



Factsheet:

Access to Base Registries in Germany

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Germany towards Interoperability

Steering Germany towards interoperability requires the authorities to navigate their large population and complex political structure successfully. Regarding base registries, this implies that despite keeping central registries at the national level, the vast majority of data stems from registries kept locally in the German states, municipalities and localities. To overcome these challenges, Germany is implementing a number of interoperability initiatives, e-Government strategies and other useful innovations to bring public e-services and authentic data closer to the users than ever before.

In contrast to many other European countries, Germany has currently no formal National Interoperability Framework. Nonetheless, the Federal Republic has a selection of initiatives that constitute the ongoing efforts to improve Germany's interoperability, including specific institution work coordinated at federal, state and local level to ensure an efficient implementation of the country's strategies.

One of those strategies is the **Digital Agenda 2014-2017**¹, which was carried out by the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure. Among its wide range of goals, the strategy aims to create a transparent state, offering easy access to reliable data, uniform standards and advocates for greater interoperability. To this end, Germany is developing a comprehensive legislative framework for ICT standardisation within the federal administrative authorities.

Furthermore, the strategy advocates the improvement of public sector digital services for citizens and companies. To this end, the government is working closely with the regions and local authorities to support the development of local user-friendly e-government services. The government, also, promotes the possibility to contact public authorities via a range of channels (such as **De-Mail**) as well as electronic identification in a secure manner.

De-Mail² is an innovative system of electronic messages sent in an encrypted form. De-Mail is stated in the German law through the De-Mail Act³ which was introduced on 3 May 2011. The Act sets the minimum standards for secure electronic communication and guarantees orderly procedures for controlling and maintaining them among all De-Mail providers. De-Mail users or De-mail provider can contact each other through the system. Also, De-Mail allows identity verification of both, the sender and receiver, and provides confirmation that the message was sent and received. Encrypted channels, together with a secure registration and connection, ensure the confidential transmission and delivery of De-Mail messages. The connection between the federal and the centralised De-Mail is achieved via the authorities' terminal to the central De-Mail gateway of the Federation, i.e., the Federal Ministry of the Interior interconnects through its central De-Mail Exchange Online mailbox⁴.

Furthermore, it should be highlighted that the **Federal Government Commissioner for Information Technology** promotes on its official page⁵ that mandatory standards are the basis for technology systems' interoperability. On the same page, there is readily available information regarding the **architecture management of IT**, which establishes the basis for the planning and development of information technology

¹ https://www.digitale-agenda.de/Content/DE/_Anlagen/2014/08/2014-08-20-digitale-agenda-engl.pdf;jsessionid=6216630A4BB7DB9BD64807A38878F135.s2t1?_blob=publicationFile&v=6

² http://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/Topics/IT-Internet-Policy/De-Mail/de-mail_node.html or

http://www.cio.bund.de/Web/DE/Innovative-Vorhaben/De-Mail/de_mail_node.html

³ http://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Gesetzestexte/de_mail_gesetz.pdf?_blob=publicationFile

⁴ http://www.bmi.bund.de/DE/Kontakt/kontakt_node.html

⁵ http://www.cio.bund.de/Web/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/architekturen_standards_node.html

for the Federal Administration. Its principles are defined in the federal framework architecture IT control⁶. It, also, provides information regarding Standards and Architectures for e-Government Applications (**SAGA**), which will be explained later.

Last but not least, the **National e-Government Strategy (NEGS)**⁷ is a strategy which was implemented by the IT Planning Council. NEGS has a similar approach to the Digital Agenda regarding promoting the implementation and updating of the standardisation of IT-interoperability. It also ensures the secure exchange of electronic files, tasks and documents and the use of modern IT-based platforms with common access to relevant documents. At European level, the goal is to dismantle the existing barriers to the cross-border electronic communication and cooperation, where one of them could be recognition and use of electronic signatures for both natural persons and companies.

At European level, Germany is working on the cross-border recognition and use of electronic signatures for both natural persons and companies.

⁶ http://www.cio.bund.de/Web/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/Architekturmanagement/architekturmanagement_node.html

⁷ http://www.it-planungsrat.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/NEGS/NEGS_Fortschreibung.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&

Legal Interoperability

The most widely accepted definition of a base registry refers to it as a trusted, authentic source of information under the control of an appointed public administration set by the government. Germany has legal prescriptions for the majority of its base registries, in particular, the main ones. The goal is to provide a cooperative and harmonised framework for them to operate within.

Some examples of legal provisions for base registries are:

- For the **Commercial Registry**, the most important legislation is the **German Commercial Code**⁸. Part II, Article 8, states that the Commercial Registry is under the control of the courts, and the right to inspect the Registry is open to everyone. Copies of entries could be obtained upon application, and they can be authenticated. Another important regulation is the **Commercial Registry Regulation**⁹. According to article 3, the Commercial Registry consists of two divisions: individual merchants and registered joint stock companies. Information regarding the electronic maintenance of the Commercial Registry, recorded files, registry folders and inspections can also be found in the regulation.
- The **Population Registry** is under the **Federal Registration Act**¹⁰ (BMG). The Act does not provide a definition regarding the Population Registry, but it regulates areas such as the required reference data to be registered, registration authorities and their duties, storage of data, accuracy and completeness of the Population Registry, information restrictions, storage and deletion of data, registration certificates, use restrictions, automatic retrieval and data transfer.
- For the **Land Registry**, both the **Grundbuchordnung**¹¹ (GBO) and the **Civil Code**¹² (BGB) contain paragraphs which are relevant to the Registry. The Grundbuchordnung places more emphasis on governing the procedural part, the required processes and formalities. Its articles cover information such as the entries to be made in the Registry, rectifications of the data, the exchange of copies of the Land Registries, public charges, access to basic files and more. The Civil Code areas of information are related to items such as a land lease, rental fees, annuities and property management.

Furthermore, a number of relevant legislations relating to Germany's interoperability and access to base registries are:

- The **e-Government Act**¹³, which aims at facilitating the electronic communication with the public administration. The Act makes it mandatory for public entities to open an electronic channel. The federal administration is also obliged to have access to De-Mail. Additionally, it sets out principles for electronic file scanning and keeping rules, on open data supply in a machine-readable format by the administrations and more. All in all, it incentivises the federal, regional and local authorities to offer simplified, user-friendly and efficient electronic administrative services.

⁸ http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/hgb/_15.html or https://archive.org/stream/germancommercial00germuoft/germancommercial00germuoft_djvu.txt

⁹ <https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bundesrecht/hdregvfg/gesamt.pdf> or <http://www.buzer.de/gesetz/4395/b11770.htm>

¹⁰ <https://www.buzer.de/s1.htm?g=BMG&f=1>

¹¹ <https://www.grundbuch.de/grundbuchordnung.html>

¹² <https://www.grundbuch.de/grundbuch-bgb.html>

¹³ http://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/News/egovernment.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

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- The data protection law, more specifically the **Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG)**¹⁴, is one of the strictest in Europe. Its main scope is the protection of individuals rights to privacy, which may be at risk of being impaired through the handling of the citizens´ personal data. The entity responsible for upholding the Federal Data Protection Act is the State Data Protection Commissioners.
 - The federal law transposing the PSI Directive is the **Re-use of Information Act (2006)**¹⁵ which was recently amended in the Re-use of Information Act (2015)¹⁶.

The Ministry of the Interior presented “**The General Government’s National Action Plan to implement the G8 Open Data Charter**”¹⁷ which engaged the public authorities to make possible the publication of government data and potentially present their datasets. The initiative also set the GovData.de as a central open data portal for federal, Länder and local government, asking for cooperation at national and international level. At the end of the document, there is a list of the key datasets to be published.

On a side note, Germany is currently not implementing the "Once-Only principle".

¹⁴ http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_bdsg/

¹⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/implementation-psi-directive-germany>

¹⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/implementation-psi-directive-germany>

¹⁷ http://www.verwaltung-innovativ.de/SharedDocs/Publikationen/Pressemitteilungen/nationaler_aktionsplan_open_data_englisch.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=4

Organisational Interoperability

Organisational Interoperability is achieved when there is a clear division of responsibilities between public administrations, set to achieve commonly agreed national goals. The main bodies within the public sector interoperability context are organised as follows:

The German **Ministry of Interior**¹⁸ is in charge of the e-Government strategy and the IT policy at the federal level. Together with the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy and Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, it is responsible for the **Digital Agenda 2014-2017**¹⁹.

Another important factor is the **Federal Government Commissioner for Information Technology**. Together with the Federal Ministry of the Interior, they are active in numerous projects to develop the e-Government, representing the **federal interests** in the political domain. The Federal Government Commissioner for Information Technology is also responsible for the establishment of the architecture, standards and methods for the federal IT, in addition to the control of the provision of the central IT infrastructure of the federal government.

The **IT Planning Council** is the main body managing the coordination between the federal and Länder in matters related to IT systems (Article 91c of the German Basic Law²⁰), interoperability, security standards and guidance of the e-Government projects. Also, according to the "Law on Linking up Federal and Land IT Networks"²¹, the planning and implementation of the core network infrastructure is also under the Council's responsibility.

The administration of the German base registries takes place at local and national level through the respective authorities. This is mainly to demonstrate that the information in the base registries is maintained and updated both at the level of the separate states (regions) and federally. The following table gathers the main base registries in Germany, the public administration bodies to which they belong and the master data they handle:

Base Registry	Authority	Master Data
Population Registry	Municipalities and Länder Interior Ministries	PERSONAL DATA (NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS)
Vehicle Registry	Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure Federal Motor Transport Authority (KBA)	VEHICLES
Commercial Registry	Ministry of Justice of the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia on behalf of the other German federal states (Regions)	BUSINESS
Land Registry	Ministry of Justice	LAND

The **Population Registry** (Melderegister) in Germany is administered locally. They have centralised registries only in some states. There is a central registry for foreigners. On the other hand, **Land Registries** are set up for districts and are therefore also managed locally. The Central **Vehicle Registry** collects, records and processes vehicle and owner data from local registration authorities.

¹⁸ http://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/Topics/IT-Internet-Policy/it-internet-policy_node.html

¹⁹ https://www.digitale-agenda.de/Content/DE/_Anlagen/2014/08/2014-08-20-digitale-agenda-engl.pdf;jsessionid=6216630A4BB7DB9BD64807A38878F135.s2t1?__blob=publicationFile&v=6

²⁰ <https://www.bundestag.de/blob/284870/ce0d03414872b427e57fcb703634dcd/basic-law-data.pdf>

²¹ <http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/it-netzg/BJNR270600009.html>

Semantic Interoperability

As mentioned before, the **IT Planning Council**'s responsibilities pertaining to the standardisation of requirements in the areas of transmission of files, transactions and documents, or the transmission of application data among others. The **Coordination Office for IT Standards (Kosit)** is working towards this in cooperation with the IT Planning Council. Kosit's tasks are to develop IT standards for data exchange in public administration. The body specialises in the development of **XÖV standards**, which are used for data exchange, and the improvement of the interoperability of electronic data exchange in public administration or between the public administration and other agencies.

Kosit has developed the **XÖV framework**. This is a framework which is used to design **XÖV information exchanges** and **XÖV products**. These XÖV products will, in turn, help support the development of the **XÖV standards**. The framework, products and infrastructure are closely interlinked with each other. The XÖV framework provides methodologies, a handbook and several tools for the different IT projects to generate their personal XML Schema and code lists (using the XGenerator tool) from the UML model.

The **XÖV products** are divided into several categories such as schemes/blocks, tools or infrastructure components.

- The **XÖV blocks** consist of areas related to XÖV data types, XÖV core components and XÖV code lists. The XÖV core components are part of the XÖV framework. They can, for example, be used at the conceptual level for syntax binding.
- The **XÖV tools** contain products, such as the XÖV InteropBrowser, the XGenerator and XÖV profile.
 - The XÖV InteropBrowser²² aims at identifying the differences and similarities of existing data models with the XÖV core components. It is a tool that visualises the explanations of the various syntax bindings and, more concretely, how data model specifications link to the core data model.
 - The XGenerator²³ is a tool for XÖV information exchanges, which converts a UML model and generates XML Schemas. The XÖV Naming and Design Rules (implemented in XGenerator) are more about the use of code lists.
 - The XÖV profile²⁴ is used for the specification, generation and testing of an XÖV model. It requires the use of the XGenerators.
- The **XÖV infrastructure** components are the XRepository and the XÖV library.
 - The XRepository²⁵ is the central XÖV distribution platform. It is in charge of the development and distribution of standards the XÖV certification and its operational use. All the components of the XÖV standards and the necessary data exchange artefacts, such as code lists, are available through the XRepository.
 - The XÖV library²⁶ provides a central reference point for all the XÖV data types and core components.

²² <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.11686.de>

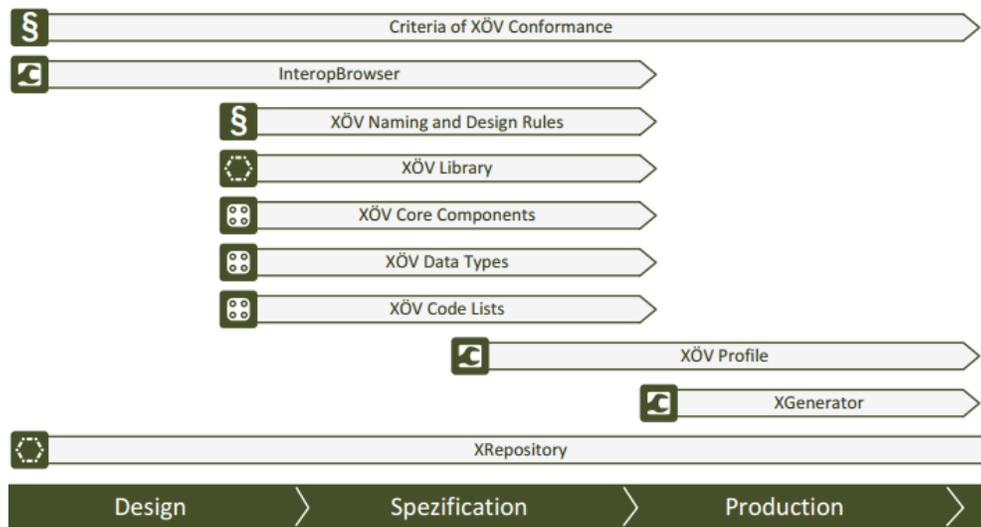
²³ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.11551.de> and <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/xgenerator/description>

²⁴ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.2177.de>

²⁵ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.2182.de>

²⁶ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.11671.de>

An overview of the XÖV Components is displayed in the following figure:



The detailed information regarding the XÖV framework, products and standards is available, together with downloadable documents²⁷, on the **Coordination Office for IT Standards portal**²⁸.

Another important tool in standardisation is **SAGA 5**²⁹, which aims to achieve interoperability, reusability and platform independence, among others. SAGA, currently at version 5, is a document which describes uniform document standards, procedures and methods of information technology, as well as recommendations for their use in public administration. Its prime focus points are communication interfaces, data exchange formats and standards of IT security. SAGA 5 is a technology catalogue for all software systems in the German federal administration, and its use is mandatory.

The SAGA 5 consists of three different modules:

- **Basics modules**³⁰ which specify the objectives, framework, principles, and the processes for creating and updating SAGA.
- **Conformity module**³¹ which specifies how the SAGA software can be backed up.
- **Technical module**³² which specifies the requirements and recommendations of IT specifications for new and existing software systems, products and custom developments.

Throughout the development of e-Government in Germany, the XML format has seen significant usage in the transfer of information; It is the easiest and most used format for exchanging data between public administrations and registries. The Vehicle Central Registry portal makes available reference data only to registered users. This data can be transferred by uploading XML files. Additionally, the XML in public

²⁷ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.2316.de#oben>

²⁸ <http://www.xoev.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen83.c.8159.de>

²⁹ http://www.cio.bund.de/Web/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/SAGA/saga_node.html;jsessionid=A183FA7435C2C7E063B7A1CB7EC1E450.2_cid334

³⁰ http://www.cio.bund.de/SharedDocs/Publikationen/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/SAGA/saga_modul_grundlagen_de_bund_5_1_0_download.pdf?blob=publicationFile

³¹ http://www.cio.bund.de/SharedDocs/Publikationen/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/SAGA/saga_modul_konformitaet_de_bund_5_1_0_download.pdf?blob=publicationFile

³² http://www.cio.bund.de/SharedDocs/Publikationen/DE/Architekturen-und-Standards/SAGA/saga_modul_tech_spez_de_bund_5_0_download.pdf?blob=publicationFile

administration is linked to the XÖV standardisation, which is further explained in the technical interoperability.

Furthermore, in line with Germany's efforts to provide open data as a public source of information for reuse, the German Open Data portal³³, which is managed by the IT Planning Council, provides over 24 000 open and easily accessible data sets. These are organised into a number of categories related to their relevant sectors. CKAN and JSON are the metadata formats used for Open Data, while data is mostly provided in formats such as CSV, XML, WMS, WMTS, and PDF. In autumn 2016, a new set of metadata standards was released as a continuation of Germany's efforts in standard creation. The implementation and testing of the Open Data Portal will occur in 2017, followed by the presentation of the standards and the completion of the standardisation process in 2018.

³³ <https://www.govdata.de/>

Technical Interoperability

Germany has developed a new innovative tool to ensure more efficient registry creation and administration, known as the **Registry Factory**³⁴. The Registry Factory provides an approach in information technology which implies availability and reusability of the developed assets for any public authority wanting to create and maintain base registries. Such assets include standardised architecture, solutions, technical infrastructure, cross-sectional components, programming libraries and middleware, all of which are available for free as open source.

The Registry Factory is a solution for the construction and operation of IT systems for conducting electronic registrations in the Federal Office of Administration. The standards and tools of the Registry Factory include blueprints, building blocks, an operating platform and methodological guidelines for software engineering and development tools. The Registry Factory is designed to support custom software development. Business Information Systems, in general, can be built using the technical foundations. To build registries, the Registry Factory provides additional registry-specific blueprints and building blocks. All parts can be used either in combination or separately.

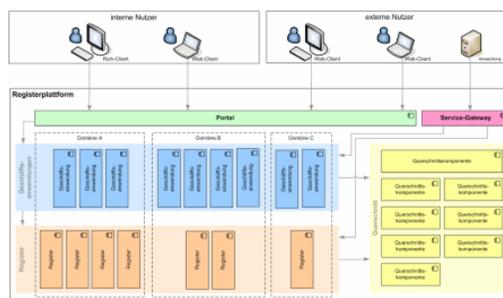
Through the elaboration of these solutions, the following principles were taken into consideration:

- The IT Architecture aims to be as simple as possible (*What could be left away, was left away*). Architecture is explained by examples, tutorials and templates.
- No abstraction, no complexity for unknown future purposes and no proprietary libraries or tools avoiding vendor lock-in.
- Usage of widely spread standards and technologies to ensure sustainability and commonly available know-how.
- Highly flexible and adaptable (example application for self-studies and copy template)

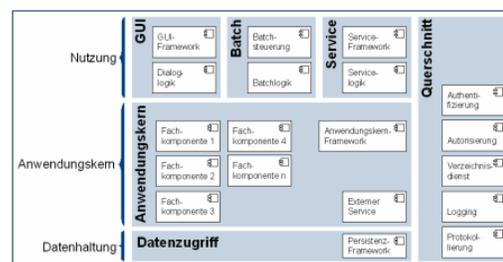
As mentioned before, it is possible to distinguish different parts in this solution:

- **Blueprints:** the architecture and concepts of the application landscape. This includes the architecture of a registry at a technical level (A-architecture), the software-technical implementation (T-architecture) and the underlying hardware and system software (TI-architecture).

- A-architecture
The technical architecture application landscape structured hierarchically in domains, systems and components.

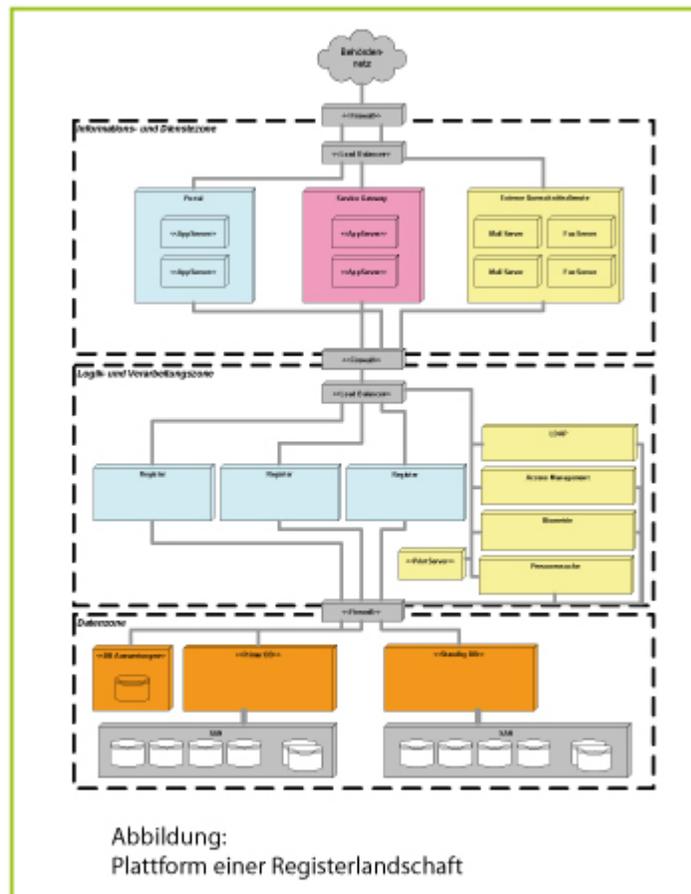


- T-architecture
The reference architecture for IT systems of the Registry Factory based on the known three-layer architecture.



³⁴ http://www.bva.bund.de/EN/Themen/Information_technology_bit/Register_Factory/node.html

- IT-architecture
The reference architecture of the technical infrastructure, also known as IT-architecture, describes the structure of the operating environment for the IT systems of the Registry platform. This includes the physical equipment (computer systems, network connections and components, printers), the installed system software (operating system, application servers, middleware, database system) and the interaction of hardware and system software.
- **Blocks:** the building blocks of the Registry Factory are usable software solutions. These modules are available in different forms: professional and technical services for a service-oriented architecture (SOA), cross-section usable components and reusable libraries and program templates.
In Release 1.0 the Registry Factory following blocks are available: Directory of authorities, Image manipulation, Biometrics, Error Handling, LDAP accesses, Logging, Output Management, Portal, Logging and listing Search, Regulations, Key Directory, Security Component, Spooling, Style Guide, Transliteration, Monitoring and configuration and Workflow.
- **Platform:** a unified platform across all registries allows a standardised and efficient system operation. The operating platform of the Registry Factory consists of hardware and networks, as well as the required middleware to application and database servers. It provides a high-availability production environment, development, and various test environments.



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- **Methodology:** the basis for the implementation of projects with the Registry Factory is a standardised approach to the V-Model XT, which is a model for planning and realising projects. The specific methodology tab Factory includes:
 - Guidelines and methodologies for professional and technical modelling.
 - Guidelines and procedures for generation of code and concepts.
 - Conventions for implementation.
 - Methodology for system specification and system design with appropriate document templates.
 - A uniform procedure for selecting third-party products.
 - **Tools:** the automation and tools used by Registry Factory to support the creation of registries. It provides preconfigured tools for modelling, programming, installation, testing and bug tracking. For software development, the Registry Factory relies on the programming tool Eclipse and provides appropriate generators for it. For the modelling, the tool Enterprise Architect is used. For automated software testing, a proprietary tool is used. Defects and change management are supported by the tool Jira.

The Registry Factory is mainly based on the following technologies:

- Basic: Java, XHTML, Service Oriented Architecture (SOA).
- Software: SuSE Linux Enterprise Server, Oracle, Tomcat, Cafesoft CAMS, Apache.
- Development: Apache MyFaces, Spring MVC / Webflow, Spring, Hibernate, Metro, Apache Log4J, Jumping LDAP.
- Libraries: Cognitec face VACS DBSCAN, Pentaho, Nagios, JBoss Drools.
- Tools/Methodologies: Eclipse, Enterprise Architect, Maven, Scarab.

Cross-border Interoperability

The need for cross-border exchange of data is driven by the European Single Market initiative. In the case of Germany, the data from the Business Registry can be accessed by the EU members through the European Business Registry (EBR)³⁵.

Germany is also a member of ECRIS³⁶ and EUCARIS³⁷. The EUCARIS technology for information exchange is based on:

- The EU Prüm Council Decisions (2008/615/JHA and 2008/616/JHA);
- The Cross Border Enforcement Directive (2015/413/EU, CBE);
- **A bilateral agreement with the Netherlands and Switzerland about the exchange of owner/holder information for traffic fines;**
- Legislation concerning the European Registry of Road Transport Undertakings (ERRU), the regulations (EU) No 1071/2009, 1072/2009, 1073/2009 and 1213/2010 and
- The 3rd Driving Licence Directive. (2006/126/EU, RESPER).

³⁵ <http://www.ebr.org/index.php/member-countries/>

³⁶ https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_criminal_records-95-en.do

³⁷ http://www.kba.de/DE/ZentraleRegister/EUCARIS/eucaris_node.html;jsessionid=AC6081F36DFA43DD6662F7D2A6588B0B.live11291 and <https://www.eucaris.net/countries/federal-republic-of-germany/>

E-Government Public Services making use of Base Registries data

The portal **Bund.de**³⁸ is the gateway to the German e-Government services. It enables the **central** access to electronic services and information for citizens, businesses and administration. In the “Services” area it provides the authority in charge and the concrete services, also serving as an entry point to the German authorities’ page. As an example, the Federal Office of Justice makes a service available to the public called “Information from Central Commercial Registry”, which includes the processing of requests by individuals and legal persons for information by courts, public prosecutors and administration from the Registry via data networks.

The screenshot shows the Bund.de website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo "bund.de Verwaltung Online" and links for "EASY LANGUAGE", "SIGN LANGUAGE", "IMPRINT DATA PROTECTION", "ABOUT BUND.DE", and "ENGLISH". Below this is a dark navigation bar with four tabs: "vacancies", "Tenders", "authorities", and "Services". The main content area is divided into two large colored boxes: a red one for "Public service jobs" with a "find job" button, and a brown one for "Public tenders" with a "find tenders" button. Below these are two columns. The left column, titled "additional filters", lists "First letter" options from A to P with checkboxes and counts. The right column, titled "103 services", shows a search and filter interface with "sort by Titel", "Per page 10", and "1 of 11" navigation. Below this is a table of services:

Power	authority
abbreviations of the Federal The current list of abbreviations for the constitutional bodies, the highest federal and supreme courts of the Federation	Bundesverwaltungsamt (BVA)
abbreviations of the Ministry of State Security Abridgments (abbreviations) and letter combinations with fixed meaning content (abbreviations)	Federal Commissioner for the Records of the State Security Service of the former GDR (BStU)

³⁸http://www.bund.de/Content/DE/Home/homepage_node.html;jsessionid=ED031B03FC5C2167C9D0A35243B04C74.1_cid376

The **Commercial Registry portal** provides centralised access to all federal state registries of businesses. The citizens can find general information available in English, French, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Spanish and Turkish on the Registry's³⁹ portal. The actual information in the Registry itself is mainly in German as it is from the German Commercial Registry.

The **Land Registry portal**⁴⁰ gives access to basic information regarding the Registry, the fees, the legislation and Land Registry lexicon.

The **Vehicle Registry portal** gives access to a well-structured portal⁴¹ providing abundant information regarding several registries such as the Vehicle Registry, the Driving Ability Registry, the Central Driving Registry, the Central Tachograph Cards Registry and EUCARIS. Other general information is statistics, online or local information points, access to a technology portal and more.

The **Population Registry portal**⁴² provides information with regards to the registration offices by regions, a list of reference data that is recorded in the Registry, the cost of the inquiry at the registration authorities and a people search option.

³⁹ https://www.handelsregister.de/rp_web/welcome.do

⁴⁰ <https://www.grundbuch.de/grundbuch-lexikon.html>

⁴¹ http://www.kba.de/DE/ZentraleRegister/ZFZR/zfzr_node.html

⁴² <http://www.melderegister-auskunft.de/deutschland.html>