. not plagiarized). Please talk to your instructor or view the course syllabus for more detail.

### 2. YOUR FILES

Comments

File To Attach

Browse...

NOTE: SafeAssign accepts files in .doc, .docx, .odt, .txt, .rtf, .pdf, and .html file formats only. Do not upload files in any other formats.

### 3. GLOBAL REFERENCE DATABASE

Submitting to the SafeAssign Global Reference Database allows papers from other institutions to be checked against your paper to protect the originality of your work across institutions. To learn more about the Global Reference Database click [here](#).

☐ I agree to submit my paper to the Global Reference Database

### 4. SUBMIT

Cancel Submit

SCREEN SHOT OF A SAFE ASSIGN  
PAGE ON BLACKBOARD

Add your personal  
comments **here**

Browse your computer for  
your document **here**.

Optional submission to  
GRD (check **here**)

Click "**submit**" to  
finish.

# HOW TO **VIEW** A SAFE ASSIGNMENT AFTER IT'S BEEN SUBMITTED

SafeAssign reports associated with submissions are viewable by accessing the SafeAssignment using the **View/Complete link** after submitting the paper. This option is only available if allowed by the Instructor. Follow these steps to view your submission.

Open the SafeAssignment by clicking View/Complete. The submission will appear. The following columns appear for each SafeAssignment:

**Text:** Select this option to view the your paper.

**File:** Select this option to download the Student Submission.

**Matching:** The percentage listed is the percentage of the paper that matches other sources. Read the full report to determine if the matching is properly attributed.

**SA Report:** Select this option to view the full SafeAssign report (see next screen)

# SAFE ASSIGN REPORTS

SafeAssign reports provide detailed information about the matches found between a submitted paper and existing sources.

The SafeAssign report identifies all matching blocks of text. It is the responsibility of the teacher and student to investigate whether the matching text is properly referenced or not.

Detailing every match prevents detection errors due to differences in citing standards.



# REPORT LAYOUT

**Report Information:** This section lists data about the paper, such as the author, percent matching, and when it was submitted. This section also includes options for downloading the report, emailing the report, or viewing a printable version. Note that the printable version may be the most effective view of the report for those users that rely on assistive technologies to access the Blackboard Learning System.

**Suspected Sources:** This section lists the sources that have text that matches the text of the submitted paper.

**Manuscript Text:** This section shows the submitted paper. All matching blocks of text are identified. Clicking a matching block of text will display information about the original source and the probability that the block or sentence was copied from the source.

See next screens

## Paper Information

<b>Author:</b> Todd Moe C1	<b>Assignment:</b> Demo Assignment 1	<b>Save report to disk:</b>
<b>Title:</b> sample doc 1.htm	<b>Submitted:</b> 2006-04-04 16:58:12 EST	<b>Print version:</b>
<b>Matching:</b> 100%	<b>Paper ID:</b> 41429	<b>Direct link:</b>

## Suspected Sources

Click on a source to view the original, or click on the magnifying glass to see the source highlighted in the text below.

Highlight All Unhighlight All

- 1 ☐ [http://www.mydropbox.com/get\\_paper2.pl?id=173022&digest=e7f5045f1cdf95f3ad7f8977d52a9a50](http://www.mydropbox.com/get_paper2.pl?id=173022&digest=e7f5045f1cdf95f3ad7f8977d52a9a50)
  - 2 ☐ <http://www.netessays.net/viewpaper/27185.html>
  - 3 ☐ [http://www.mydropbox.com/get\\_paper2.pl?id=173023&digest=aa71c6bd185cf2d2b484fb6917d6a3cb](http://www.mydropbox.com/get_paper2.pl?id=173023&digest=aa71c6bd185cf2d2b484fb6917d6a3cb)
  - 4 ☐ <http://www.the-innovation-group.com/ChemProfiles/Calcium%20Chloride.htm>
  - 5 ☐ <http://www.peterschemical.com/Calcium%20Chloride.htm>
  - 6 ☐ [http://www.dccchem.co.kr/english/product/p\\_basic/p\\_basic03.htm](http://www.dccchem.co.kr/english/product/p_basic/p_basic03.htm)
  - 7 ☐ <http://www.calciumchloride.com/concrete.shtml>
- Re-process the paper without the selected sources

## Paper Text

Click on the text to see more info about the source.

- 1 Prejudism in the 1930s, down in the Southern United States, was not good
- 2 Calcium chloride is used for such things as dust control, road deicing, and to assist in oil and gas drilling. 3 It is easily manufactured for a variety of sources. underground brines in Michigan, a by-product of hydrochloric acid streams, and soda ash can harbor calcium chloride. For years the market was supplied by three major manufactures- Dow Chemical, General Chemical, and Tetra Technologies- all of which produce such a high-volume that it creates oversupply and poor prices. These companies already produced roughly 1.5 million tons per year and out of that only about 1 million tons are used. In 1995, Ambar Incorporated decided that they were going to enter the calcium chloride market. They spent over \$60 million on supplies and opened behind schedule in 1997. Then North America experienced the warm and low precipitation winters in 1999 and 2000, there was an incredibly low demand for calcium chloride and the company failed. (paper mill)
- 4 In recent years, the market demand for calcium chloride has shifted. Consumption within the largest market segment, deicing, is heavily dependent on weather conditions. A sharp decline in this market has occurred over recent years as a succession of mild winters lowered demand. Deicing consumption
 

URL:	<a href="http://www.the-innovation-group.com/ChemProfiles/Calcium%20Chloride.htm">http://www.the-innovation-group.com/ChemProfiles/Calcium%20Chloride.htm</a>
Matching:	100%
Uploaded Manuscript:	A sharp decline in this market has occurred over recent years as a succession of mild winters lowered demand
Internet Source:	A sharp decline in this market has occurred over recent years as a succession of mild winters lowered demand

Necrosis of the skin after contact with calcium chloride has been described in a variety of situations, including that of oil field workers and prolonged electroencephalographic testing (contact paste).[1,2,3] Circumscribed dystrophic dermal calcification was reported for the first time in 1935 and may follow the application of dry calcium or calcium-containing solutions.[4] The authors report a case of percutaneous penetration of a defrosting, industrial calcium salt, which was followed by deep-dermal thigh necrosis in a child. This uncommon injury raised concern about child abuse. (finarticles)

- 5 Calcium Chloride has unique properties that make it ideal for maintaining unpaved roads and fortifying road bases for new construction. 6 It is calcium chloride's ability to regulate moisture on road surfaces that is the key to building roads that last. Calcium Chloride keeps roads moist, day-in and day out, keeping nuisance dust down. Reduced pot-holing and rutting made possible by calcium chloride surface stabilization makes roads safer year round. Stabilized calcium chloride roads can reduce aggregate loss by up to 75%. In addition, they significantly reduce the frequency and costs associated with periodic grading. 5 Uniform compaction and residual calcium chloride helps protect road bases from winter freezing and related frost heaving. Long known as an effective ice melter, calcium chloride lowers the freezing point of moisture in road bases to nearly 60 degrees below zero. (Internet)
- 7 Investigations have shown that a two percent addition of calcium chloride has equal cure strength at 50F as plain concrete has at 70F. 6 Regardless of the temperature or cement type, concrete mixes containing calcium chloride will always have a faster cure rate than plain concrete. The beneficial effects of calcium chloride will be even more pronounced at lower temperatures. 7 The accelerated cure rate measured as final concrete set time can be reduced by two-thirds when two per cent calcium chloride is added - two hours compared to six hours for plain concrete. Morris Chemicals & S.E.R.T.'s calcium chloride can accelerate cement hydration reducing its set time. (Internet)

ORIGINALITY REPORT

The Matching Index shows the percentage of the paper that matched other sources.

## Paper Information

Author: Todd Moe C1  
Title: sample doc 1.htm  
Matching: 100%

Assignment: Demo Assignment 1  
Submitted: 2006-04-04 16:58:12 EST  
Paper ID: 41429

Save report to disk:  
Print version:  
Direct link:

Print Version is a text-only formatted version that is accessible and optimized for printing.

## Suspected Sources

Click on a source to view the original, or click on the magnifying glass to see the source highlighted in the text below.

Highlight All Unhighlight All

- 1 ☐ [http://www.mydropbox.com/get\\_paper2.pl?id=173022&digest=e7f5045f1cd95f3ad7f897d52a9a50](http://www.mydropbox.com/get_paper2.pl?id=173022&digest=e7f5045f1cd95f3ad7f897d52a9a50)
- 2 ☐ <http://www.netessays.net/viewpaper/27185.html>
- 3 ☐ [http://www.mydropbox.com/get\\_paper2.pl?id=173023&digest=aa71c6bd185cf2d2b484fb6917d6a3cb](http://www.mydropbox.com/get_paper2.pl?id=173023&digest=aa71c6bd185cf2d2b484fb6917d6a3cb)
- 4 ☐ <http://www.the-innovation-group.com/ChemProfiles/Calcium%20Chloride.htm>
- 5 ☐ <http://www.peterschemical.com/Calcium%20Chloride.htm>
- 6 ☐ [http://www.dchem.co.kr/english/product/p\\_basic/p\\_basic03.htm](http://www.dchem.co.kr/english/product/p_basic/p_basic03.htm)
- 7 ☐ <http://www.calciumchloride.com/concrete.shtml>

Click on each Suspected Source to see the full corresponding source.

Click the magnifying glass icon to highlight the Paper Text material that matched to that particular source.

These features will give you a direct URL to this report that you can then email to others.

Use the Reprocess icon to rerun the report without checking against those sources indicated by the check boxes.

Re-process the paper without the selected sources

## Paper Text

Click on the text to see more info about the source.

- 1 Prejudism in the 1930s, down in the Southern United States, was not good
- 2 Calcium chloride is used for such things as dust control, road deicing, and to assist in oil and gas drilling. It is easily manufactured for a variety of sources, underground brines in Michigan, a by-product of hydrochloric acid streams, and soda ash can harbor calcium chloride. For years the market was supplied by three major manufactures- Dow Chemical, General Chemical, and Tetra Technologies- all of which produce such a high-volume that it creates oversupply and poor prices. These companies already produced roughly 1.5 million tons per year and out of that only about 1 million tons are used. In 1995, Ambar Incorporated decided that they were going to enter the calcium chloride market. They spent over \$60 million on supplies and opened behind schedule in 1997. Then North America experienced the warm and low precipitation winters in 1999 and 2000, there was an incredibly low demand for calcium chloride and the company failed. (paper mill)

Paper Text is the actual text from the submitted paper.

Highlighted text indicates what portions of the Paper Text corresponds to which source.

Numbers indicate which Suspected Source this text matched with.

- 4 In recent years, the market demand for calcium chloride has shifted. Consumption within the largest market segment, deicing, is heavily dependent on weather conditions. A sharp decline in this market has occurred over recent years as a succession of mild winters lowered demand. Deicing consumption was 38 percent of total US end use during 1994, but declined to 30 percent in 1997 and then 22 percent in 2000. During this time, demand for calcium chloride in oil and gas exploration increased from 4 percent to 17 percent. Unless there is a change in the general weather pattern, this demand mix is expected to continue. While the calcium chloride market experienced strong demand from increased oil and gas exploration for the past couple of years, lower prices crude oil and gas this year will adversely affect the demand for drilling fluids, and with this, calcium chloride as well. Industry capacity is more than adequate to meet future demands as the industry's operating rate is about 60 percent. (Proquest)

Necrosis of the skin after contact with calcium chloride has been described in a variety of situations, including that of oil field workers and prolonged electroencephalographic testing (contact paste).[1,2,3] Circumscribed dystrophic dermal calcification was reported for the first time in 1935 and may follow the application of dry calcium or calcium-containing solutions.[4] The authors report a case of percutaneous penetration of a defrosting, industrial calcium salt, which was followed by deep-dermal thigh necrosis in a child. This uncommon injury raised concern about child abuse. (finartides)

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URL: [http://www.dchem.co.kr/english/product/p\\_basic/p\\_basic03.htm](http://www.dchem.co.kr/english/product/p_basic/p_basic03.htm)  
Matching: 100%

Uploaded Manuscript: The beneficial effects of calcium chloride will be even more pronounced at lower temperatures

Internet Source: The beneficial effects of calcium chloride will be even more pronounced at lower temperatures

Click on a particular matching sentence in the Paper Text to view the Source Comparison window. It shows the URL of the matching source document, the percentage of similarity and a direct comparison of each sentence.

ORIGINALITY REPORT  
INTERPRETED



# WHAT TO DO NEXT?

Depends on the results of your originality report. The objective at this stage is to examine your paper for accurate documentation of your sources.

If you have a high percentage of matches, it could mean that you were careless with your documentation.

Go back over your paper and compare these matches with the sources you referenced.

Add parenthetical citations, quotation marks, and in-text attribution as needed.



# WHAT TO DO NEXT?

If you need further assistance understanding your SafeAssign report, speak with your instructor, or contact someone in the Academic Technology Resource Center. Their website is <http://www.palomar.edu/atrc/atStudentInfo.htm>).

Their email is [onlineclasses@palomar.edu](mailto:onlineclasses@palomar.edu), or you can call (760) 744-1150 ext. 2862.

# WHAT TO DO NEXT?

If you are struggling to understand methods of documentation and citation, or are not sure whether you have plagiarized (either accidentally or deliberately), contact the Writing Center and make an appointment with one of the qualified tutors to go over your paper.

Here's their website for contact information:

[http://www.palomar.edu/english/Writing\\_Center/tutorial\\_center.htm](http://www.palomar.edu/english/Writing_Center/tutorial_center.htm)

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English 100