

Press Release

GLEIF and Swiss Federal Statistical Office Launch Direct Data Link to Boost Global Visibility of Swiss Businesses

29 July 2025 – Basel – [The Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation](#) (GLEIF) and Switzerland's Federal Statistical Office have launched a new initiative integrating official central business registry data directly into the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) records of Swiss businesses. This is set to significantly enhance international business transparency and enable global identifiability and discoverability.

All active companies in Switzerland are given a standardized business identification number (UID). The Swiss Federal Statistical Office maintains the UID register to ensure correct allocation, management, and use of the UID. The new collaboration with GLEIF embeds a direct URL link into the LEI records of entities listed within the UID register, enabling easy one-click access to each entity's official verified registration data and associated documentation on the UID register website.

For global LEI data users, this 'linking initiative' simplifies due diligence processes such as Know Your Customer (KYC) and Know Your Supplier (KYS). The need to manually identify the correct registry authority, navigate to the website, translate into local language, and then search for an organization using its business registration number is removed, accelerating compliance workflows and reducing operational friction. Streamlined access to verifiable identity data also means Swiss businesses can be discovered more easily by global partners. This is particularly important for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – which form more than 99% of companies and create two-thirds of the jobs in Switzerland – in overcoming the hurdle of gaining international visibility and credibility.

Each LEI is underpinned by data held in the Global LEI Index – a free, open, and globally trusted database containing verified identity reference information from authoritative sources to enable the clear and unique identification of legal entities globally.

Alexandre Kech, CEO of GLEIF, comments: "GLEIF and the Swiss Federal Statistical Office share a commitment to enabling greater transparency and digital trust in global markets. Through this collaboration, we are making global due diligence far more efficient and highlighting the value of the LEI in facilitating international trade. By linking LEI records with authoritative business registries, GLEIF is building a globally interoperable digital identity infrastructure that promotes financial integrity, regulatory efficiency, and economic opportunity."

This latest collaboration further strengthens the LEI's role as a universal data connector for business registries worldwide by centralizing access to authoritative registration sources within LEI records, while underscoring business registries' essential function in

advancing corporate transparency and integrity in the global economy. It follows similar initiatives with The Netherlands Chamber of Commerce (KVK) and Companies House in the UK, which provided LEI data users with direct access to official business registry data on the KVK and Companies House websites.

GLEIF is now seeking to engage additional business registries worldwide to leverage the LEI as a central data connector to enhance global corporate transparency further and advance the fight against economic crime. Business registries interested in exploring these opportunities can access further information on the GLEIF website [here](#).

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Full resolution images and logos can be downloaded via this link

<https://www.gleif.org/en/newsroom/gleif-graphics-images>

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Relevant link

www.gleif.org

Glossary of terms

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)

The Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a 20-character, alpha-numeric code based on the ISO 17442 standard developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The LEI connects to key reference information that enables clear and unique identification of legal entities participating in financial transactions. Each LEI contains information about an entity's ownership structure, answering the questions of 'who is who' and 'who owns whom'. It provides a universally recognized identifier paired with essential entity data, rigorous verification processes and high data quality.

Verifiable LEI (vLEI)

The vLEI concept is simple: It is the cryptographic secure digital counterpart of a conventional LEI. In other words, it is a digitally trustworthy version of the 20-digit LEI code which is automatically verified, without the need for human intervention. It gives government organizations, companies, and other legal entities worldwide the capacity to use non-repudiable identification data pertaining to their legal status, ownership structure and authorized representatives in any kind of digital interaction, transaction, or e-signature scenario.

About the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF)

Established by the Financial Stability Board in June 2014, the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF) is a not-for-profit organization created to support the implementation and use of the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) and its digital counterpart the verifiable LEI (vLEI). GLEIF is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland.

GLEIF's mission is to manage a network of global partners to provide trusted services and open, reliable data for unique legal entity identification worldwide. GLEIF makes available the technical infrastructure to provide, via an open data license, online access to the full global LEI database free of charge to users. GLEIF is overseen by the Regulatory Oversight Committee, which is made up of representatives of public authorities from across the globe.

Diversity and inclusion underpin GLEIF's values. This is reflected in its workforce of approximately 60 staff from over 20 nations, its operational excellence, and its commitment to open, global participation in the Global LEI System.

For more information, visit the GLEIF website at <https://www.gleif.org/en>.

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