



Press Release

Bonn, September 15, 2015

EuroPriSe: www.vbl.de first website awarded with European Privacy Seal

VBL. Versorgungsanstalt des Bundes und der Länder (Pension Institution of the Federal Republic and the Länder) has successfully completed the first trial run of the new EuroPriSe “Website Certification” process.

EuroPriSe’s Website Certification certifies that data processing resulting from typical interactions between a web server and the visitor’s browser conforms to European data protection law. Central aspects of the certification process include the usage of cookies, the storage of IP addresses, and the availability of complete and intelligible information for website visitors in the legal notice, privacy policy, and cookie policy. Web-based services, such as those offered by an online shop, and access-restricted areas (such as “My VBL” in this case) are not covered by the certification.

EuroPriSe will further develop its new “Website Certification” on the basis of experiences gathered during its trial run with the goal of reducing the cost and length of the process using concrete requirements and best-practice recommendations, as well as tools to automate examination processes (e.g. “online audits”), without negatively affecting the high quality of the certification. Initial progress in the development process will be presented on November 6th, 2015, at the next EuroPriSe Expert Enhancement Workshop in Berlin.

“The VBL took on the special challenges of running a pilot process and handled them with confidence and professionalism,” says Sebastian Meissner, Head of the EuroPriSe Certification Authority. “The notification system for the usage of cookies is particularly exemplary, efficiently combining a cookie banner and Cookie Policy web page to keep visitors informed.”

Further information on the certification of www.vbl.de can be found at <https://www.european-privacy-seal.eu/EPs-en/VBL-wwwvblde>.

About EuroPriSe

EuroPriSe started as an EU-funded project aimed at establishing a trans-European privacy seal. Today, EuroPriSe offers certifications for IT products and IT-based services throughout the EU. A unique certification, the EuroPriSe seal assures users that their personal data are handled in accordance with European data protection laws. As the only EU-wide, independent privacy seal, EuroPriSe enables enterprises to demonstrate their compliance with European laws and regulations. EuroPriSe certifications have been awarded to businesses of all sizes,

including small and medium-sized companies as well as multinational organizations such as Microsoft and SAP.

About VBL (Pension Institution of the Federal Republic and the Länder)

The Versorgungsanstalt des Bundes und der Länder (VBL) has been providing public-sector occupational pensions for over 85 years. It is the largest provider of supplementary pensions in Germany. Occupational pensions are based on the collective labour agreements negotiated between employers and the unions. Currently about 4.4 million insured employees use VBL's services. More than 1.2 million pensioners receive a supplementary pension from VBL alongside their state pension.

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The screenshot displays the VBL website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Die VBL', 'Arbeitgeber', 'Versicherte', 'Rentner', 'Service', and 'Meine VBL', along with a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into several sections:

- Rentenlücke schließen:** A calculator showing a contribution of 100 € and a pension gap of 209 €. A 'Meine Berechnung' button is visible.
- Aktuelles:** A grid of news articles with dates and titles, such as 'VBL-Kolloquium 2015' and 'Neue Richtlinien. RIMA und DATÜV-ZVE'.
- European Privacy Seal:** A logo for EuroPriSe with the text 'www.vbl.de erhält Europäisches Datenschutz-Gütesiegel weiter »'.
- Meine VBL:** A blue box with the text 'Persönlicher Bereich' and 'Vertragsdaten einsehen und Anträge online stellen. Registrieren/Anmelden »'.
- Kontakt zur VBL:** A box with a mobile phone image and the text 'Unsere Ansprechpartner stehen Ihnen bei Fragen gerne zur Verfügung. weiter »'.
- VBLwiki:** A box with an open book image and the text 'Suchen Sie nach Antworten zur betrieblichen Altersversorgung bei der VBL? weiter »'.