



USK – Unterhaltungssoftware Selbstkontrolle

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Age Classification in Germany



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Our Expertise

Germany has the world's most binding rules for the examination and sale of computer and video games. The age classification of computer games is a task of the youth ministries of the German Federal States. They use the services of the Unterhaltungssoftware Selbstkontrolle (USK) as an internationally recognized testing facility. The USK has over fifteen years experience in testing and rating games.

The rating process is accompanied and executed by one of the Permanent Representatives of the Supreme Youth Authorities (OLJB) and hereby an authoritative administrative law.

Apart from that the USK provides consultancy services for developers and publishers of computer and video games independently from the official classification process. Therefore the client can incorporate aspects regarding youth protection relevant contents in Germany before and during the development process in a more considerate manner and include them in the marketing strategy. Advice can be sought on the design and development of an individual product in line with the relevant legislation.

For providers of online game contents various services are offered to conform to the rules of youth protection in Germany. The USK can for example assume the function of the Youth Protection Representative for the company. More information on www.usk.de

Since the founding of the USK a worldwide unique archive of 20,000 international products has been created.

Company Facts

- Advisory Council consisting of 14 members
- 2 Permanent Representatives of the Supreme Youth Authorities
- 10 administrative staff
- 55 experts (age rating and protection of minors)
- 3,000 procedures annually

