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### What is UCTE ?

The »Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission of Electricity« (UCTE) is an association of transmission system operators in continental Europe, providing a reliable market base by efficient and secure electrical »power highways«. The interconnected system ensures the technical condition for the reliable operation, and provides benefit for all market participants because they guarantee market access.

For more than fifty years UCTE has been co-ordinating by a variety of technical rules and recommendations the international operation of high voltage grids that all work with one »heart beat«: the 50 Hz UCTE frequency. UCTE is committed to the development of the system to meet all new market requirements, but without losses in terms of reliability for the existing system. The UCTE network brings a safe electricity supply for some 500 million people. Therefore UCTE handles one of the biggest electrical synchronous interconnections worldwide. This technical solution provides the possibility of the free market operation.

<b>Keyfigures</b>	29	Transmission System Operators (TSOs)
	24	European Countries
	500 million	People served by the represented power systems
	640 GW	Installed capacity
	2600 TWh	Electricity consumption in 2007
	300 TWh	Sum of electricity exchange between member TSOs under rules of UCTE
	220.000 km	Length of high-voltage transmission lines managed by the TSOs

UCTE activities include the preparation of a statistical yearbook. This publication is the result of the ongoing efforts of the Working Group "Data", the national data coordinators and the UCTE Secretariat on the development, processing and production of appropriate statistics.

Part of the statistical data are used for various graphical representations in other publications such as the Memo and the Monthly Statistics, which are amongst others all available on the web site "<http://www.ucte.org>".

Figures indicated for the various countries may differ from other national statistics published, since the former will only describe that part of the electricity supply system which is concerned with interconnected system operation. Consequently, these data will not be representative of the entire electricity supply system in any given country. This yearbook is therefore mainly a document, which has been produced to meet the needs of members of the UCTE.

The statistical data correspondents responsible for the production of national data published in this yearbook are listed below. They will be able to provide information on the contents and the interpretation of these statistics.

Country	Name	Company	E-Mail
AT	E.Reittinger-Hubmer	VERBUND APG	ernst.reittinger-hubmer@verbund.at
BA	S.Hadzic	ISO BiH	s.hadzic@zeka.ba
BE	V. Illegems	Elia	viviane.illegems@elia.be
BG	A.Georgiev	ESO EAD	georgiev@ndc.bg
CH	A.Mondovic	swissgrid	alexander.mondovic@swissgrid.ch
CZ	Z.Fucik	CEPS a.s.	fucik@ceps.cz
DE	B.Wegner	BDEW	bernd.wegner@bdew.de
DK_W	C.Rasch	Energinet.dk	chr@energinet.dk
ES	V.Rodriguez Garcia	REE	vrodiguez@ree.es
FR	R.Mattatia	RTE	robert.mattatia@rte-france.com
GR	A.Grassou	HTSO/DESMIE	agrassou@desmie.gr
HR	V.Grujic	HEP-OPS	vlado.grujic@hep.hr
HU	L.Galambos	MAVIR ZRt.	galambos@mavir.hu
IT	D.Camuffo	Terna S.p.A.	dionisio.camuffo@terna.it
LU	R.Gengler	CEGEDEL Net S.A.	gengler@cegedel.lu
ME	L.Knezevic	EPCG	ljubo.knezevic@tso-epcg.com
MK	I. Netkova	MEPSO	izabelan@esmak.com.mk
NL	B.Derksen	TenneT TSO B.V.	b.derksen@tennet.org
PL	L. Jezynski	PSE-Operator S.A.	lukasz.jezynski@pse-operator.pl
PT	J. Milheiro Batista	REN	milheiro.batista@ren.pt
RO	C.Radoi	Transelectrica	cristian.radoi@transelectrica.ro
RS	J. Janjanin	JP EMS	jadranka.janjanin@ems.co.yu
SI	D.Novakovic	ELES	dragan.novakovic@eles.si
SK	S.Dudasik	SEPS a.s.	dudasik_stanislav@sepsas.sk
UA_W	I.Saluk	NPC Ukrenergo	saluk@wps.west.energy.gov.ua