

# Code Signing Certificates

Secure distributable code and applications

Software vendors can digitally sign and timestamp the software they distribute over the Internet. This digital signing process is the virtual equivalent to shrink-wrapping CD based software for distribution – it ensures the end user knows the software is legitimate, comes from a known software vendor and the code has not been tampered with since being published. Code Signing certificates provide you with the ability to attest to authentication, security and integrity of your code for the following formats:

- Microsoft® Authenticode™ (32bit and 64bit)
- ActiveX™ controls
- Office Macros and VBA
- Vista® Kernel support
- Java™ Applets
- Netscape® Object Signing
- Adobe Air



## Running Unsigned Code Can Be Dangerous!

End users are encouraged not to run unsigned code therefore downloading or running unsigned applications will generate worrying Unknown Publisher security warnings. Unsigned software can be tampered with (such as the insertion of spyware, malware or harmful code and then redistributed). Once digitally signed, customers can be sure of the identity of the software developer and that the software has not been altered since being published by the original vendor. The security warnings change from being worrying to alerting the user the publisher is known – adding an essential level of trust to the application installation process.

## Microsoft Authenticode & Other Technologies

Microsoft Authenticode technology is used to sign applications intended to be run on the Windows 9x, XP and Vista operating systems. To use Authenticode developers must be issued with a trusted code signing certificate. Applications signed with the certificate change the standard Unknown Publisher warning into a known publisher message, with the software developer's company name prominently displayed. Other technologies execute the process in a similar way; essentially all require applications to be signed before asserting the identity of the application developer.

## Vista Kernel Support



GlobalSign is one of a select few Certification Authorities cross signed by Microsoft to allow Vista Kernel Mode Signing. For more details please visit:  
<http://www.microsoft.com/whdc/winlogo/drvsign/crosscert.mspx>

## Apple Code Signing



GlobalSign is happy to announce that its Code Signing certificate can be used to digitally sign Apple Mac applications. Code signing was introduced by Apple in MacOS 9 onwards.

## Adobe AIR Signing



Adobe AIR developers can use GlobalSign's Code Signing Certificates to make their applications tamperproof as well as bind their identity to the digitally signed application.

## Features & Benefits

- Removes the "Unknown Publisher" popup in Internet Explorer and Windows Operating Systems
- Full Timestamping Service included free of charge – timestamping your code ensures the signature does not expire
- Free 7-day Certificate Replacement
- One-day Express Turnaround
- Validation Option - your customers see vetted proof of who you are
- Backed by GlobalSign Liability Program
- Fully supported by expert technicians in multiple languages via email and telephone
- Unique Optional CSR (Certificate Signing Request) support during enrolment:
  - Create 2048 bit certificates for side by side assemblies
  - Support Microsoft ClickOnce private key preservation needs
- Full CSP support for token based secure key generation

## Learn More

Contact GlobalSign today to discuss how a Code Signing Certificate can help protect your distributable code and ensure customers have the confidence to download and run your applications. Email [sales@globalsign.com](mailto:sales@globalsign.com).

For more information about GlobalSign solutions, please call Belgium +32 16 8991900 or UK +44 1622 766766.

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