

>> German Emissions Trading Authority
at the Federal Environment Agency

Standardised, Electronic Reporting on Emissions

Umwelt Bundes Amt **DEHST**
Für Mensch und Umwelt Deutsche Emissionshandelsstelle

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Publikation
www.dehst.de

Vergeltungshinweise

Archiv

Suchen

Drucken

HOTLINE
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Customer profile

A national emissions trading authority – the Deutsche Emissionshandelsstelle (DEHSt) – was set up at the Federal Environmental Agency to oversee the European Union’s emissions trading scheme. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) governs the allocation and distribution of emission allowances, besides monitoring and capping total emissions, keeping a national register and reporting at a national and international level. In addition to its administering role it aims to provide a reliable service for participating companies, assessors and traders of emission allowances, not to mention the authorities themselves. This has added a new component to the scope of tasks and experience of the Federal Environmental Agency with regard to German and international climate protection..

Quicklink FMS
zu den elektronischen Formularanwendungen der DEHSt

Quicklink Register
zur Anmeldung im nationalen Register
Öffentliche Berichte des nationalen Registers

Quicklink VPS
Virtuelle Poststelle

Quicklink Umweltbundesamt
Umweltbundesamt

MATERNA
Information & Communications

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Initial situation

According to the "Monitoring Guidelines" governing the recording and reporting of emissions for the EU Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), all operators are obligated to monitor the CO₂ emissions of their plants.

For the electronic recording of the emission reports required for a uniform and efficient implementation of the monitoring guidelines, the German emissions trading authority, DEHSt, at the Federal Environmental Agency uses a transaction-based Forms Management System (FMS) to electronically record and calculate the annual emission reports. It is the first public reporting procedure to be implemented entirely in electronic form from the start. The DEHSt, plant operators, assessors and the regional regulating bodies handle the applications or reports electronically and communicate with each other about the technologies in use.

The DEHSt is responsible for around 1,600 plants subject to the EU ETS and 260 assessment offices in Germany. For each plant the operators must produce an annual emission report. Using this information, it is possible to identify whether the plant emitted more CO₂ in the previous trading period than stipulated in its CO₂ certificate.

Implementation

The web-based software solution of the DEHSt assists plant operators in the preparation of their emission reports. Using the central web application, they can produce a gapless visualisation of the emissions for each plant, save this and forward it to the assessment office for verification. All necessary calculations are carried out automatically. The software helps with the administration of catalogue data and reports, as well as recording master data and visualising specialist data models. Calculations are based on the fuel used in accordance with the Monitoring Guidelines and on many other factors. All information and specialist software applications are made available via a central communication portal on the internet created with the government's content management system (Government Site Builder).

A number of different service providers have been closely involved with the DEHSt in the set-up, development and operation of the FMS, with MATERNA as the general contractor.

As the main implementation partner, MATERNA customised the user interface and the navigation specifically for the DEHSt and developed the different forms according to the corporate design of the DEHSt. MATERNA also implemented all calculations and plausibility checks, as well as

linking up the workflow and the backend systems. The solution now enables the easy storage of report data and a variety of calculations. Its technological basis is the transaction-based Forms Management System (FMS) from the German government initiative BundOnline, running an extended version of the Lucom Interaction Platform (LIP). The system is operated by the Centre for Information Processing and Information Technology (ZIVIT) in Frankfurt, Germany.

MATERNA created the Forms Management Application in the years 2005 to 2010. Using the same technological base MATERNA also created the applications for the aviation annual emissions report.

Advantages

- Improved data quality
- Reduced manual input required for recording of data
- Data recording and verification have become largely automated
- Sector- and role-specific masks and user interfaces
- Intuitive user prompting, oriented towards a real plant
- Supports standard functions