

Use of cookies

Cookies are small text files stored on your computer after visiting certain websites. These cookies hold a modest amount of data about the user and usually help with efficient website navigation and perform website specific functions (e.g. personalisation, login). Each time a user returns to a website, the browser (e.g. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome) retrieves and sends this file to the website's server to check for relevant data and to differentiate one user from another.

This site uses a number of cookies to assist with its functionality and usability and also for statistical reporting. The data collected can vary but does not allow us to identify you personally.

Main cookies used on this site

CMSPreferredCulture

Used by the Content Management system to store visitor's preferred content culture. i.e. for translated pages

ASP.NET_SessionId

Keeps the user session ID for security reasons

CMSCurrentTheme

Stores the name of the current visual theme to provide proper design to the dialog windows.

Cookieconsent_status

Used by cookie consent widget to remember your acceptance

VisitorStatus

Used to check if visitor is new or returning for analytics purposes

Third-party cookies

From time to time we may use third party services to enhance our content; this could be from an embedded social media widget or a video from YouTube. We may also use social sharing buttons that provide an easy way to share our content. Some of these third party providers may send cookies to your browser to assist with functionality. We do not have control over these cookies and suggest that you check the cookie policies of these providers and how you can manage them.

Examples of these cookies are provided below:

Google Analytics

Example cookies: `_ga` / `_gid` / `_gat`

We use Google Analytics to monitor how users interact with our site i.e. which pages they view, how long they spend on the site, etc. This data is used for statistical monitoring only.

<https://policies.google.com/privacy?hl=en-GB&gl=uk>

Twitter

We use an official Twitter widget that is embedded into the site to display our tweets. A cookie may be sent from Twitter to identify the correct language to display tweets.

How do I control my cookies?

Cookies are both useful and often necessary to enable websites to function correctly. It is advised to allow them (which is the default setting for most browsers) but you do have the option to block or restrict them should you wish to do so.

You can use your web browser to block or delete cookies, check the 'help' section of your browser to learn how to do this. The following article also details how to disable cookies:

http://howto.cnet.com/8301-11310_39-20042703-285/disable-third-party-cookies-in-ie-firefox-and-google-chrome/

Further information

For further information about cookies then please visit www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/guides/about-cookies

For further information about Google Analytics and its use of cookies then please visit <https://developers.google.com/analytics/resources/concepts/gaConceptsCookies>