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How we use cookies

Our website sometimes places small data files on your computer called 'cookies'. Cookies are tiny files, which automatically download to any computer or hand held device you use whenever you go to a website. They're designed to make your visit quicker, easier and better. A 'cookie' is a very small text document and cannot harm your computer, or pass on computer viruses. Most big websites use cookies as they can be useful and can:

- remember your information and settings so that you don't have to fill it in each time you visit a new page
- let you move between pages on a website efficiently, or
- measure how you use the website, so that we can improve it to make sure it meets your needs. For example it may tell us the type of internet browser you use (such as Google Chrome, Internet Explorer etc), the type of device you are using eg smart phone, PC, Mac, or the language you are using. This means we can make sure our site works for all these different devices and settings, and improves your user experience.

We don't use the cookies to identify you personally; they are just here to make the site work better.

How to delete cookies

You can choose to accept or decline cookies. Most web browsers, such as Internet Explorer, Safari, Google Chrome, automatically accept cookies, but you can usually modify your browser setting to decline cookies if you prefer.

If you do not want is to place cookies on your computer or handheld device, you can change your settings to stop this. This may prevent you from taking full advantage of the website. Here is a useful site explaining how to remove these cookies:

<http://www.aboutcookies.org/Default.aspx?page=2>

This website explains how to alter your browser settings (such as Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Safari etc) to refuse cookies. However, if you choose to have your browser refuse cookies, it is possible that some areas of our site will not function as effectively.

A cookie cannot retrieve any other data from your hard drive or pass on computer viruses. A cookie does not hold any information about which sites you visited before this one.

How we use cookies on our site

On our site we use a few cookies, to help make your experience better.

Cookie	Name(s)	Purpose	More information
Google Analytics	_utma _utmb _utmc _utmz	These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. We use the information to compile reports and to help us improve the site. The cookies collect information in an anonymous form, including the number of visitors to the site, where visitors have come to the site from and the pages they visited.	Click here for an overview of privacy at Google
Site Session Cookie	ASP.NET_SessionId	This cookie is essential for the forms on the site to operate. For example, when you fill in a form to give us feedback, thank our staff, register for an event or make a complaint.	Visit the Microsoft website
YouTube	VISITOR_INFO1_LIVE	This cookie is used by YouTube to store video player preferences. We use YouTube to upload informative videos to	

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Google NID
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These cookies are set and used by pages with embedded Google maps. These maps show our locations and locations of events you may wish to attend.

To learn more about cookies and how to manage them, visit AboutCookies.org.