

Verification of Declaration of Adherence

Declaring Company: Epignosis LLC



EU
CLOUD
COC

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1 Verification against v2.11 of the EU Cloud CoC

This Declaration of Adherence was against the *European Data Protection Code of Conduct for Cloud Service Providers* (**'EU Cloud CoC'**)¹ in its version 2.11 (**'v2.11'**)² as of December 2020.

Originally drafted by the Cloud Select Industry Group³ (**'C-SIG'**) the EU Cloud CoC – at that time called C-SIG Code of Conduct on data protection for Cloud Service Providers – was developed against Directive 95/46/EC⁴ and incorporated feedback by the European Commission as well as Working Party 29. Following an extensive revision of earlier versions of Code and further developing the substance of the Code (v2.11) and its provisions has been aligned to the European General Data Protection Regulation (**'GDPR'**)⁵.

2 List of declared services

2.1 TalentLMS⁶

TalentLMS is the LMS built for training success. Designed to get a “yes” from everyone, it's where great teams, and companies, go to grow. With an experience that's fully customizable and easy to manage, teams embrace training while feeling right at home. TalentLMS makes it easy to provide the right training to any team and every use, while giving expert guidance and support every step of the way.⁷

2.2 TalentCards⁸

TalentCards helps businesses mass-train their people with easily-digestible material. Course administrators create beautiful learning cards in seconds and deliver training over mobile to reach learners anytime, anyplace. It is an ideal tool for training on safety procedures, compliance, new product knowledge or any other type of training situation. This unique mobile approach offers fast, easy, and fun training.⁹

¹ <https://eucoc.cloud>

² <https://eucoc.cloud/get-the-code>

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/cloud-select-industry-group-code-conduct>

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:31995L0046>

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679>

⁶ <https://www.talentlms.com/>

⁷ **NOTE:** The content for the service description has been provided by the CSP and does not reflect any opinion of or assessment by the Monitoring Body.

⁸ <https://www.talentcards.io/>

⁹ **NOTE:** The content for the service description has been provided by the CSP and does not reflect any opinion of or assessment by the Monitoring Body.

2.3 eFront¹⁰

eFront is a flexible LMS platform for enterprises that need advanced security measures and extensive customization to train masses of employees, partners and customers. Designed to be the industry's most adaptable enterprise LMS, eFront gives you complete control over your virtual training environment and your data. It blends seamlessly with any other infrastructure and has the power to grow as you grow.¹¹¹²

3 Verification Process - Background

V2.11 of the EU Cloud CoC has been developed against GDPR and hence provides mechanisms as required by Articles 40 and 41 GDPR¹³.

3.1 Approval of the Code and Accreditation of the Monitoring Body

The services concerned passed the verification process by the Monitoring Body of the EU Cloud CoC, i.e., SCOPE Europe sprl/bvba¹⁴.

The Code has been officially approved in May 2021¹⁵. SCOPE Europe has been officially accredited as Monitoring Body in May 2021¹⁶. The robust and complex procedures and mechanisms can be reviewed by any third-party in detail at the website of the EU Cloud CoC alongside a short summary thereof.¹⁷

3.2 Principles of the Verification Process

Notwithstanding the powers of and requirements set out by the supervisory authority pursuant to Article 41 GDPR, the Monitoring Body will assess whether a Cloud Service, that has been declared adherent to the Code, is compliant with the requirements of the Code - especially as laid down in the

¹⁰ <https://www.efrontlearning.com/>

¹¹ **NOTE:** The content for the service description has been provided by the CSP and does not reflect any opinion of or assessment by the Monitoring Body.

¹² **NOTE:** Focus of the assessment has been eFront as managed service by Epignosis only. Where Customers maintain their independent instance within their own environment this is out of scope of this assessment. Where the assessment touched areas that may indicate relevance for self-maintained services, this may be – exceptionally – highlighted in the report. In any other case this report must not be used to evaluate any matters related to IT-security or data protection regarding self-maintained eFront instances.

¹³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679>

¹⁴ <https://scope-europe.eu>

¹⁵ <https://www.gegevensbeschermingsautoriteit.be/publications/decision-n05-2021-of-20-may-2021.pdf>

¹⁶ <https://www.gegevensbeschermingsautoriteit.be/publications/decision-n-06-2021-of-20-may-2021.pdf>

¹⁷ <https://eucoc.cloud/en/public-register/assessment-procedure/>

Controls Catalogue. Unless otherwise provided by the Code, the Monitoring Body's assessment process will be based on an evidence-based conformity assessment, based on interviews and document reviews; proactively performed by the Monitoring Body.

To the extent the Monitoring Body is not satisfied with the evidence provided by a CSP with regards to the Cloud Service to be declared adherent to the Code, the Monitoring Body will request additional information. Where the information provided by the CSP appears to be inconsistent or false, the Monitoring Body will - as necessary - request substantiation by independent reports.

3.3 Multiple Safeguards of Compliance

Compliance of adherent services is safeguarded by the interaction of several mechanisms, i.e., continuous, rigorous, and independent monitoring, an independent complaints' handling process, and finally any CSP declaring services adherent is subject to substantial remedies and penalties in case of any infringement.

3.4 Process in Detail

It is expected that, prior to any assessment of the Monitoring Body, each CSP assesses its compliance internally. When declaring its service(s) adherent to the EU Cloud CoC, each CSP must elaborate its compliance with each of the Controls as provided by the Code considering the Control Guidance, as provided by the Controls Catalogue, to the Monitoring Body.

The CSP may do so either by referencing existing third-party audits or certifications, their respective reports and by free text responses. Additionally, the CSP will have to provide a general overview of the functionalities, technical, organisational and contractual frameworks of the service(s) declared adherent.

With regards to internationally recognised standards, the Monitoring Body will consider the mapping as provided by the Controls Catalogue. However, the Monitoring Body will verify whether (a) any third-party certification or audit provided by the CSP applies to the Cloud Service concerned, (b) such third-party certification or audit provided by the CSP is valid, (c) such third-party certification or audit has assessed and sufficiently reported compliance with the mapped controls of the third-party certification or audit concerned. Provided that the aforementioned criteria are met, the Monitoring Body may consider such third-party certifications or audits as sufficient evidence for the compliance with the Code.

Within Initial Assessments, the Monitoring Body selects an appropriate share of Controls that will undergo in-depth scrutiny, e.g., by sample-taking and requesting further, detailed information including potentially confidential information. Within any other Recurring Assessment, the Monitoring Body will select an appropriate share of Controls provided that over a due period every Control will be subject to scrutiny by the Monitoring Body. Where applicable, aspects of current attention at the time of assessment shall be covered too, e.g., where such aspects were indicated in media reports, publications or actions of supervisory authorities.

If the responses of the CSP satisfy the Monitoring Body, especially if responses are consistent and of appropriate quality and level of detail, reflecting the requirements of the Controls and indicating appropriate implementation by the Control Guidance, then, the Monitoring Body verifies the service(s) declared adhered as compliant and thereupon, makes them subject to continuous monitoring.

3.4.1 Levels of Compliance

V2.11 of the Code provides three different levels of Compliance. The different levels of compliance relate only to the levels of evidence that are submitted to the Monitoring Body. There is, however, no difference in terms of which parts of the Code are covered, since adherent Cloud Services have to comply with all provisions of the Code and their respective Controls.

3.4.1.1 First Level of Compliance

The CSP has performed an internal review and documented its implemented measures proving compliance with the requirements of the Code with regard to the declared Cloud Service and confirms that the Cloud Service fully complies with the requirements set out in this Code and further specified in the Controls Catalogue. The Monitoring Body verifies that the Cloud Service complies with the Code by information originating from the CSP.

3.4.1.2 Second Level of Compliance

Additional to the “First Level of Compliance”, Compliance with the Code is partially supported by independent third-party certificates and audits, which the CSP has undergone with specific relevance to the Cloud Service declared adherent and which were based upon internationally recognised standards procedures. Any such third-party certificates and audits that covered controls similar to this Code, but not less protective, are considered in the verification process of the Monitoring Body. Each third-party certificates and audits that were considered in the verification process by the Monitoring Body shall be referred in the Monitoring Body’s report of verification, provided that the findings of such certificates were sufficiently and convincingly reported and documented towards the Monitoring

Body and only to the extent such certificates and audits are in line with the Code. The CSP must notify the Monitoring Body if there are any changes to the provided certificates or audits.

The Controls Catalogue may give guidance on third-party certificates and audits that are equivalent to certain Controls in terms of providing evidence of complying with the Code.

However, to those Controls that the CSP has not provided any equivalent third-party certificate or audit, the Monitoring Body verifies that the Cloud Service complies with the Code by information originating from the CSP.

The Monitoring Body may refuse application of Second Level of Compliance if third-party certificates and audit reports, that are recognised by the Monitoring Body in the verification process concerned, are not covering an adequate share of Controls of this Code; such adequate share shall be subject to the discretion of the Monitoring Body, considering e.g., the share related to the overall amount of Controls of the Code or whether a full Section or topic is being covered.

3.4.1.3 Third Level of Compliance

Identical to the “Second Level of Compliance” but Compliance is fully supported by independent third-party certificates and audits, which the CSP has undergone with regard to the Cloud Service declared adherent and which were based upon internationally recognised standards.

To the extent a CSP refers to individual reports, such as ISAE-3000 reports, the CSP shall ensure that such reports provide sufficient and assessable information and details on the actual measures implemented by the CSP regarding the Cloud Service concerned. The Monitoring Body shall, if considered necessary, in consultation with the Steering Board, define further requirements on such individual reports, such as accreditation and training for auditors against the provisions and requirements of this Code.

3.4.2 Final decision on the applicable Level of Compliance

When declaring its Cloud Service adherent, the CSP indicates the Level of Compliance it is seeking to achieve. Any final decision, whether a CSP is meeting the requirements of a specific Level of Compliance is at the sole discretion of the Monitoring Body.

3.5 Transparency about adherence

Each service adherent to the EU Cloud CoC must transparently communicate its adherence by both using the appropriate Compliance Mark¹⁸ and referring to the Public Register of the EU Cloud CoC¹⁹ to enable Customers to verify the validity of adherence.

4 Assessment of declared services by Epignosis (see 2.)

4.1 Fact Finding

Following the declaration of adherence of Epignosis LLC (**'Epignosis'**), the Monitoring Body provided Epignosis with a template, requesting Epignosis to detail its compliance with each of the Controls of the EU Cloud CoC.

As this declaration is a renewal²⁰, the Monitoring Body requested from Epignosis a confirmation that there has been no material change to the applicable technical and organisational and contractual framework. The Monitoring Body also requested from Epignosis a comparison of the declared Cloud Services of last year and this year as well as to explicitly indicate any Cloud Services that are no longer included in the Declaration of Adherence and, where applicable, provide the Monitoring Body with adequate reasons. To the extent the list of Cloud Services was extended, the Monitoring Body requested a confirmation, that any such additional Cloud Services are subject to the same technical, organisational and contractual framework as the original Cloud Services.

Epignosis promptly responded to the templates. Information provided consisted of references and list of actual measures meeting the requirements of each Control, a free text answer describing their measures, and a reference to third party audits and certifications, where applicable. This information was completed by the confirmations requested by the Monitoring Body as well as a detailed comparison of the declared Cloud Services between last year and this year verification highlighting the changes and the reasons for them.

¹⁸ <https://eucoc.cloud/en/public-register/levels-of-compliance/>

¹⁹ <https://eucoc.cloud/en/public-register/>

²⁰ You can access the Verification Report(s) of previous year(s) via the following link(s): [Epignosis Verification Report \(2023\)](#)

4.2 Selection of Controls for in-depth assessment

Following the provisions of the Code and the Assessment Procedure applicable to the EU Cloud CoC²¹, the Monitoring Body analysed the responses and information provided by Epignosis.

Epignosis's declared services have been externally certified and audited. Epignosis holds an ISO 27001 certificate, which is valid for the duration of the Declaration of Adherence, and the scope of registration includes all the declared services. The declaration of adherence referred to the respective ISO certification within the responses to Section 6 of the Code (IT Security). As provided by the Code, the Monitoring Body may consider third-party certifications and audits. Accordingly, the Monitoring Body verified the certification and references. Further in-depth checks were not performed, as provided third-party certifications adequately indicated compliance.

4.3 Examined Controls and related findings by the Monitoring Body

4.3.1 Examined Controls

The Monitoring Body reviewed the submission from Epignosis which outlined how all the requirements of the Code were met by Epignosis's implemented measures. In line with the Monitoring Body's process outlined in Section 3.4, the Monitoring Body selected a subset of Controls from the Code for in-depth scrutiny. In-depth scrutiny reflects sample taking and follow-up questions, whilst the latter may address requests for clarifications or more detailed information. The Controls selected for this level of review were: 5.1.D-F, 5.2.E-F, 5.3.B-D, 5.4.A-B, 5.4.D-E, 5.5.B-C, 5.5.F, 5.7.A-B, 5.7.E, 5.8.A-B, 5.10.A-B, 5.11.A, 5.12.E-F, 5.13.A, 5.14.B, 5.14.E, 6.1.B, 6.1.C and 6.2.P.

4.3.2 Findings by the Monitoring Body

During the process of verification, Epignosis consistently prepared the Declaration of Adherence well and thoroughly. Epignosis's responses were detailed and never created any impression of intentional non-transparency. Requests for clarification, additional and supporting information, as well as relevant samples were promptly dealt with and always met the deadlines set by the Monitoring Body.

Related to the Monitoring Body's requests (see section 4.1), Epignosis indicated that no relevant changes to the Cloud Service Family were applied in regards of the implemented technical, organisational and contractual framework. Where additional Cloud Services were added, Epignosis provided explicit confirmation that such Cloud Services belong to the same Cloud Service Family.

²¹ <https://eucoc.cloud/en/about/about-eu-cloud-coc/applicable-procedures/>

The Monitoring Body has focused on the assistance and information provided to the Customers. Epignosis confirmed to transparently communicate to the Customers its adherence to the Code and indicated that personnel are made aware of the adherence to the Code and its requirements to enable them to deal with Customers inquiries accordingly. Relevant contractual documents, including the terms under which the Epignosis processes Customer Personal Data, are in place with the Customers. As indicated by Epignosis, various self-service functionalities covering data subject requests (DSRs) are provided to the Customers covering such areas as: deletion of Customer Personal Data, as well as retrieval and export of Customer Personal Data in machine readable, commonly used, structured format. Moreover, Customers are provided with information and instructions on how to exercise the self-service functionalities and are able to reach out to Epignosis for assistance via dedicated communication channels.

Subprocessors management process was also a part of the assessment. Epignosis confirmed that it obtains written general authorization for the involvement of the subprocessors. Customers are enabled to exercise their objection rights and/or alternative options and are notified about changes in subprocessors as provided by the contractual documents with Customers. Moreover, Epignosis confirmed that appropriate internal policies and procedures are in place to ensure that only subprocessors providing sufficient guarantees of compliance with the GDPR are involved. In this regard, relevant flow-down mechanisms are implemented to ensure that the same data protection obligations and appropriate technical and organisational measures as provided by Epignosis to the Customer are applicable to the full subprocessing chain.

Another area of the assessment has been Customers' Audit Rights. Epignosis has affirmed that it commits itself to provide Customers, if available, with an executive summary of independent third-party audits reports and the certificates, upon request. Additionally, Customers may contact Epignosis for further assistance and relevant internal policies and procedures are implemented to duly process such requests. In addition to this, Customers have the right to request individual audits and Customer Audit Rights are included as a standard part of the contractual documents with Customers.

Further, the Monitoring Body has assessed third country transfers. Epignosis has indicated that it relies on the appropriate data transfer safeguards as provided by Chapter V GDPR. Based on the information provided, the Monitoring Body has identified that to safeguard third country transfers Epignosis relies upon Adequacy Decisions and Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs). Epignosis has also confirmed its commitment to continuously monitor whether the destination of a data transfer is subject to an adequacy decision of the European Commission.

Another area of focus in the assessment was the maintenance of Records of Processing Activities (ROPA) by Epignosis. Based on the information provided, the Monitoring Body was able to validate that Epignosis maintains a ROPA in its capacity as Processor, which includes the relevant information as per Article 30.2 GDPR. Customers have a possibility to provide and update the information pertaining to the completion and relevance of the ROPA through the self-service functionalities made available by Epignosis.

Data breach notification and reporting obligations of Epignosis have been also in the scope of the assessment. Epignosis has indicated that it has implemented relevant internal incident management policies and procedures that ensures identification and reporting of data breaches, utilizing the appropriate communication channels. Furthermore, data breach notification and reporting obligations are included as a standard part of the Epignosis's contractual documents with Customers.

Finally, the assessment also encompassed obligations related to training and awareness of personnel involved in the processing of the Customer Personal Data. Epignosis has attested that its personnel receive appropriate obligatory training that is specific as to the role and job functions, on a regular basis. Completion and review of such a training is internally controlled by dedicated personnel as supported by the internal policies and procedures.

5 Conclusion

The information provided by Epignosis were consistent. Where necessary, Epignosis gave additional information or clarified their given information appropriately.

The Monitoring Body therefore verifies the services as compliant with the EU Cloud CoC based on the performed assessment as prescribed in 1. The service(s) will be listed in the Public Register of the EU Cloud CoC²² alongside this report.

In accordance with sections 3.4.1.2 and 3.4.2 and given the type of information provided by Epignosis to support the compliance of its service, the Monitoring Body grants Epignosis with a Second Level of Compliance.

6 Validity

This verification is valid for one year. The full report consists of 12 pages in total, whereof this is the last page closing with the Verification-ID. Please refer to the table of contents at the top of this report

²² <https://eucoc.cloud/en/public-register/>

to verify that the copy you are reading is complete, if you have not received the copy of this report via the Public Register of the EU Cloud CoC²³.

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²³ <https://eucooc.cloud/en/public-register/>