



## Data Protection Declaration | EU GDPR

**Responsibility** for the database lies with Schweizerischer Verband Creditreform, Teufener Strasse 36, 9000 St. Gallen, tel. 071 221 11 80. The Association's Legal Team acts as data protection officer and can be contacted at the same address.

Schweizerischer Verband Creditreform is one of the leading credit reporting agencies in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. It maintains a business database to fulfil its tasks, where data is stored on Swiss and Liechtensteinian companies as well as on natural persons domiciled in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. For Liechtenstein, storage is limited to natural persons entered in the Public Register.

**Purpose of processing:** The Association and its local district offices process data for the purpose of identity and credit checks. Its credit checks include, among other things, IT-supported calculations of risks of future payment defaults. The purpose of processing the stored data is to provide information about the creditworthiness of persons/companies queried. The Association does not take any decisions in this respect; it merely supplies information that its business partners can use to reach decisions.

In addition to credit reports and the collection of outstanding receivables, our information pool can also be used in the areas of direct advertising/marketing. In addition, information provided by the Association is also used to combat money laundering and for cross-checking against sanctions lists.

Solvency information is used as a **decision-making aid tool** for service providers. The amount of information required depends on the volume of business. Lending decisions are taken by our customers at their own discretion. In the case of information products with traffic-light systems of scoring credit standing, the customers themselves define the necessary parameters set for lending decisions. The following diagram illustrates this using the variations shown opposite:

Solvency	Description of solvency	Customer-specific lending decision			
		Small claims		Large claims	
		Example	Example	Example	Example
Very good	Very positive	Purchase on account	Purchase on account	Purchase on account	Purchase on account
	Positive				Update of debt collection info
	None	No purchase on account, but advance payment, credit card, etc.	No purchase on account, but advance payment, credit card, etc.	Update of debt collection info	No purchase on account, but advance payment, credit card, etc.
	Little negative history				
	Negative			No purchase on account, but AP, CC, etc.	
Unsatisfactory	Very negative				

**The legal basis** for processing this data is Article 6, lit. b) and f) of the EU GDPR (assessment of creditworthiness and protection of legitimate interests. The latter exist in the interest of providers in assessing the solvency and payment practices of potential or current contractual partners, in their interest in legally sound business relationships and in the public interest in combating money laundering).

**Sources:** Where data has not been obtained directly from the person concerned, it comes mainly from publicly available sources. These include registers of private legal transactions, the Internet, the press and other media. We also process payment histories of third parties.

**Categories of stored data:** Identification data such as last name, first name, address, dates of birth/death, place of citizenship, marital status (residents' register office); job details; information from public registers such as the Commercial Register and the Debt Collection Register; publications from bankruptcy offices; payment histories provided to us by third parties and from debt collection activity; any other information relevant to credit standing from the media or the Internet.

**Recipients:** Our customers come primarily from the Swiss lending industry and secondly from lending companies in the European arena. These include lending institutions, leasing companies, insurance companies, telecommunications companies and energy suppliers, debt collection companies, mail-order, wholesale and retail companies as well as general companies that supply goods and services on account (tradesmen companies, suppliers of consumer goods, etc.).

**Consent:** Processing of the data stored with us is carried out for legitimate reasons of protecting debt holders and creditors, or it is used to assert, exercise or defend legal claims. For this, no consent of parties concerned is required (cf. Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b) and f) of the EU GDPR). You can only object to the processing of your data for reasons resulting from a special situation you are in, which must be proven. If such special reasons can be proven to exist, the data will no longer be processed.

**Duration:** The data is stored for as long as having knowledge of it is useful for fulfilling the purpose for which it was stored.

**Access to information & correction:** There is a right of access to stored data. If stored data should be inaccurate, there is a right to correction or deletion, and if necessary, limitations on processing the data. If data is incomplete, there is a right to completion. Furthermore, there is a right to data portability under Art. 20 of the EU GDPR.

**Complaints** about our processing of data can be submitted to the supervisory authority. The appropriate address is: Eidgenössischer Datenschutz- und Öffentlichkeitsbeauftragter, Feldeggweg 1, CH - 3003 Berne

Schweizerischer Verband Creditreform (cooperative)  
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