

PRESS RELEASE

Bundesanzeiger Verlag accredited under www.ceireg.de as the official international issuing body of Pre-LEIs (Pre-Legal-Entity-Identifiers)

Cologne, 22 May 2014.

As of 21 May 2014, the Bundesanzeiger Verlag has been accredited as the official international Pre-Legal-Entity-Identifier (Pre-LEI) issuing body by the Regulatory Oversight Committee with the support of BaFin (the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority). Therefore, as the so-called Pre-LOU (Pre-Local-Operating-Unit), it is part of the global LEI issuing system.

As of now, all companies intending to apply for an official Pre-LEI – for example, in order to use it for announcements in compliance with applicable national provisions – can easily and conveniently order the Pre-LEI immediately after registration and authentication via the Bundesanzeiger Verlag for a fee of only €140.-/year in the first year (afterwards, the fee amounts to €90.- for each subsequent year and renewed authentication) via the platform "Corporate Entity Identifier Register" – www.ceireg.de.

Already prior to its official accreditation, the Bundesanzeiger Verlag was allowed to issue the so-called Pre-LEI and was thus able to convince different companies (including public utilities, engineering works, export companies, etc.) of its services and offers.

The Bundesanzeiger Verlag has 60 years of experience in dealing with sensitive company data and has long-standing knowledge regarding the secure operation of electronic platforms and the administration of data.

Please find all other information regarding LEIs and their issuance by the Bundesanzeiger Verlag at: www.ceireg.de or contact us via telephone at: 0800 – 1234 4339.

About LEI – Legal Entity Identifier

Due to a lack of transparency in derivative trading which was, among other things, one of the reasons for the global financial crisis, the LEI was endorsed by the G20 in 2008 as an identification number for all participants making financial transactions. In the future, globally every transaction can be precisely allocated to a company via the 20-digit number code. Already, many companies in Germany need an LEI. Apart from small and medium-sized enterprises, exporting medium-sized companies and major banks, these also include many municipalities and savings banks. Long-term, it is expected that every company shall have its own LEI.

Benefits of the LEI:

- A common, standardized identification for each financial market participant and the identification of transactions with a common counterparty will make the financial markets more transparent
- Better risk management within the individual companies
- Better assessment of company-specific and system-wide risks
- Simplification of an orderly liquidation
- Increase in the quality of financial data
- Containment of market abuse and financial fraud
- Therefore, the LEI also serves to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism

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