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New functions on EasyGov.swiss: reporting vacancies and recording working hour requests

As of 26 April 2021, the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) has once again expanded EasyGov.swiss, its online service desk for companies. With release 1.7, users can now record and publish job vacancies on the portal. Another milestone is the integration of working hour authorisations, particularly for night and Sunday working and on-call shifts. Both processes can now be completed entirely digitally on EasyGov.

Vacancy reporting obligation for professions with more than 5 per cent unemployment
Since 1 January 2020, employers have been legally required to report vacancies in professions with at least 5 per cent unemployment in Switzerland to their regional job centre. With this latest update, users can now record vacancies directly on EasyGov and advertise them to the public. If a vacancy is subject to the reporting obligation, it will be sent to the job centre's online job portal (PLASTA) for approval via its interface (API). If the vacancy is not subject to the obligation, the data can be sent directly to job-room.ch and the European job mobility portal (EURES) for publication if required.

New application options:
- create a job advertisement
- report a vacancy to the regional job centre where required
- view the status confirmation from the job centre in EasyGov
- advertise vacancies to the public:
    o immediately for non-reportable vacancies
    o after the statutory five-day embargo period for reportable vacancies

Working hour authorisations: from TACHO to EasyGov
Up to now, people have been able to submit requests for working hour authorisations online via TACHO (Travail ch online). These processes are now offered exclusively on EasyGov.

New application options:
- record working hour requests in full
- transmit working hour requests to the responsible authority fully electronically and receive, view and manage its response on EasyGov
- use previously recorded requests as templates or extend authorisations

Other key functions:
- A clear overview of all ongoing transactions, i.e. working hour requests and working hour authorisations
- Once requests have been assessed by the authority, the applicant can view the authorisations on EasyGov
- Employees of the Cantonal Labour Inspectorate (KAI) and SECO can record working hour requests on behalf of companies

Gradual expansion as an implementation objective for eGovernment Switzerland
EasyGov forms part of the strategy followed by eGovernment Switzerland, an organisation of the Confederation, cantons and municipalities, which aims to expand electronic government services. The further development of EasyGov also plays a role in the Federal Council's current "Digital Switzerland" strategy. It aims to simplify business processes, focus consistently on the needs of users and continuously optimise services. It is based on the idea that government services should be designed in such a way that they can be used in one place without any specialist knowledge of official responsibilities or specialist technical expertise.

EasyGov has already undergone a number of significant updates since its launch in November 2017. At the start, the platform was predominantly used by company founders as it enables them to complete all of the necessary government paperwork required to set up a company online, from registering with the Commercial Register to VAT and social and accident insurance. During the 2020-2023 legislative period, the number of government services available is set to increase considerably and the platform is to be optimised on an ongoing basis.

The coronavirus crisis has accelerated the digitalisation process for many SMEs. This is reflected in the number of companies registered for the service. The number of user accounts on EasyGov has doubled in the past year. The platform has already been used by around 40,000 companies.

Services available with EasyGov.swiss Version 1.7:
https://news.easygov.swiss/
www.EasyGov.swiss

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