

SURE announcement of April, 4th 2025:

Union Database (UDB) 03/2025

Onboarding to the test version (Acceptance-Version) – Voluntary use of the UDB

From now on, the Union Database (UDB) can be used voluntarily within the framework of the SURE-EU system – this applies to all areas that do not fall under the mandatory SURE-EU scopes 3403, 5301 and 5302. If the UDB is used voluntarily, the transfer process is irreversible. The data is first transmitted to the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> and later to the live version of the UDB.

Background

With UDB Notifications <u>01/2025</u> and <u>02/2025</u>, the system participants of the scope 3403, 5301 and 5302, for which the use of the UDB is statutory, have already been integrated into the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> of the UDB. For all other scopes, it is now possible to use the Acceptance-Version of the UDB voluntarily.

Voluntary data transfer to the UDB via the SURE database

From now on, a new button is available in the <u>SURE database</u> with which the voluntary submission of data to the Union database can be started.

This button can be used by all SURE-EU participants who **do not carry out any activities** in the mandatory SURE-EU scopes 3403, 5301 and 5302.

By pressing the button, it is expressly confirmed that

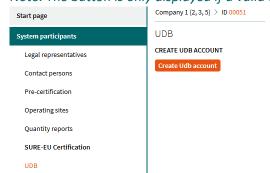
- ✓ the data stored in the <u>SURE database</u> including company data, contact details and certificate data is transmitted to the UDB, this transfer process is irreversible,
- ✓ you have read the <u>European Commission's privacy statement</u> (available in English only) and consent to the processing of the data in accordance with this statement.

Please note: A deletion of personal data from the UDB must be requested directly from the European Commission. SURE assumes no responsibility for this.

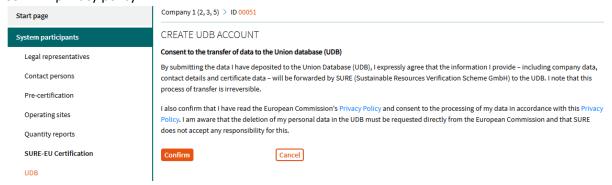


Enabling the voluntary submission of data to the Union database

- 1. Log in to the **SURE database**.
- 2. In the "UDB" menu item, select the button to create a UDB account. *Note: The button is only displayed if a valid certificate is present.*



3. Confirm privacy policy



4. Once confirmed, the date of consent will be displayed.



Please note: The data will first be transferred to the Acceptance-Version and later to the live version of the UDB. This transfer process is irreversible. A deletion of personal data in the UDB must be requested directly at the European Commission. SURE assumes no responsibility for this.



What is the UDB?

The UDB is a Europe-wide recognized database that ensures traceability along the value chain of gaseous and liquid fuels. It ensures compliance with the sustainability and greenhouse gas criteria in accordance with the Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (RED II). The UDB documents data on transactions, conversions and sustainability characteristics, including life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions, from raw material production to fuel production.

As a voluntary scheme recognized by the European Commission, SURE supports the introduction of UDB in accordance with Article 28 (2) and (4) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Article 18 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/996 and, in the future, Article 31a of the amended Directive (EU) 2023/2413. Further details can be found in the scheme documents, in particular in chapter 3.4 of the "Technical Instructions for Mass Balancing".

Who must use the UDB in the SURE-EU system?

According to Article 18 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/996, 'all intermediate stages from the withdrawal of gaseous fuels from the interconnected infrastructure to the point of final consumption of the gaseous or liquid fuels shall be registered in the Union database'.

All SURE-EU participants of the biomethane sector (SURE-EU scopes 3403, 5301, 5302) are required to use the UDB. The upstream value chain must also implement the UDB to ensure traceability from point of origin to fuel production. Since the production of biomethane depends on the upstream processes, the use of UDB is also necessary in these areas.

Although the solid biomass fuel sector (e.g. wood) is in principle excluded from the use of the UDB, there is also an obligation to use the UDB in certain cases, such as wood (pyrolysis) gasification. Starting from the 04.04.2025, there will be the possibility to use the UDB (voluntarily) for all scopes. As a producer or trader of biomass, please check with your customers and suppliers to what extent the use of the UDB is necessary for you.

Note: At present, SURE is not able to specifically identify all system participants who are required to use the UDB, which is why it is your responsibility in the future to inform your suppliers or customers. Inform your upstream and downstream value chain about the use of the UDB.

Integration of SURE into the UDB

The European Commission provides a <u>Test version</u> (<u>Acceptance-Version</u>) of the UDB. This can be accessed under <u>webgate.acceptance.ec.europa.eu/Union Database</u>. It is for testing purposes only. SURE is onboarding to the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> for the time being to ensure a smooth transition to the live version of the UDB. Onboarding to the final live version of the UDB will be implemented later.

The Acceptance-Version is for preparation and training purposes to familiarize yourself with the platform and handling. The entered data cannot be transferred from the Acceptance-Version to the live version.



Important notes about the Acceptance-Version

To set up a company account in the <u>Acceptance-Version</u>, your master data from the <u>SURE database</u> is used.

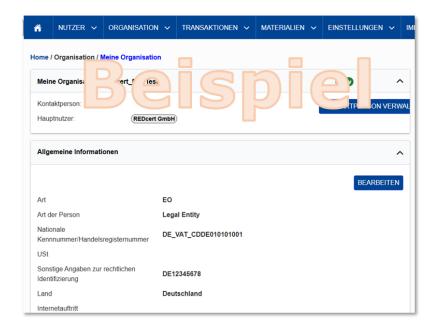
Important: If your Value Added Tax Identification Number (VAT ID) is missing in the <u>SURE database</u>, it is not possible to create a business account in the Acceptance-Version. If you have not stored a VAT ID in the master data of the <u>SURE database</u>, we ask you to add it as soon as possible.

Access to the Acceptance-Version

Access to the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> is possible after <u>activating the button</u> and setting up an EU login account. Please note that the same email address is used as the 1st contact person in the <u>SURE</u> <u>database</u>. Please ensure the following:

- ✓ Since your company information in the UDB comes directly from the <u>SURE database</u>, you should make sure that your data is <u>up to date</u> in the <u>SURE database</u>.
- ✓ For security reasons, registration will only be possible with the e-mail of the first contact person, which is stored in the <u>SURE database</u>. Therefore, the <u>EU login account</u> must also be created with this e-mail address.
- ✓ When you log in to the <u>Acceptance-Version of the Union Database (UDB)</u> for the first time, you may be asked to enter your data again and set a password, as you will need to create a **Test EU Login -account** for the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> (as specified by the UDB team of the EU -Commission). In concrete terms, this means that you can only log in to the <u>Acceptance-Version</u> with your test <u>EU login account</u>.
 For security reasons, we recommend that you set a different password than your already created EU Login account.
- Your company information in the UDB comes directly from the <u>SURE database</u>. If you find **errors in your master data** in the <u>Acceptance-Version</u>, please change them (especially) in the <u>SURE database</u> so that they can later be correctly transferred to the live version of the UDB. Please also make sure that your VAT ID is stored in the <u>SURE database</u>.





Company profile with VAT ID and the UDB identifier generated from it

Note: The Acceptance-Version is an immature version of the UDB. For this reason, there can always be deviations from the above steps. However, SURE has no influence on technical implementation. Accordingly, we ask for your understanding and patience if inconsistencies occur.

Please note that emails originate from the @ec.europa.eu domain, as they are triggered from the UDB.

In the Acceptance-Version

- 1. After login: check and correct your company details, if necessary, also in the SURE database
- 2. Add internal users
- 3. Create buyers (if possible)
 - ✓ Create the initial stock (if possible)
 - Create sourcing contacts (only for first gathering points/collectors)
- 4. Try to familiarize yourself with the interface and make transactions if necessary.

Detailed information can be found in our <u>step-by-step instructions</u>.



EU Login Account

To ensure security and privacy when logging in and registering in the UDB, we strongly recommend that you follow these steps:

- ✓ Use the same email address that was provided as the 1st contact person in the <u>SURE</u> database
- ✓ Be sure to use a personal email address for your personal EU Login account.
- ✓ Avoid using generic email addresses such as info@firma.de or office@firma.de.
- ✓ Ideally, you should use your business, personalized email address (e.g., name.surname@company.com).
- ✓ If you don't have a personalized business email, you can also use a private email address that can be uniquely assigned to you.

These measures are designed to:

- ✓ Ensure the assignment of the <u>EU Login account</u> to a specific person
- Prevent unauthorized access to sensitive company data
- ✓ To ensure the traceability of actions in the UDB.
- ✓ Comply with EU data protection directives and security standards

Please note that using a personal email address is an important step in protecting the security of your company and your data in the UDB.

A detailed description of how to create an <u>EU Login account</u> can be found in our <u>step-by-step guide</u> or on the <u>help page for the EU Login account</u>.

Training offers for the UDB

Dates SURE

17.04.2025: 10:00-12:00 a.m. - UDB: User course first gathering points|supplier|conversion - German - free

24.04.2025: 10:00-12:00 a.m. - UDB: User course first gathering points|supplier|conversion - English – Free

All information and registration can be found under sure-system.org/en/news-events/workshops-trainings.



Contacts for questions

SURE differentiates between technical and professional support requests, as they require different expertise and approaches. This separation allows for more efficient processing and faster problem resolution.

Professional questions require an in-depth understanding of the contents and specific requirements of the UDB. The <u>Fachverband Biogas e.V.</u> is the appropriate point of contact for this, as it specializes in these topics.

Technical questions concern the functioning of the platform and will be answered <u>from the support</u> <u>team of the UDB (EU Commission)</u>.

Thanks to this clear separation, inquiries are forwarded directly to the appropriate experts. This reduces processing time and improves the quality of responses, so you always get the best possible support for your concern.

Of course, SURE is also available for support requests and supports you with all matters relating to the UDB.

This information can be found in the previous SURE announcement

UDB 01 of 30.01.2025 – only for SURE-EU scopes 3403, 5301, 5302

- ✓ Who must use the UDB in the SURE system?
- ✓ Integration of SURE into the UDB
- ✓ Important notes about the Acceptance-Version
- ✓ Access to the Acceptance-Version
- ✓ EU Login Account
- ✓ What happens if I don't take action?

UDB 02 of 06.02.2025 – only for SURE-EU scopes 3403, 5301, 5302

- ✓ Onboarding in die Test version (Acceptance-Version)
- ✓ In the Acceptance-Version



Relevant Links

Acceptance-Version of the UDB SURE Database

<u>Step-by-step instructions</u> <u>UDB Public Wiki</u>

EU Login Account Privacy policy

EU Login Help Page

Contact for technical questions about the UDB

Fachverband Biogas e.V. Telephone hours:

Angerbrunnenstrasse 12 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:

85356 Freising 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Telefon: 0049 8161 / 984660 01:00 PM - 04:00 PM

Telefax: 0049 8161 / 984670 Wednesday and Friday:

09:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Support team der UDB (European Commission)

Please send an Email to EC-UNION-DB@ec.europa.eu and add udb@sure-system.org in CC.

In your E-mail to UDB support, please include the following information:

- ✓ Description of the problem: Briefly explain what exactly is not working.
- ✓ **Information** about the company incl. unique company identifier, unique VAT ID and SURE-ID (for further inquiries)
- Error message: If you receive an error message, include it (as a screenshot) in your message.
- ✓ **Browser and version**: Specify which browser and version you are using.

Further information can be found on our webpage sure-system.org/en

Thank you very much!

Your SURE Team

udb@sure-system.org

Disclaimer

All information contained in this letter and on the website has been adapted to the current legal texts, the <u>official wiki of the UDB</u> or the exchange with the UDB managers. However, there is no guarantee of the accuracy or completeness of the information provided. For more information, see the <u>official wiki of the UDB</u>.