

union for the co-ordination of transmission of electricity

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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 450 million people. Therefore UCTE handles one of the biggest electrical synchronous interconnections worldwide. This technical solution provides the possibility of the free market operation.

Keyfigures

31	Transmission System Operators (TSO)
21	European Countries
450 million	People served by the represented power systems
512 GW	Installed capacity
2200 TWh	Electricity consumption in 2002
250 TWh	Sum of electricity exchange between member TSO's under rules of UCTE
200.000 km	Length of high-voltage transmission lines managed by the TSO's

UCTE activities include the preparation of a statistical yearbook. This publication is the result of the ongoing efforts of the Working Group "Statistics", the national correspondents 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 Half-yearly Reports, 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 national 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.

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The Terminology Index contains all terms used in this Statistical Yearbook. The corresponding explanations are available on the UCTE internet site (www.ucte.org) under "Statistics/ General Terms" on the mentioned chapters.

Explanations to the UCTE Power Balance (Table 8a and Table 8b) are also available on the UCTE web site under "Statistics/ Terms of Power Balance".

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