

EuroPriSe® – European Privacy Seal

Fact Sheet

EuroPriSe 2.0 – Continuation from 2014

The European Privacy Seal (EuroPriSe), a certification that validates compliance with European data protection law for IT products and IT-based services, was developed from 2007 to 2009 by an international consortium and supported by the European Union. In 2009 EuroPriSe was taken over by the Unabhängiges Landeszentrum für Datenschutz Schleswig-Holstein (ULD / Independent Centre for Privacy Protection Schleswig-Holstein) and has continued to grow and mature as a certification scheme under its management since then.

EuroPriSe's core certification – the European Privacy Seal – requires the assessment of an information technology product's or IT-based service's legal and technical compliance with European data protection laws. A wide range of companies have obtained certifications for their IT products or IT-based services that demonstrate their compliance with European data protection laws.

The EuroPriSe certification has matured into a recognized quality seal and is acknowledged by the market as a leading representation of privacy and data protection compliance. The seal has become an exemplary demonstration of how a uniform European data protection certification can be implemented.

As the regulatory authority for data protection and with a regional orientation, the ULD structure can no longer accommodate the additional growth which the EuroPriSe lighthouse project requires. The founding shareholder of EuroPriSe GmbH is the 2B Advice group, an international privacy protection advisory group, represented in multiple European countries and the USA with its consulting companies. Of all the competitors, 2B Advice demonstrated the most convincing concept for the independent management of EuroPriSe.

As of January 1, 2014, EuroPriSe GmbH will assume full responsibility for continuing the certifications. During the transitional period up to December 31, 2013, ULD will continue to process ongoing matters and – as far as possible – conclude them. New certification agreements will continue to be accepted by ULD, but processed by EuroPriSe GmbH as of January 1, 2014. During the period from November 27-29, 2013, Kiel will host the next workshop on expert accreditation.

Those who successfully complete the training can then become accredited experts with the new EuroPriSe carrier.

If any client is unwilling to have their order passed on to EuroPriSe GmbH for processing, the relevant processing will be handled by ULD.

With long-term quality assurance under the EuroPriSe seal banner in mind, EuroPriSe GmbH has pledged to uphold the following:

1. Continue work to advance the EuroPriSe project by establishing an independent advisory board to work alongside EuroPriSe GmbH and closely collaborate with the Article 29 Data Protection Working Party,
2. Maintain transparency of procedural processes and continue to publish the EuroPriSe criteria,
3. Maintain the two-tier processing model, European orientation and the quest for optimal data protection standards, as defined by the Article 29 Data Protection Working Party and by national regulatory authorities,
4. Submit details of new schemes and modifications to existing schemes and certification requirements to the ULD and regulatory authorities in additional EU countries for feedback and take such feedback into consideration,
5. Accept expert accreditations to date,
6. Maintain and build further training for experts at international locations,
7. Take over and administer the register of granted seals of approval,
8. Punctually and professionally check all evaluation reports submitted,
9. Revise the costs of accreditation and adapt them as appropriate to national circumstances, and
10. Ensure the costs of certifications are on a non-performance-related basis.

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