

UNIVERSE[®] unique identification and verification service

UNIVERSE[®] - UNique Identification and VERification Service

What problem is solved?

- **Persistent** unique identification of business entities (documents, services, products) is key to the further development of transactions in the electronic world. However, commonly used identification systems like the Domain Name System (DNS) **do not provide persistent** unique identification. Also the growing number of participants using non-Latin character sets (**Chinese, Japanese, Cyrillic** etc.) requires language-independent identification in the Internet.
 - Common Internet registries like the WHOIS-registry for Domain Names are **not designed** for reliable registration and **to provide trustworthy business information**.
- **Therefore, identification-systems providing persistent identification and trust which are complementary to the DNS must be established.**

How is this problem solved?

UNIVERSE[®] integrates proven identification systems with their existing identifiers (e.g. **SIRENE**) like official business registers, **COFACE**, GS1, chambers of commerce, Dun & Bradstreet and others. It is a system providing **persistent** identification and the according information and focuses on easy implementation and usage. The identification can be verified **trustworthily**. It is a **federation-based** Trusted Third Party service for resolving and verifying unique identifiers issued by recognized registration authorities.

Who is the target group and what are the application areas?

The main user group will be **SMEs** using the service in electronic business to create trust-interopability. The service is relevant for eGovernment, Records Management and technologies for automation (e.g. ebXML).

When will SMEs be able to use it?

Today: Usage as a **Trust Label** in the World Wide Web (See **example** below: Click on the hyperlinked identifiers.)

Tomorrow: Enhancing future automatic business transactions based on machine readable formats (like XML)

Platforms for further development

The system shall be promoted in the context of interoperability in eBusiness and eGovernment. Standardisation aspects are dealt within CEN (Comité Européen de Normalisation) or other standardisation bodies.

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