

License agreement HBEFA, version 5.1 (English version)

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Rationale

Emission factors for pollutants from motorized vehicles are increasingly used as tools in public administration, planning, scientific research, in approval procedures and in expert studies, e.g. in legal disputes. This leads to multiple requirements on emission factors:

- they must be readily available, scientifically sound, and reproducible
- they must be updated on a regular basis
- the needs of users must be considered and incorporated.

The fulfillment of these requirements necessitates basic research, namely on the emission behavior of new vehicles and propulsion technologies. This implies high costs. Therefore, the national environmental agencies of several countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, France and the Joint Research Centre of the EU Commission) cooperate and coordinate research and development projects and ensure mutual accessibility of results. HBEFA (Handbook of Emission Factors for Road Transport) is a product of this common effort.

HBEFA has been developed by INFRAS AG, Berne/Switzerland, on behalf of the national environmental agencies of the countries named above. INFRAS has also been commissioned to distribute HBEFA and coordinate related activities.

The license fee is not a profit-oriented price, but rather a nominal fee with the purpose of letting the beneficiaries of the data contribute to the costs of the maintenance and updates of the Handbook.

The license fee is due for the full access to emission factor queries on the HBEFA server. The HBEFA desktop client itself (also referred to as “main front-end”) is free to download and use, and it enables emission factor queries at the same level of detail as the free “online version” without any license.

The license fees listed below refer to HBEFA version 5.1 (October 2025). Costs of minor version updates (e.g. a HBEFA Version 5.2, 5.3 etc.), error corrections or small additions are covered by these fees. Additional license fees are only due at the release of a new major version with substantial updates or additions (e.g. HBEFA 6.1). The decision on the development and release of a new version (with new license fees) is in the competence of the representatives of the environmental agencies of the countries involved.

With the license fees listed below, the entire contents of HBEFA 5.x (including the data of all countries represented) are covered.

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The license for the simple right of use can be ordered via the HBEFA website:

<https://www.hbefa.net/en/order-form>

Free license for Swiss users

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(<https://www.hbefa.net/en/order-form>) by specifying their contact details and choosing “Swiss free license” from the “Purchase options” dropdown list. The contribution towards the maintenance costs of HBEFA for these Swiss users is covered by the Swiss FOEN.

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Accessing the HBEFA API with third-party clients

The HBEFA server provides an API (Application Programming Interface) that can also be accessed by third-party scripts or clients. We request interested users to contact INFRAS directly for this option, and we reserve the right to charge for additional resources or support efforts necessary due to the use of third-party clients.

Agreement regarding the license for commercial use of “HBEFA 5.1” (October 2025)

By signing this agreement, the company/institution specified below (licensee) accepts the conditions listed above.

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(Company/institution + address)

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Sennweg 2

3012 Bern

Switzerland

For the licensee:

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(Name in block letters + signature)

For INFRAS:

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(Name in block letters + signature)

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(Place, date)

Berne,