



EBDS

EU Bomb Data System



role, which allows them to see and read everything while preventing the risk of unwanted deletion/editions/additions.

What are the expectations for the EBDS?

The EBDS became a reality after many years of efforts, aiming at a real and effective improvement in the EOD and CBRN areas, making a difference in those fields, potentially becoming a day-to-day tool for thousands of bomb/CBRN/CT experts, as well as becoming a worldwide reference.

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What is the EBDS? What does it do?

The EBDS is a dual system which includes two powerful **databases**: one for incidents related to explosives and another for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) incidents.

It also has specialised **libraries**, where experts can share intelligence files in most common file formats.

The EBDS includes specialised **discussion forums**, not intended for the exchange of information and intelligence, but for the experts to interact directly, making questions, sharing thoughts, experiences and best practices.

Why the EBDS?

The EBDS was a need identified by EU experts in explosives and CBRN. Whenever an EOD/CBRN related incident occurs anywhere, specialised units across the EU start gathering the necessary technical intelligence and information on that incident. The approach of having a centralised database is a guarantee for an efficient, safe and structured information distribution.

The EBDS provides, for the first time, a unique, effective platform for sharing information and intelligence on **EOD and CBRN**, reducing the efforts and time devoted to information searching/exchange and providing access to relevant, specialised, and trusted information.

What are the EBDS's main advantages?

- **Already available:** The EBDS is now a reality. It has been available and in use since **29 October 2010**. There is no need for complex connexion processes; further, users' roles are created and managed at national level, so MS can proceed at their own pace.
- **Unique:** No other tool for explosives and/or CBRN incidents is available to the different EU competent authorities from 27 countries.
- **Official, authoritative information from official, trusted sources:** The EBDS will almost exclusively contain official contributions from sources such as National Bomb Data Centres and other governmental bodies/authorities. Therefore, the use of the EBDS guarantees access to **the most accurate information and intelligence available**, based on official sources, preventing wrong assumptions or assessments based on, often misleading, open source information.
- **Multilingual:** The system operates in 22 languages and 3 different alphabets. All users can create incidents, upload/download files, search for information, and ask questions in their own language.
- **Free and unlimited:** EU MS do not have to pay licence costs or have a limited number of users. Maintenance costs are covered by Europol, and the number of users for each MS will only depend on their needs.
- **Ownership:** Ownership of the information and intelligence in the EBDS remains with the provider, which is exclusively entitled to edit, modify, update or delete a contribution.
- **Real-time sharing:** As soon as the owner decides to share the information and/or intelligence, it will be immediately available for all users with the appropriate roles.
- **Accredited for storing/exchanging classified information:** Up to EU Restricted.
- **Wide audience, direct access:** The system is directly accessible not only by police officers but by all authorities considered competent by their respective Europol National Units, including, for instance, EOD military units.
- **Powerful search engines:** Able to perform different kind of searches in the whole system or in selected parts thereof, including keywords translated to all available languages and alphabets, and terms contained within a document body (Word, PDF, etc.).
- **Flexibility:** The system is able to be adapted to almost any national structure, irrespective of whether CBRN and EOD are dealt by the same unit or by different ones. Access can be given separately to CBRN and EOD areas, therefore ensuring it is granted on a 'need to know' basis. For those who may be interested in the information stored in the system but are not responsible for contributing to it (such as CT Units), there is a 'reader-only'