

New service by CSE - Electronic Signatures

The Cyprus Stock Exchange (CSE), within the framework of implementing its strategic planning and its continuous efforts to offer a wider range of products and services to the market participants, assumed the role of a Local Registration Authority (LRA) of an authorised Certification Service Provider (CSP). The CSE, as a LRA of an authorized CSP, facilitates the issuance of Qualified Digital Certificates and the delivery of Secure Signature Creation Devices (SSCD) to any natural person.

The combination of the above allows the holder to create advanced electronic signatures based on a qualified certificate issued by an authorised Certification Service Provider and created by a Secure Signature Creation Device. The advanced electronic signature is regarded as legally equivalent to handwritten signature pursuant to the Legal Framework for Electronic Signatures and for relevant matters Law 2004 [N.188 (I) / 2004] as amended by [N.34 (I) / 2009] and [N.86 (I) / 2012].

Companies or Organisations can obtain from the CSE Qualified Digital Certificates and SSCDs, which they can embed in their operations. Many organisations are adopting the use of Digital Signatures and are implementing the necessary infrastructure to replace processes which require printed documents (validated using stamps and signatures).

The main purposes of the use of advanced electronic signatures are:

1. authenticity of the person signing (authenticity)
2. guarantee of the integrity of the digital data (integrity) and
3. non repudiation of person signing (non repudiation).

The issued Qualified Digital Certificates are valid for one year and meet the specified by Annex I requirements, are issued by a Certification Service Provider who fulfills the requirements laid down in Annex II and the Secure Signature Creation Device used meets the requirements of Annex III of the above-mentioned Law.

Any natural person can obtain a Qualified Digital Certificate and SSCD from the CSE either:

1. by presenting himself/herself at the CSE Offices where he/her must:
 - (a) present his/her ID card, which will be photocopied.
 - (b) complete and sign the relevant Application Form for the Issuance of a Qualified Digital Certificate.
2. or by the presence of an authorised representative at the Offices of the CSE, at which he/her must present:
 - (a) the Application Form for the Issuance of a Qualified Digital Certificate filled and signed by the applicant and certified by a Certifying Officer.
 - (b) a certified copy of the applicant's identity card.

- (c) an authorization signed by the applicant and certified by a Certifying Officer for delivery of the above documents and receipt of the applicant's SSCD by the authorized representative.

The CSE, after receiving the necessary documents will validate them and will deliver to the applicant or the authorized representative the SSCD. Moreover, the CSE will send the above documents to the Certification Authority, in order for the process of issuance of the Qualified Certificate to begin.

After delivery, review and approval of the application, the applicant should proceed to the online registration website <https://pki.adacom.com/xak/gr/>. Once completing all the necessary information he/her must submit them to the Certifying Authority via the above website using the SSCD. The Certification Authority after verifying the details of the online registration and details on the documents delivered by the applicant or his authorised representative, will proceed with the issuance of the Qualified Certificate. The Applicant will receive his/her Qualified Certificate via the website <https://pki.adacom.com/xak/gr/>, which will be stored in the SSCD. The above procedure is completed in less than a day.

Buying a Secure Signature Creation Device (SSCD) costs €90. The issuance of a Qualified Digital Certificate valid for one year costs €120.