Benchling

NOTEBOOK

More Than a Digital Version of Paper

Software should do more than move a physical tool onto a computer. Existing Electronic Lab Notebooks are outdated and limited in their approach to facilitating note-taking, and too often, researchers end up only reluctantly transferring notes into ELNs weeks after taking them down on paper. Benchling's Notebook offers a modern approach to note-taking by taking advantage of the added functionality that software should allow. With rich features like drag-and-drop upload for any file type, native, embedded Excel-like spreadsheets, and complete integration with Benchling's Molecular Biology and Workflows applications, the Benchling Notebook transforms a formality into a tool that empowers scientists at every step of the research process.

User-Friendly Interface Makes for Easy Implementation and High Compliance

SCIENCE BY DESIGN

Rich Functionality, Powerful Simplicity

At Benchling, we strive to maintain a high standard of design informed by the workflows of our users. We know that for a research product to be truly useful, having a lot of features or having only a pleasing design isn't enough; scientists won't use it unless it offers the right functionality in the right way. To that end, we partner with our users to develop our Notebook around their workflows, and we design everything with a powerful combination of intuitive simplicity and user-informed functionality in mind.

SMOOTH LAUNCH

Intuitive Design Streamlines Deployment

Benchling has put a lot of work into optimizing our complimentary implementation process. The Notebook's usability is such that scientists can get up and running in minutes through a brief training session. The learning curve is so low that we've even seen spontaneous adoption by scientists of the Notebook within large, well-established companies that have extant mandatory ELN solutions.

CONSISTENT USE

Users Don't Switch Back

With existing ELNs, even if implementation goes smoothly, ensuring that users continue to use the product well into the future is a whole other struggle. Through its ease of use, Benchling's Notebook promotes unprecedented user compliance, with over 95% of enterprise users preferring it to their previous ELN, and with the same number saying they'd recommend Benchling to a colleague. Benchling has never lost a single enterprise customer.

Rich Features Transform the Notebook into an Active Tool

CALENDAR INTEGRATION

Calendar Entries Power Planning and Visibility

A scientist's notebook shouldn't only be a tool for recording the past results of experiments; it should allow scientists to plan out the future. With the ability to segment Notebook entries into days (including days in the future), users can both organize their past results and plan their work to come. Benchling automatically generates calendar entries for each Notebook entry, meaning scientists can be more organized by doing less work.

POWERING SOPS

Protocols and Templates Standardize Work

Beyond promoting user compliance with powerful usability and rich note-taking features, the Notebook's protocol and template features encourage adherence to SOPs so that scientists can focus on their work, instead of on converting it into an acceptable record-keeping format. Master protocol repositories are easy to create and share across teams. Individual protocols can be associated with notebook entries and altered from their master version on an experiment-by-experiment basis without affecting the master. Templated Notebook entries take this potential for standardization further, allowing scientists to simply plug in the relevant results from their experiments.

MID-ENTRY FEATURES

A Full Suite of Office Tools, All in One

Part of being more than an electronic version of a paper notebook is being more than just a word processor. In addition to rich text features, Benchling's Notebook includes functions for fully featured spreadsheets with complete formula capabilities and drag-and-drop import for any file type, including JPG, PNG, PDF, even PowerPoint, and more. In-line annotations can be added to any imported file, and code blocks and multiple export formats are also supported.

CHRISTIAN COBAUGH, DIRECTOR OF DRUG DISCOVERY AT ARCTURUS

" In my experience with other lab notebooks, compliance with notebooking and sequence documentation has never been better than it is with Benchling. Our research staff loves the software, and entries are made in less than two days versus the 10 business days that it used to take. This means greater accuracy and quicker experimental turnaround."

Collaboration Features Promote Work across Teams

REVIEW

Versioning and Timestamps Simplify Review Process

When records are kept across disparate systems or in the pages of a paper notebook, the review and witnessing process can involve many frustrating, wasted hours searching through unwieldy systems. With Benchling's full audit trails, automated versioning, and timestamps, all stakeholders — from R&D to legal — can easily access the information they need. Never again will records be lost, damaged, or doubted.

SHARING

Collaborators and Share Links Power Visibility

Before Benchling, email was the sole collaboration software for many of our users. But one-off emails dissociate attachments from their experimental context, precluding visibility into projects distributed across teams. Benchling's Notebook allows users to add other individual users or organizations as collaborators on their projects with Read, Write, or Admin privileges. Benchling makes R&D processes transparent so that every research decision is an informed one, and with read-only links for Notebook entries, even non-Benchling users can get visibility into scientists' work.

Not Just a Tool for Note-Taking: A Central Hub for Research

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Integrating with Benchling Molecular Biology turns the Notebook into a tool to power sequence analysis. Insert links to any sequence file in a Notebook entry by simply typing "@" in an entry and selecting the relevant file. Results can be unified with the constructs that generate them because on Benchling, everything happens on a single platform.

REGISTRY

The Registry serves as a mediator between Notebook entries and the physical lab, allowing scientists to link relevant entities and samples into their entries. The Registry automatically appends any results recorded in Notebook entries to the registered samples used to generate them, so that every biomolecule is always accompanied by its complete experimental history, including a complete trail of who did what and when. Run queries for Notebook entries based on the samples, sequences, oligos, and other files mentioned in them.

WORKFLOWS

Benchling Workflows not only automatically generates Notebook entries for assigned tasks, but automatically parses the results from those entries into the Workflows application. The Notebook becomes not only a source of general records, but a tool that makes the most important experimental records easily accessible.