



**SMI S.p.A. con Unico Socio**

**Sede amministrativa:**

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Società sottoposta a direzione e coordinamento da SMIGROUP S.p.A.

**Sede legale:** Via Monte Grappa, 7 - 24121 Bergamo (BG) - ITALIA

## General information on cookies

In practical and not specialist terms, a cookie is similar to a small file, sent from a website and stored on the user's computer by the user's web browser while the user is browsing, which represents a reliable mechanism to save preferences and to improve the performance of the web sites. This way it is possible to enhance the user's browsing experience.

More specifically, a cookie is a small text string sent by a server to a Web client (usually a browser) which is sent back unchanged by the client to the server every time the client has access to the same portion of the same web domain. Cookies were originally introduced to provide a way for users to record items they want to purchase as they navigate throughout a website (a virtual "shopping cart" or "shopping basket").

Today, however, the contents of a user's shopping cart are usually stored in a database on the server rather than in a cookie on the client. To keep track of which user is assigned to which shopping cart, the server sends a cookie to the client that contains a unique session identifier (typically, a long string of random letters and numbers). As cookies are sent to the server with every request the client makes, that session identifier will be sent back to the server every time the user visits a new page on the website, which allows the server to know which shopping cart to display to the user.

Since session cookies only contain a unique session, the amount of personal information that a website can save about each user is virtually limitless. The website is not limited to restrictions concerning how large a cookie can be. Session cookies can also help to improve pages load times, because the amount of information in a session cookie is small and requires little bandwidth.

The main cookies are called technical cookies (essential cookies). Technical cookies are used to store the user's decisions about the use of all the other types of cookies on the website and for the purpose of carrying out the transmission of a communication over an electronic communications network.

Each domain or sub domain the browser visits can set cookies. Since a typical Internet page, for example the one of an online newspaper, can store objects from a lot of different domains and each of them can set cookies, it is normal to host hundreds of cookies on your browser.

Cookies are often and wrongly considered to be computer programs which causes misconceptions. Actually they are only data blocks so they can not be executed nor are they self-executing. In particular they can not be neither spyware nor viruses. Nevertheless cookies from some websites are listed as spyware by many anti-spyware products as they make it possible to identify the user. Most modern browsers support cookies and allow the users to enable or disable them, but such a refusal may make it impossible to execute some objects. Shopping carts implemented with cookies, for example, don't work in case of refusal.

Cookies are not only used on PCs or similar but also on smartphones and on tablets.

(Source: Wikipedia)

## Technical cookies

They are used for site navigation and to facilitate users access to the services offered by the site. Technical cookies are essential, for example, to access Google or Facebook without having to log in to each session. They are also necessary for sensitive operations such as home banking or payment by credit cards or by other means of payment.

(Source: Wikipedia)

Technical cookies currently on our website:

COOKIE NAME	EXPIRY	TYPE	PURPOSE
PHPSESSID	Session	Technical	PHPSESSID cookie is generated by applications based on the PHP language and it enables websites to store serialised state data. In this website it is used to establish a user session and to pass state data via a temporary cookie which is commonly referred to as session cookie. As PHPSESSID cookie is not subject to any time limitation, it expires when you close your client.

## Session cookies



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Session cookies exist only in temporary memory while the user navigates the website and web browsers normally delete session cookies when the user closes the browser. Unlike other cookies, session cookies do not have an expiration date assigned to them which is how the browser knows to treat them as session cookies.  
(Source: Wikipedia)

COOKIE NAME	EXPIRY	TYPE	PURPOSE
lang	10 years	Technical	Lang cookie is used to store language preferences, potentially to serve up content in the stored language.

**Persistent cookies**

Instead of expiring when the browser is closed, as session cookies do, persistent cookies expire at a specific date or after a specific length of time. This means that, for the cookie's entire lifespan (which can be as long or as short as its creators want), its information will be transmitted to the server every time the user visits the website that it belongs to or every time the user views a resource belonging to that website from another website (such as an advertisement). For this reason, persistent cookies are sometimes referred to as tracking cookies because they can be used by advertisers to record information about a user's web browsing habits over an extended period of time. However, they are also used for "legitimate" reasons (such as keeping users logged into their account on websites, to avoid re-entering login credentials at every visit).  
(Source: Wikipedia)

**Analytics cookies**

They are used to gather information, anonymously and in aggregate form, on the number of users who log into the website and on web usage.  
Our website uses Google Analytics, a web analytics service offered by Google. Google Analytics uses cookies to track and report website traffic and website usage. Information collected by cookies on our website usage (including your anonymous IP address) and web traffic will be sent to Google Analytics and stored on their servers for statistic analysis and for internal use only.

**Cookies management**

User can restrict or disable cookies by changing the browser settings.  
If you prefer our website not to store any cookie on your device, please set up your browser to warn you when you receive any cookie, in order to give you the chance to decide whether to accept it or not. As an alternative, you may set up your browser to automatically reject all cookies or only third party ones. You can also fully wipe all the cookies that are already on your device's hard drive.  
It is important to underline that settings should be modified separately for each browser or device (PC, notebook, smartphone and so on) you are using.  
Please note that if you set your browser to refuse cookies, this may impair or prevent due functioning of our website.  
For details on how to set up cookies, please refer to your web browser's Help function.  
More detailed information about policies on cookies management are available at <https://www.aboutcookies.org/>