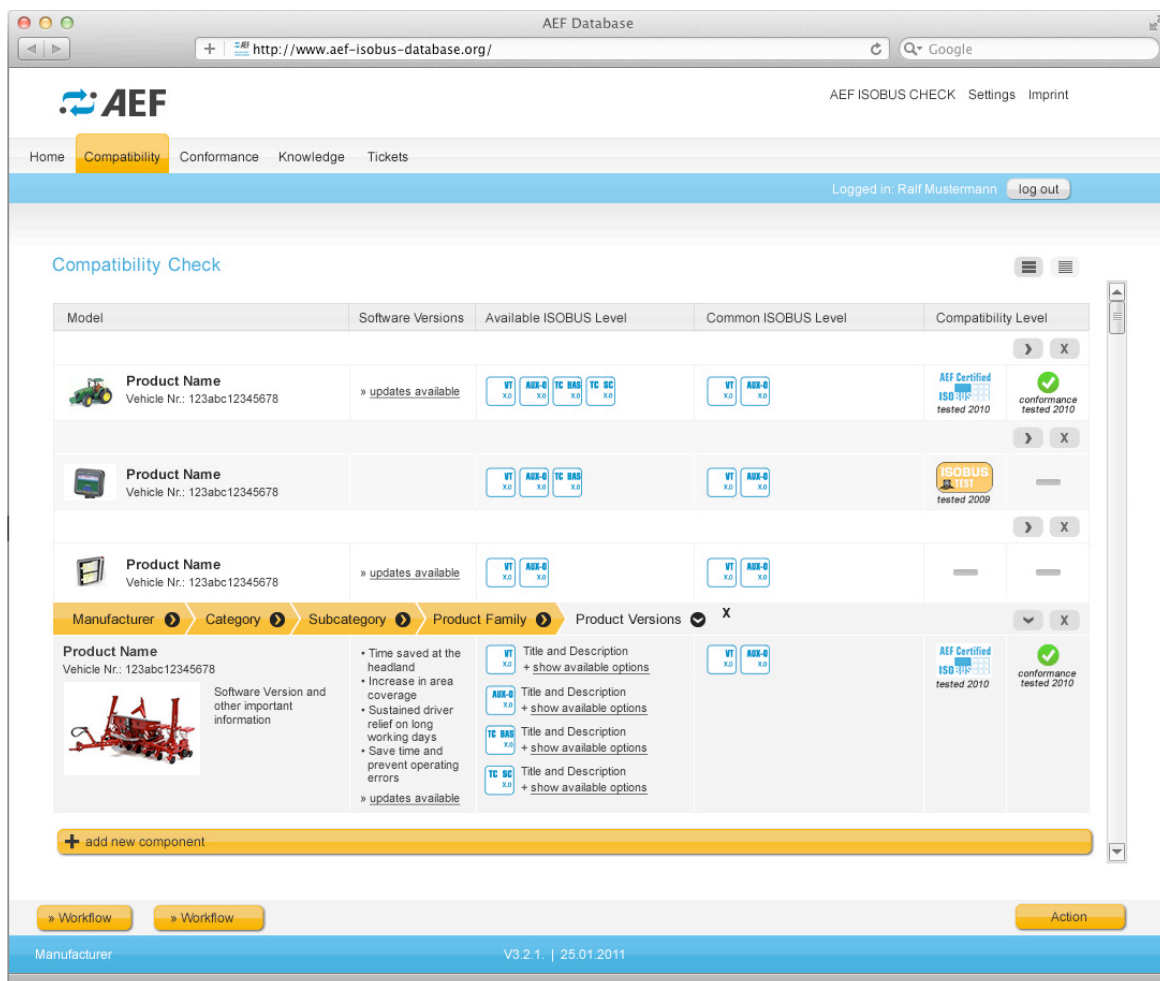


Press Release
































21.09.2011

New AEF ISOBUS Database answers questions regarding compatibility

At Agritechnica 2011 the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF)* presents an intelligent machine and implement database where the compatibility of tractor/Universal Terminal and implement can be tested. Up to now this database is the only means by which farmers and contractors can find out without doubt, which tractors and implements are ISOBUS-certified and actually match. It also helps dealers' and manufacturers' service engineers to quickly detect ISOBUS incompatibilities even in the field and to resolve them. The AEF ISOBUS Database stores these cases in an integrated knowledge database where they are available for problem-solving anytime.



The screenshot shows the AEF Database website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Compatibility', 'Conformance', 'Knowledge', and 'Tickets'. A user is logged in as 'Ralf Mustermann'. The main content area is titled 'Compatibility Check' and displays a table of product compatibility data.

Model	Software Versions	Available ISOBUS Level	Common ISOBUS Level	Compatibility Level
 Product Name Vehicle Nr.: 123abc12345678 » updates available		   	 	 
 Product Name Vehicle Nr.: 123abc12345678		  	 	
 Product Name Vehicle Nr.: 123abc12345678 » updates available		 	 	
Manufacturer > Category > Subcategory > Product Family > Product Versions X				
 Product Name Vehicle Nr.: 123abc12345678 Software Version and other important information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time saved at the headland • Increase in area coverage • Sustained driver relief on long working days • Save time and prevent operating errors » updates available	 Title and Description + show available options  Title and Description + show available options  Title and Description + show available options  Title and Description + show available options	 	 
+ add new component				

At the bottom of the interface, there are buttons for 'Workflow' and 'Action', and a footer indicating 'Manufacturer' and 'V3.2.1 | 25.01.2011'.

Until now the discussion about ISOBUS was determined by myriads of questions. And often enough farmers', but also dealers' and even manufacturers' uncertainties and lack of knowledge lead to frustration. Is the manufacturer of the tractor or the one of the implement responsible if something is not functioning? How can I find the ISOBUS-compatible implement for my ISOBUS-tractor to make full use of all ISOBUS functionalities? Is, perhaps, the implement I already own ISOBUS-certified and compatible with the tractor I intend to buy? And if it is, which functionalities can I use with both of them?

Answers to these and many other questions are provided by the AEF ISOBUS Database, which has been developed by the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) with great effort. It will contain the relevant information about all machines and implements, which will in future be AEF ISOBUS certified. A good part, previously certified by the DLG, has already been integrated. With few mouse clicks the user configures his tractor-implement combination and immediately sees if the chosen combination is compatible and which functionalities it offers. Also alternatives can be compared. If a machine cannot be found in the database, it is not certified either.

Benefits

Ultimately the new AEF ISOBUS Database helps agricultural customers and contractors to make their decision and ensures full investment security. The fact that proprietary 'island' solutions from single manufacturers are not included in the database encourages companies to place special emphasis on compatibility regardless of manufacturer, which leads to a greater choice for agricultural customers.

Dealers benefit from the database because it facilitates advising customers. And it speeds up the process of error diagnostics carried out by their service engineers. This can minimize downtimes significantly.

Eventually the manufacturers collect reports about problem cases in the data base, which remain available as ISOBUS knowledge. The dealers' service staff also can use them to find diagnoses and solve problems on site more quickly. At the same time, by means of the database, the manufacturers simplify the procedures of conformity testing and certification.

The database is permanently updated automatically since it is also used for testing conformity of machines and implements with the ISOBUS standard as well as for certification. Under the URL www.aef-isobus-database.org and on different access levels farmers and contractors but also dealers and manufacturers can quickly find answers to questions relating to ISOBUS-compatibility, which in the past often remained unanswered.

With its aim to enforce the ISOBUS technology the AEF addresses parties involved all over the world. For that reason the database will at first be available in English and German. Four or five additional languages, among them French, Italian, Spanish and Russian, will follow shortly. As a basic version the database will go live for the Agritechnica 2011.

*The AEF is an international industrial platform founded 2008 by agricultural machinery manufacturers AGCO, Claas, CNH, Grimme, John Deere, Kverneland Group, and Pöttinger as well as the industry associations AEM and VDMA. At present, the AEF has more than 115 additional members who are committed to implementing electronic standards. The objectives of the AEF are to establish the compatibility of tractors, implements and the software used on



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the farm across different manufacturers and provide the agricultural public with information on the applications and the benefits of ISOBUS (www.aef-online.org).

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