

Data security of the Global C-Sink Registry

Personal data

When assessing data security, the main concern is to protect the personal data of individuals and companies. First of all, it should be noted that within the framework of C-Sink management, we only manage and maintain personal data in the C-Sink Registry to the extent that it can be attributed to individuals, companies and institutions. We do not keep data on the religious or sexual orientation of individuals, nor do we keep other data that go beyond the physical products and their C-sink values.

The C-Sink Registry is based on sensitive data only insofar as the business secrets of the companies must be protected. Today, address data is usually publicly accessible in various places and cannot be considered sensitive. It remains to be noted that personal data in connection with a physical address is considered by us to be a central element in order to locate physical products and their C-sinks cleanly and thus to achieve the necessary security in data management.

The General Terms and Conditions of Carbon Standards International and its certification bodies ensure that this data may be published at any time without restriction. The owners give their full consent to this procedure by accepting it.

Data security

The data of the C-Sink Registry is hosted on servers of EASY-CERT services AG in Zurich. In order to guarantee the highest level of security of the recorded data, the registry is subject to blockchain technology, which documents sink values and makes changes impossible without traceability. The integrity of the data chains is checked annually by our IT specialists.

The hosting of the IT applications and databases is carried out by EASY-CERT services AG, which is bound to Carbon Standards International AG by a data transfer agreement. The certification bodies and C-Sink traders are also integrated into this contract and ensure data protection in accordance with national and international requirements.

Basics for data protection

The Parties agree that the GDPR shall be the basis of the data protection to be ensured for the transfer and processing of personal data, irrespective of whether it would actually apply in the individual case or not. With the Data Transfer Agreement, the Parties shall determine the rules applicable to such transfers and processing in order to ensure compliance with the applicable data protection law and to ensure uniform data protection throughout the Group. The basis for the data protection to be ensured is the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in its current version; country-specific exceptions remain reserved.

Login and checks

The obligation to create a login by means of registration ensures the identification and verification of customers. While the public presentation of C-sinks in the C-Sink Registry does not require a login, the detailed presentation and tracking of C-sinks and their products requires access data with a login.

The registration process requires the customer's unique identification, which must be additionally proven with a trade register entry. If a company is not registered or the address of a private person does not exist, no login data will be issued. This verification process is therefore important because it makes it virtually impossible for access data to be hacked and generated by machine.

The login is a mandatory requirement for viewing registered C-Sink details. In order to trade C-Sinks, registration as a C-Sink trader must have taken place, which is preceded by a supplementary check of the C-trader's contract status. A registered company can provide additional employees with logins, in which case it is responsible for the management of their access data.

The addresses and login data are checked annually for continuity. If a business relationship has been terminated or a company or individual no longer exists, the login is deactivated. Administrative processes ensure that logins are deactivated as soon as a contractual relationship is terminated. The annual supplementary audit by our internal auditors additionally ensures that only physical persons and existing companies have access to our IT systems.

C-sink traders and other examinations

C-Sink traders are responsible for ensuring that only authorised users have access to their IT systems. These verification mechanisms are not under the control of Carbon Standards International. Only the credentials of employees who have access to our systems are verified annually as part of our internal audit processes. Our IT teams carry out additional tests for data security and integrity, of which we only inform our partners in the event of anomalies.