



BKMS[®] System

Whistleblowing and Compliance

Ethics and Morality

as the Competitive Advantage

Breaches of laws and standards can cause vast material and non-material damage to companies, particularly the loss of reputation, as well as legal and monetary consequences. The required internal investigation processes and reorganisation measures deplete companies of important resources and reflect negatively on the company's corporate identity and the motivation of its employees.

In most cases it is purely coincidental that companies detect business-damaging behaviour. The second most common form of disclosure is when honest employees speak up. This kind of internal knowledge may become an indispensable component of risk management when used as part of a whistleblowing system.

Studies have found that whistleblowing systems are the most effective way of disclosing white-collar crimes. Their mere existence and the resulting increase of disclosure-probability lead to a high level of deterrence and prevention. Companies without whistleblowing systems are more than twice as likely to suffer from the material damage caused by white-collar crime than do companies that provide a secure communication platform.

BKMS[®] System

as Protection

Business Keeper AG has developed a worldwide unique whistleblowing system and successfully incorporated it as part of risk management in the fields of compliance, auditing, and value management. Its objective is the systematic usage of existing internal information for the effective prevention and early detection of risks within companies and public authorities.

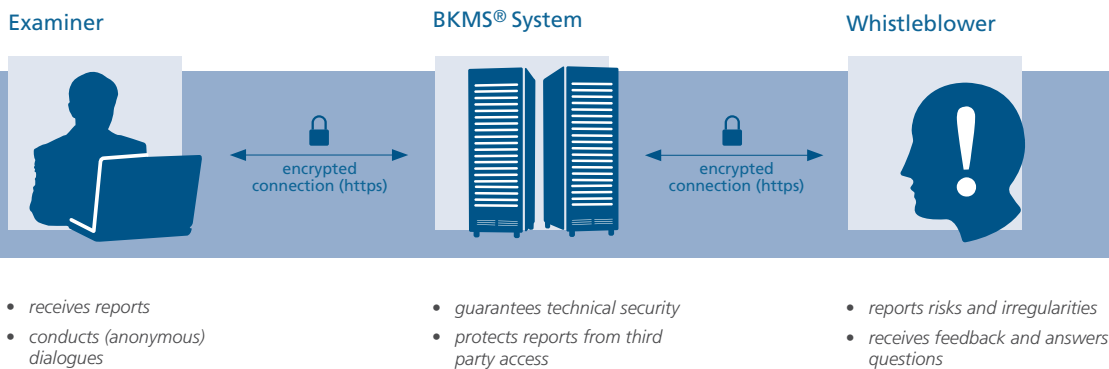
The patent-pending and certified Business Keeper Monitoring System (BKMS[®] System) guarantees that relevant information reaches the designated contact point directly: a win-win situation for whistleblowers and companies. The early identification of risks and the internal clarification of possible irregularities and abuses help to protect companies from loss of reputation and financial damages.



Honest Employees as Whistleblowers

Existing internal information regarding possible irregularities and abuses, as well as risks, is often not forwarded to the right contact or not forwarded at all because of a lack of whistleblower protection and a fear of reprisals by colleagues and superiors.

Therefore, a secure communication platform that excludes the possibility of personal disadvantages needs to be made available to potential whistleblowers. This form of advanced protection is achieved by securing the whistleblower's anonymity.



Dialogue as Means of Support

The internet-based BKMS® System is the first system to combine the supposed extremes of anonymity and dialogue. Whistleblowers may access their company's custom-built BKMS® System on a 24/7 worldwide basis in any desired language. The whistleblower decides whether he wishes to remain anonymous, in order to protect himself from possible negative personal consequences, or whether he wishes to reveal his identity. The company itself decides what topics are to be reported on.

Using an anonymous postbox, the company's point of contact, e.g. its compliance department, may enter into a dialogue with the whistleblower. During this dialogue the whistleblower is informed of the progress of the investigation that is based on his report and he may be asked additional questions in order to accelerate internal investigations and to prevent misunderstandings.

The BKMS® servers are located in a high security data centre. Encryption secures the report's content and its virtual channel. This way the system can guarantee that only an authorized examiner can access reports. Compliant to the standards of data protection, critical topics may be dealt with according to the client's ethical standards and guidelines.





From the Idea to the Product

The company founder's experiences as a manager in an international business group, his early involvement with business ethics and his belief that economic success is based on a value-based economy, led him to create Business Keeper AG in 2001 and to develop the BKMS® System.



The logo symbolizes our support of the economy and society and our commitment to ensure ethical standards without affecting our clients' structures and processes.

Our clients are international companies who belong to the DAX 30, SMEs as well as public institutions in various countries. The BKMS® System makes a contribution to the protection of an honest and value-based economic culture.

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