

# Information on the Invoicing and Billing of PTB Services Starting on 1 October 2021

In connection with the structural reform of invoicing and billing through the *Bundesgebührengesetz* (Federal Fees Act), the services of the German federal agencies were examined to determine – among other things – whether they should be billed according to fee regulations or invoiced according to private law. Starting on 1 October 2021, many of PTB's services are to be invoiced according to private law. Furthermore, new hourly rates were calculated, and provisions were established for the transitional phase.

## 1. Services to be invoiced under private law

A very high percentage of PTB's services which have typically been billed via "bill of costs" according to the *Kostenverordnung für Nutzleistungen* (Regulations Governing Charges for Services Supplied by PTB) up to now must be settled via invoices starting on 1 October 2021. Billing via a *kostenbescheid* (bill of costs) within the scope of the Regulations Governing Charges for Services Supplied by PTB will only be possible until 30 September 2021.

This mainly affects the following services:

- Calibrations
- Conformity assessments
- Metrological tests and examinations

Invoicing will then be based on the updated General Terms and Conditions of Business of PTB (*Allgemeine Geschäftsbedingungen* – AGB) and PTB's price list which will take effect on 1 October 2021 (see <https://www.ptb.de/cms/en/metrological-services/terms-and-conditions-of-business.html> and links). The price list includes hourly rates, fixed prices and regulations concerning further costs. The changes in hourly rates are shown in the table in the attachment (whereby the price rates starting on 1 October 2021 may still be subject to minor changes by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy – BMWi). Please be aware that for all services that are invoiced starting on 1 October 2021, **value-added tax** at the currently valid VAT rate must be added.

The following transitional provisions apply to the rates:

Services to be invoiced under private law must, as a matter of principle, be invoiced according to the provisions which were valid at the time of application. Hence, for applications that are placed after 1 October 2021, the new rates will apply. For orders that are placed before 30 September 2021, the old rates remain valid. There is, however, an exception: If a service is ordered before 30 September 2021 and it is foreseeable that the actual processing will not begin until after 30 September 2021, the price list from 1 October 2021 is to be used. Customers will be informed by the respective department in an appropriate and timely manner (in the order confirmation, for example).

## **2. Services for which fees will still be charged**

For some services which, up to now, required billing according to the *Regulations Governing Charges for Services Supplied by PTB*, the *Regulations Governing Charges for Approvals granted by PTB*, the *Gaming Ordinance* and further regulations governing charges, fees will still be charged. Starting on 1 October 2021, they will be billed according to the *Ordinance to Amend the Special Ordinance on Fees for Individually Attributable Public Services Supplied by the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTBBGebV) (Amending Ordinance)*. This ordinance supplements the PTBBGebV which took effect on 15 June 2021 for the field of weapons and firearms legislation.

The PTBBGebV includes hourly rates for time fees, fixed fees and provisions for outlay. The changes in hourly rates are shown in the attachment.

No value-added tax will be levied on fees. The following transitional provision applies: Services which will continue to be chargeable will, as a matter of principle, be billed according to the provision which was valid at the time of application.

For orders which are created and will be completed starting on 1 October 2021, the new hourly rates will apply. For services which are applied for or have started before 1 October 2021 but have not been completely finished before 1 October 2021, the law that was valid before 1 October 2021 still applies according to Section 3 paragraph 3 of the Amending Ordinance. For these services, the old hourly rates will continue to apply.

To avoid disadvantages to customers, a *favorable review* is necessary. This means that if, within the scope of the new law, hourly rates are lower in contrast to the old rates, then the new, lower hourly rate will be applied.

For the field of weapons and firearms legislation, the transitional provisions of Section 3 paragraphs 1 and 2 of the PTBBGeBV are to be observed.

**If you have any further questions, please contact the Z.143 section of PTB or send an e-mail to [gebuehren@ptb.de](mailto:gebuehren@ptb.de).**

## Attachment: Changes in hourly rates (table)

Subject Area	Organizational Unit	Net price per hour in euros (without VAT) until 30 September 2021	Net price per hour in euros (without VAT) starting on 1 October 2021**
<b>1 Acoustics, Ultrasound and Acceleration</b>	Velocity	169	<b>160</b>
	Sound		
	Acoustics and Dynamics		
<b>2 Flowrate</b>	Gas Flow	176	<b>167</b>
	Liquid Flow		
	Heat and Vacuum		
<b>3 Electricity and Magnetism</b>	Direct Current and Low Frequency	185	<b>186</b>
	High Frequency and Electromagnetic Fields		
	Electrical Energy Measuring Techniques		
	Quantum Electronics		
	Semiconductor Physics and Magnetism		
	Electrical Quantum Metrology		
<b>4 Ionizing Radiation</b>	Radioactivity	195	<b>204</b>
	Dosimetry for Radiation Therapy and Diagnostic Radiology		
	Radiation Protection Dosimetry		
	Neutron Radiation		
	Radiation Effects		
<b>5 Length and Dimensional Metrology</b>	Imaging and Wave Optics	169	<b>169</b>
	Quantum Optics and Unit of Length		
	Surface Metrology		
	Dimensional Nanometrology		
	Coordinate Metrology		
	Interferometry on Material Measures		
<b>6 Mass and Related Quantities</b>	Mass	176	<b>180</b>
	Solid Mechanics		
<b>7 Metrology in Chemistry</b>	General and Inorganic Chemistry	185	<b>188</b>
	Biochemistry		
	Physical Chemistry		

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Organizational Unit</b>	<b>Net price per hour in euros (without VAT) until 30 September 2021</b>	<b>Net price per hour in euros (without VAT) starting on 1 October 2021**</b>
<b>(continued)</b>	Analytical Chemistry of the Gas Phase		
<b>8 Metrology for Medicine</b>	Biomedical Magnetic Resonance	182	176
	Biosignals		
	Biomedical Optics		
<b>9 Radiometry and Photometry</b>	Photometry and Spectroradiometry	199	194
	Applied Radiometry		
	Radiometry with Synchrotron Radiation		
	X-ray Metrology with Synchrotron Radiation		
<b>10 Thermometry</b>	Detector Radiometry and Radiation Thermometry	179	176
	Temperature		
	Cryosensors		
<b>11 Time and Frequency</b>	Time and Frequency	147	156
<b>12 Metrological Information Technology</b>	Mathematical Modelling and Data Analysis	154	147
	Metrological Information Technology		
<b>13 Physical Safety Engineering and Explosion Protection</b>	Explosion Protection in Energy Technology	207	196
	Explosion Protection in Sensor Technology and Instrumentation		
	Fundamentals of Explosion Protection		
<b>14 Other Services</b>	Scientific Instrumentation department and other organizational units without/with low to medium technical equipment	120	116
	Industrial Metrology		
	Legal Metrology, Conformity Assessment and Assessments*		

\* The hourly rate for auditors (116 €) is only valid for assessments within the scope of (1) DAkkS accreditation procedures, (2) conformity assessment procedures (e.g. production supervision at a manufacturer's site) and (3) procedures for accrediting other accreditation bodies as well as for other assessments (e.g. for the recognition of test results for conformity assessments).

\*\* Price rates as of 1 October 2021 may still be subject to minor changes by the BMWi.