

## Starting up with the RIPE Database

As a new user of the RIPE Database, you will first need to create two objects:

- PERSON
- MNTNER

### What is a PERSON object?

The PERSON object contains information about a technical or an administrative contact person that is responsible for the object where it is referenced.

Each object has a unique Nic-handle attribute ("nic-hdl:"). Nic-handle is a unique identifier of a PERSON object. Whenever a PERSON object is referenced in another database object, it is referenced by its Nic-handle and not by the person's name.

### What is a MNTNER object?

Objects in the RIPE Database are protected using MNTNER (pronounced: maintainer) objects. The MNTNER object specifies authentication information required to authorise creation, deletion or modification of the objects protected by the MNTNER.

### How to create the PERSON and MNTNER objects?

Click on the following link for a form that enables a new user to create the first PERSON and MNTNER objects in the RIPE Database.

<http://apps.db.ripe.net/startup/>

- Person Object

Source: Select RIPE for operational use, or TEST for testing purposes.

Person: Enter the person name for which the PERSON object is created.

Nic-hdl: Can be left blank for automatic generation

Address: Enter the full address of the person

Phone: Enter the telephone number of the person

Email: Enter the email address of the person

- Maintainer Object

Maintainer name: Can be left blank for automatic generation

Password: Enter the password of your choice for the MNTNER object. Please be aware that it is your responsibility to remember the MNTNER password for future reference.

Finally, you will be asked to confirm that you accept the RIPE Database Terms and Conditions.

Once you have clicked on "CREATE", and after the data entered has been validated, both the PERSON and MNTNER objects will be created. You will receive an email confirmation to the email address specified.

The new PERSON object is now protected by the new MNTNER object. Similarly, the new MNTNER object is now protected by itself.

Changes to either of these objects will only be possible by submitting a database update, which is authenticated with the inclusion of the MNTNER password.