



Achilles UVDB - The direct route to business in the UK utilities industry

Utility companies view their suppliers as an integral extension of their organisations, and strive for a transparent and efficient collaboration with best in class suppliers.

The UVDB Community helps to create business opportunities for suppliers in a collaborative, neutral environment whilst ensuring compliance to industry standards and reducing risks across the supply chain for buying organisations.

UVDB is the utility industry pre-qualification system used by the utilities sector in the UK to manage risk within the supply chain and comply with UK regulations.

Joining UVDB as a supplier provides your organisation with an opportunity to showcase your capabilities and access multiple contract opportunities by completing a single pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ). UVDB is used by many utility buyer organisations including National Grid, SSE and Thames Water to source potential suppliers.

Buyers use UVDB to search for suitable companies by the product or service relevant to their requirement(s). They may then apply further criteria to refine the tender list and/or use our Request Information feature to ask contract-specific questions.

Those utilities who are required to comply with UK regulations announce their intentions to source through the UVDB in the Find a Tender Service (FTS) on a regular basis.

How can UVDB help your company?

Subscribing to the UVDB Community enables your company to:

- Promote your products and services to buyers and access tender selection opportunities.
- Complete and maintain a single pre-qualification questionnaire and where applicable, an assessment, for key players in the utilities industry.
- Demonstrate capability to meet the industry requirements through the industry pre-qualification questionnaire.



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How to join the UVDB Community

Visit www.achilles.com/UVDB and click on 'Join this Community' to start the registration process to join the UVDB Community. Once you complete the form, you will be sent an email to create an account and complete the registration. This will include your company information and selection of the product and service codes that reflect what your company can offer. You can choose to pay online, or generate an invoice for your registration. You will then gain access to complete the full online pre-qualification questionnaire, but you will not be able to publish your full questionnaire and become visible to buyers until you have paid.

Subscription Levels

UVDB has different community subscription levels for suppliers; your annual subscription level is based on the number of product codes you want to present and promote to buyers within the UVDB Community.

For the full list of product codes, please visit www.achilles.com/UVDB. You can also join as a small supplier if you have fewer than 10 employees and your turnover is less than £1 million. This option allows you to choose up to 3 product codes.

This stage involves the submission of information and certificates related to finance, health, safety and environment, quality management, insurance, products and services, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and legal information. This stage typically takes 2-3 hours and our support team is available to assist you during the process. We recommend you gather all the required information and certificates prior to starting the questionnaire online.

No. of Buyer Organisations	68
No. of Buyer Users	2,425
No. Suppliers	6,200
No. of Verify Suppliers	2,600
No. of searches by Buyers each month	19,000

Service	Based on product code registration				
Levels	Small	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Product code allowance	1-3 product codes	0-7 product codes	8-14 product codes	15-21 product codes	22+ product codes

Higher level of assurance: UVDB Verify Audit

If your company supplies products or services which are considered critical with high operational risk, your business may need to complete a UVDB Verify assessment.

UVDB Verify provides organisations with:

- Demonstrable Safety, Health, Environment & Quality (SHEQ) capabilities.
- A significant reduction in the time and effort required to pre-qualify for contracts.
- Independent assessment and benchmarking with practical advice and feedback.
- A clear understanding of the industry's requirements.

There are different assessment levels and the assessment category depends on a number of factors including the nature of the products or services being offered, company turnover and the number of employees. You may also wish to consider upgrading your assessment level to demonstrate the scope of your capabilities to potential buyers, and to help you stand out from your competitors.



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