

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS BETWEEN **BRUGEL** AND

1. Definitions

Term	Meaning
AIB Communications Hub or “Hub”	A commercial website operated on behalf of the AIB whose address is https://www.aibhub.org , which provides coordination and synchronisation services, distributing messages and acknowledgements between the registries of Hub Users. The Hub is defined in detail in Subsidiary Document “HubCom EECS Registration Databases”, otherwise known as “HubCom”.
Association of Issuing Bodies or “AIB”	The international not-for-profit association (ivzw - aisbl) constituted in accordance with the Belgian Code of Companies and Associations of 23 March 2019, under the name of “Association of Issuing Bodies” with a company number 0.864.645.330.
Certificate	A certificate, record or guarantee (in any form including an electronic form) in relation to: (a) attributes of the Input consumed in the production of a quantity of Output, and/or (b) attributes of the method and quality of the production of a quantity of Output.
Certification Scheme	A legislative, administrative and/or contractual framework establishing a system of Certificates.

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Competent Authority	In relation to the exercise or discharge of any legislative, governmental, regulatory or administrative function with respect to any Domain, the Authority duly authorised under the laws and regulations of the state (and, as the case may be, region) in which such Domain is situated to exercise or discharge that function, and, in relation to any Guarantee of Origin or Support Certificate the Authority duly authorised by the State under the relevant Legislative Certification Scheme to issue that Guarantee of Origin and/or Support Certificate as the case may be.
Data Log	The Record of Transactions of the AIB Communication Hub (the Transfer Log).
Domain	An area containing Production Devices with respect to which a Member is an Authorised Issuing Authority for the purposes of an EECS Product.
Domain Protocol	In connection with a Domain, a document describing the procedures and regulatory provisions regarding GOs for that Domain.
EECS Rules	The Principles and Rules of Operation of the European Energy Certificate System.
Guarantee of Origin (or “GO”)	<p>An electronic document (Certificate) issued by a Competent Authority under the laws of a State as a guarantee of the nature and origin of energy for the purpose of providing proof to a final customer that a given share or quantity of energy, as the case may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) was produced from the energy source to which the guarantee relates; (ii) was produced by the specified technology type to which the guarantee relates; and/or (iii) has, or the Production Device(s) which produced it has (or have) other attributes to which the guarantee relates.
HubCom	The AIB document known as “Hub User Compliance Protocol” and subtitled “EECS Rules — Subsidiary Document AIB-PRO-SD03: EECS Registration Databases”.
Hub user	A Competent Authority or Registry Operator which uses the Hub for Transactions.
Input	An amount of a specific type of energy or material goods consumed by a Production Device using combustion technology in the production of Output.

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Integrity	The accuracy and consistency of retained and transmitted data, indicated by an absence of any alteration in data during its retention and its transmission from a Sender to a Receiver. Data integrity is maintained through the use of error checking and validation routines.
Legislative Certification Scheme	A Certification Scheme implemented pursuant to the law of any EU Member State or a State bound to the EU by a Treaty requiring the mutual recognition of GOs.
Output	An amount of energy or material goods yielded by a Production Device and measured by a Measurement Authority.
Participant	A Registrant or Market Participant.
Production Device	A separately measured device or group of devices that produces an Output.
Registrant	A person in whose name a Production Device is registered from time to time in a Registry for the purposes of the issue of Certificates.
Registration Database (or "Registry")	A database operated by a Hub user or a Registry Operator on behalf of a Hub user, comprising: (a) Transferables and Cancellation Accounts and the Certificates in those Accounts; (b) Details of Production Devices and information provided in connection with the registration of Production Devices; (c) Details of Certificates which have been transferred out of that Registry.
Transaction	Any communication made and identified as a transfer between Registries regarding GOs, to which an electronic message refers.

2. Purpose

This document is a Contract (hereinafter called "the Contract") between **BRUGEL**, Avenue des Arts 46, 1000 Brussels, Belgium, and _____, hereafter named the Market Participant.

This Contract sets out the terms and conditions upon which BRUGEL is prepared to provide Transaction services regarding GOs to the Market Participant via the AIB Communication Hub as contemplated by the rules described in the Domain Protocol and the HubCom Protocol issued by the AIB.

Where Transactions are performed upon the request of the Market Participant or involving the Market Participant, in accordance with this Contract, the rules described in the Domain Protocol and all applicable technical requirements, and the Parties involved do not claim in due time that the Transaction was in any way erroneous, the Market Participant shall in good faith accept the legal consequences of such Transaction.

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3. Compliance with the rules described in the Domain Protocol

Registrants of Production Devices become eligible to receive Guarantee of Origin (GO) Certificates under a specific Legislative Certification Scheme by contractually committing themselves with the Competent Authority responsible for the relevant Domain (under BRUGEL's Standard Terms and Conditions) to comply with the rules described in the Domain Protocol. The Registrant will also be subject to applicable legislation. In case of conflict between the Domain Protocol and the terms and conditions, the former shall prevail.

4. Warranty of Uniqueness

The Market Participant warrants that, to the best of their knowledge, the Attributes related to any Output in relation to a request to Issue an EECS Certificate made by them has not been and will not be subject to the issuance of any other certificate, or claim for use for substantially the same Purpose.

5. Obligation to inform

Each party shall contribute to the implementation of this Contract, to the extent that both parties shall provide each other without delay all necessary information required by the application of this Contract. If the operation of a Production Device of the Market Participant no longer conforms to the reported information, the Market Participant shall inform BRUGEL immediately about the change.

6. Information systems

BRUGEL issues GOs by using an electronic registry (Registration Database).

The Market Participant shall arrange, at his own cost, the necessary information technology architecture and interfaces which the Market Participant needs in order to use the Registration Database. The Market Participant shall be responsible for sufficient and state of the art methods and technologies that safeguard data security and integrity relating to the use of the Registration Database.

BRUGEL has the right to change the IT prerequisites for the use of the Registration Database. BRUGEL shall inform the Market Participant in writing at least 30 calendar days prior to the implementation of material changes. In urgent cases changes can be made without prior notice. BRUGEL shall then inform the Market Participant in writing as soon as possible after the change has been made.

BRUGEL shall inform the Market Participant 5 days in advance of planned unavailability of the Registration Database. The Market Participant shall be informed of other unavailability preventing the use of the Registration Database as soon as possible.

The Market Participant shall respect the technical requirements and rules of conduct described in the Domain Protocol.

BRUGEL has the right to prevent or restrict the use of the Registration Database service by the Market Participant if there is misuse of the system or if the Market Participant has not fulfilled its contractual obligations.

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7. Record retention

The Market Participant is responsible for retaining all records to which they have had access relating to any EECS Certificate corresponding to the relevant EECS Product which is the subject of a Transfer Request for not less than 6 years after the Cancellation of such EECS Certificate.

BRUGEL is bound by the law to keep information concerning Account Holders, Production Devices, certificates, and market activity for at least the period during which the concerned production device was eligible for Green Certificates and/or GO or during which there has been a market activity, plus ten years.

8. Liability

The Market Participant shall at all times act in accordance with the applicable legal provisions and the Domain Protocol of the relevant Domain.

A Hub user or Competent Authority is not liable for losses incurred by the Market Participant, except in case of the Hub user's / Competent Authority's gross negligence.

If the Market Participant suffers a loss due to gross negligence by BRUGEL, the Market Participant must direct the claim for compensation only against BRUGEL.

If the Market Participant suffers a loss due to gross negligence by a Hub user, Competent Authority, another market participant or third party, the Market Participant must direct the claim for compensation only against the relevant Hub user, Competent Authority, market participant or third party that has caused the damage.

The AIB, other Hub users or their representatives are not liable for the actions of the negligent Hub user, Competent Authority, Market Participant or third party.

The Market Participant has a duty to do everything possible to prevent or limit the extent of the damage. If the Market Participant does not implement adequate measures to prevent or limit the extent of the damage, compensation may be reduced.

Claims against any Hub user for any damage, loss, cost or expense incurred by the Market Participant in relation to Transactions with GOs shall be limited to five thousand (5000) Euros per year excluding indirect or consequential damage, such as, but not limited to commercial damage, loss of profit, claims of other third parties. Such limitation will however not apply in case of wilful misconduct or intentional damage.

Claims against the AIB for any damage, loss, cost or expense incurred by the Market Participant and caused by gross negligence by the AIB in relation to Transactions with GOs shall be limited to thousand (1000) Euros per year per Market Participant, excluding indirect or consequential damage, such as, but not limited to commercial damage, loss of profit, claims of other third parties. Such limitation will however not apply in case of wilful misconduct or intentional damage. Any performance that is provided in conformity with the AIB's Service Level Agreement cannot be regarded as gross negligence.

However, if this paragraph 6 is not applicable or not valid due to applicable legislation, these provisions will be applied insofar allowed by applicable law.

9. Errors in Issuing

If BRUGEL or the Market Participant discovers an error in issuing, cancelling or processing of a GO, the other party shall be informed as soon as possible.

If there is an error in the course of issuing, cancelling or processing of a GO or an error due to any unauthorised access to or malfunction of a Registration Database, BRUGEL and the Market Participant shall co-operate and use

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all reasonable endeavours to ensure that no unjust enrichment occurs as a result of the error. If there is an error, the GOs held in the Market Participant's account may be withdrawn or amended by BRUGEL. If not enough GOs have been issued, the Competent Authority will issue the GOs as soon as it receives the correct information.

If it transpires that the data in any GO is inaccurate (whether or not through an act or omission of the Registrant of the originating Production Device), BRUGEL is entitled to – provided that such GOs are, at the time of such withdrawal, in the “Transferable Account” of that Registrant – withdraw those GOs, and other GOs of the same type.

10. Expiry of BRUGEL's services relating to GOs

If BRUGEL's right to serve as the Competent Authority for GOs in accordance with a Legislative Certification Scheme in the related Domain expires, BRUGEL has the right to transfer the Contract to a new Competent Authority. If there is no new Competent Authority, BRUGEL has the right to terminate the Contract. the Market Participant has no right to receive any refund of the paid contractual fees.

If BRUGEL no longer acts as Competent Authority for a Legislative Certification Scheme, the Market Participant has the right to retrieve its data.

11. Fees

The transaction fees are as follows:

Transaction type		Fees 2023
Transfer	Transfer of each GO - internal to domain	€ 0.012
	Transfer of each GO - imports	€ 0.020
Cancellation	Per cancelled GO	€ 0.010
	Ex-domain cancellation – per cancelled GO	€ 0.020

It should be noted that BRUGEL acts as a public authority within the meaning of Article 6 of the Belgian VAT Code. Consequently, the fees received by BRUGEL in connection with the transfer or cancellation of GOs are not subject to VAT. The nature of GOs is outside the scope of VAT insofar as these operations, carried out as a public authority, are not included in the exhaustive list of operations subject to VAT, and the non-application of VAT does not lead to significant distortions of competition. Indeed, in accordance with article 27, §2 of the Electricity Ordinance and article 22ter, §1 of the Gas Ordinance, only BRUGEL can supervise the issue, transfer and cancellation of guarantees of origin in the Brussels Capital Region. These operations can therefore never be carried out by private-sector operators (or even by other public-sector operators). There can be no distortion of competition.

BRUGEL may revise these fees and the terms of payment annually, especially if there are changes in the operational costs for managing GOs. If there are any modifications, BRUGEL will publish the decision on its website at least one month before it comes into force. Any previous fee amounts and payment terms will remain in effect unless otherwise stated in the latest published decision.

12. Breach of the Contract

If the Market Participant is in material breach of the Contract, including his obligation to pay the fees to BRUGEL, BRUGEL is entitled to terminate or suspend the execution of this Contract and thus to stop issuing, cancelling or otherwise processing certificates.

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13. Force majeure

Neither Party shall be held liable nor be deemed in default under this Contract for any delay or failure in performance of any of their respective obligations if such delay or failure is the result of causes beyond the control and without negligence of such Party. Such causes shall include, without limitation, acts of war, civil war, riots, acts of terrorism, general strikes or lockouts, insurrections, sabotage, embargoes, blockades, acts or failures to act of any governmental or regulatory Authority (whether civil or military, domestic or foreign, national or supranational), communication line failures, power failures, fires, explosions, floods, accidents, epidemics, earthquakes or other natural or man-made disasters, and all occurrences similar to the foregoing (collectively referred to as "Force Majeure").

The Party affected by an event of Force Majeure, upon giving prompt notice to the other Party, shall be excused from performance hereunder on a day-to-day basis to the extent prevented by Force Majeure and the direct consequences thereof (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations on a day-to-day basis to the extent that such obligations relate to the performance so prevented), provided that the Party so affected shall use its best efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and to minimize the consequences thereof and the Parties shall continue performance hereunder with the utmost dispatch whenever such causes are removed.

In the event that the Force Majeure continues to persist for a period exceeding one (1) month, then either Party shall have the right to terminate the Contract by giving twenty (20) business days written notice of termination to the other Party.

14. Amendment of the Contract

If the national or European legislation or the AIB require that the Domain Protocol of the Brussels Capital Region be amended, the Parties agree to make all the required changes to this Contract in order to make it coherent with the Domain Protocol. The Parties acknowledge and understand that the AIB Communication Hub is used by many Hub users and Market Participants, and that modifications to the Hub or the regulatory environment must be applied by all parties involved.

15. Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

Information of commercial, technical, strategic, financial or otherwise sensitive nature, which is not publicly known and is usually considered as valuable and confidential, whether or not it is explicitly indicated as confidential, shall be treated as confidential information by both Parties. Disclosure of such information requires the prior written consent of the other Party.

For the avoidance of doubt, this confidentiality clause does not prevent BRUGEL to give information to authorities including but not limited to the tax authorities and the police of the Brussels Capital Region and the registration's country of the Market Participant, and Europol.

The software that is used to enable the operation of the Registration Database and the Transactions, together with all included tools, know-how and related intellectual property rights, is and shall remain the exclusive property of BRUGEL, the AIB or their service providers or licensors. The software code, documentation and in general all related know-how must be considered confidential information, even if not explicitly disclosed as such. The Market Participant shall use the services and the related software only for the purposes of this Contract and shall not copy, reproduce, reverse engineer, decompile nor alter, adapt or modify any part of the software or related documentation.

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16. Personal Data

As part of the present contract, the Parties may receive and/ or collect personal data from staff, employees or any other representative of the Parties. This includes any kind of personal data as understood under EU General Data Protection Regulation n°2016/679 (“GDPR”), as for example contact details (first name, last name, email, birth date, national identification number, postal address and phone number) or connection details.

The personal data collected will be only used in order to allow the proper execution of the benefits and services offered by the Service Provider to the Client, as described in the present Contract.

The personal data is aimed for managing the Registry. BRUGEL may be considered as the recipient of the data.

Any individual whose personal data are concerned by the present article has a right to obtain transparent information, to oppose, access and rectify any data which is relevant. The exercise of these rights is guaranteed by BRUGEL.

BRUGEL undertakes to ensure the compliance by their staff, and by their subcontractors, to all the legal and regulatory provisions concerning personal data protection to the site of the Market Participant.

In case of contradiction between the dispositions of the present Contract, and a data privacy agreement signed by the Parties, the dispositions of the data privacy agreement shall be regarded as binding.

17. Assignment and Duration of the Contract

Each Party may assign this contract only with the written consent of the other Party. Such consent cannot be withheld with undue reason. Each Party may, however, without consent at any time assign this contract to an affiliated company.

Each Party can terminate this contract with one month’s written notice.

18. Dispute Resolution

Disputes arising out of this Contract shall be settled according to national law, national jurisdiction and national courts.

In case of disputes, the AIB Hub’s Data Log may provide evidence as to the data that have been transferred through the Hub and the time thereof and in such case the Market Participant shall accept the statement of the AIB as a binding statement.

Date :

Date:

BRUGEL

The Market Participant

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