# Cookies

**Use of cookies**

To provide you with a more streamlined and personalized online experience, we collect and retain information on how you interact with our website and other sites, in particular through data files known as "cookies".

**What is a cookie?**

A cookie is a text file containing a small amount of data which is downloaded to your computer or device by the websites you visit and by the advertising agencies and partners of these websites.

Cookies are useful because they help us arrange the content and layout of our website and recognize those computers that have been to our website before. They allow us to remember visitors' preference settings  and play an important role in helping us enhance the usability and performance of our website, improve our services and optimize the user experience.

Some cookies are also essential to enable visitors to move around our website and use its features. Cookies help us understand how visitors interact with our website by enabling us to identify the most popular sections and topics and the types of paths visitors take. They also help us present the information that best suits your needs and interests.

Nowadays, most websites use cookies.

**The cookies we use and their functions**

| Type of cookie | Function |
| --- | --- |
| Functional | Functional cookies enable you to move around our website easily and use its functions, such as accessing secure areas. They securely save identification and authentication information, such as your user name (if you so wish), when you sign in to our Internet services. They remember your preferences, for example your choice of language or region. Without cookies, certain sections of our website or services would simply not function. |
| Performance | Performance cookies monitor our website performance and measure the number of visitors, how often they visit the site and how they use the site. They provide information that helps us offer the products best suited to visitors. |
| Advertising | Advertising cookies are used to recognize you and present you with tailored offers. Information about your visits to different websites is collected over time by your browser. This information is used to predict your preferences and present you with the types of ads that are most likely to interest you. |

Some cookies are only kept on your computer during your browsing session, i.e., until you leave our website (these are known as "session" cookies), whereas other cookies remain in your browser after the session unless they expire or are deleted (these are known as "persistent" cookies).

**Managing cookies**

You are not obliged to accept cookies and may modify your browser settings accordingly. The browser you use to surf the web not only allows you to see the cookies you have but also allows you to control their use.

You can control them by allowing them, deleting them individually or deleting all of them. You can also set your browser to not accept cookies altogether. If this option is selected, you should be aware that our website may not function properly.

It may be possible to set your browser to ask for your consent each time a cookie is sent to your device. This gives you control over what is set on your device, however, it may slow down your browsing experience.

You are also able to prevent just third party cookies being deployed (i.e., those sent by other websites), effectively opting out of third party behavioural advertising, and some browsers even allow you to block specific companies you do not wish to deploy a cookie.

**Information on cookies**

You can find further information on cookies on the following websites:

- Information About Cookies on Microsoft.com
- Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada
- The Digital Advertising Alliance of Canada

Please contact us if you have any questions about the use of cookies on our website.