



Press Release

Bonn, December 20, 2016

## **EuroPriSe: GDPR ready certification criteria for IT products and IT-based services to be operational from January 2017**

*An updated version of the EuroPriSe criteria catalogue for products and services which already incorporates the new legal requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is now publicly available on the EuroPriSe website and may be used for future certification projects.*

In spring 2016, the entry into force of the GDPR which will be applicable from late May 2018 required EuroPriSe to initiate an update of its certification criteria. The major objective of this update was to incorporate the new legal provisions that are introduced by the regulation into the existing certification catalogue. At the same time, EuroPriSe Certification Authority (CA) took the opportunity to adjust this catalogue to the effect that it distinguishes now even clearer between the certification of IT products and the two main types of IT-based services (controller services vs. processor services).

A full-fledged draft version of the updated criteria catalogue was distributed to the members of the EuroPriSe advisory board and discussed during the third meeting of the board in early December. EuroPriSe took the advice of the board to further improve the readability and understandability of the catalogue and made further amendments to the document subsequent to the meeting. Today, the final outcome of the months-long update process is published.

"The new, GDPR ready version of our criteria catalogue may be used for future (re)certification projects from January 2017" says Sebastian Meissner, Head of the EuroPriSe Certification Authority. "Hereby, EuroPriSe's existing and future clients are given the opportunity to prove from day 1 of the GDPR's applicability that their products and services comply with the new legislative framework".

The new criteria catalogue is publicly available at <https://www.european-privacy-seal.eu/EPS-en/Criteria>.

### **About EuroPriSe**

EuroPriSe started as an EU-funded project aimed at establishing a trans-European privacy seal. Today, EuroPriSe offers certifications for IT products, IT-based services and websites throughout the EU. A unique certification, the EuroPriSe seal assures users that their personal data are handled in accordance with European data protection laws. As the only EU-wide, independent privacy seal, EuroPriSe enables enterprises to demonstrate their compliance with European laws and regulations. EuroPriSe certifications have been awarded to businesses of all sizes, including small and medium-sized companies as well as multinational organizations such as Microsoft, SAP and Siemens.

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