



# Adobe® Certified Document Services

Powered by  GeoTrust®

Document Signing Solution for Secure Electronic Document Publishing

## PUBLISH AND DISTRIBUTE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS SAFELY

Every day, businesses, educational institutions and government agencies publish and share information electronically. Because these organizations depend on rapid, easy information access, they bring their documents and business processes online to improve efficiency, reduce costs, serve users more effectively and comply with regulatory mandates.

Yet, online fraud and identity theft, combined with instant information dissemination via e-mail and the Web, provide an easy way for fraudulent documents to be distributed. While incompatible security technologies and desktops make sharing documents cumbersome and inconsistent. As a result, documents sent outside an organization are often left unprotected, and recipients are rarely assured of a document's integrity or author's identity.

Certified Document Services (CDS) is changing the way enterprises use and trust electronic information. It allows authors to publish trusted Adobe® Portable Document Format (PDF) files to an open community where pre-existing trust relationships don't already exist.

## ENSURE DOCUMENT INTEGRITY SEAMLESSLY AND SIMPLY

Together, Adobe and GeoTrust (a VeriSign company) have developed a revolutionary solution for document security. CDS is the first ubiquitous implementation of public-key document validation technology; and, because it is embedded within existing Adobe applications, it is truly seamless and easy to use.

### The highest level of document security available

Certified documents differ significantly from standard digitally signed ones. For example, although Adobe® Acrobat® allows authors to sign PDFs with any x.509 v3 digital certificate, this isn't the same as signing a PDF document with a CDS certificate issued from GeoTrust. A CDS certificate is signed by the GeoTrust for Adobe Certificate Authority (CA) that has been issued by the Adobe trusted root and embedded in Adobe Reader and Acrobat, versions 6.0 and higher. Only certificates issued from this hierarchy will receive the certified signature validation mark automatically when opened with Adobe Reader or Acrobat.

Relying parties don't need to decide for themselves whether the issuing CA should be trusted since the Adobe Reader or Acrobat applications automatically verify the validity of the certificate and display a message to the relying party that the signature and/or contents have been validated. In addition, CDS signing ensures the highest level of document integrity and verification because the user's or department's digital credentials must be stored on a cryptographic hardware device and they must be issued by a WebTrust-certified CA using strict guidelines.

## KEY FEATURES & BENEFITS

### Certified Document Services provides:

- Certified digital signatures
- Electronic document control
- Persistent document security

**Assurance of authenticity of author and integrity of content**

**Real-time certificate validation when PDF is viewed**

**Compliance with federal e-signature law**

**Easy acceptance by recipients with free Adobe® Reader**

**Server-based and desktop implementation available**

**Allows for one-way publishing (author-to-recipient) and counter-signing of documents**

## How it works

With CDS, GeoTrust provides CA services to Adobe. Authors or organizations interested in creating certified documents will register with GeoTrust, have their identification information verified and be provided with a digital certificate that can be used to sign PDF documents.

Document recipients using the free Adobe Reader or Acrobat will then have the ability to automatically validate certified documents with no additional software or configuration. The document recipient simply opens the document and is presented with a document validity signature box. It includes easy to understand certification status symbols that indicate whether the document is certified and/or if it has been modified (see below).



Document is Valid



Validity Unknown



Document is Invalid

By clicking on the signature properties, recipients can view additional information, such as certificate details, signer's contact information and validation method.

## APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFIED DOCUMENT SERVICES

The need to certify document authenticity is stronger than ever in today's electronic business environment. Digital signature capabilities enable important documents and information to be published inside and outside an organization with added assurances that the information arrives exactly as it was intended.

Certified Document Services is an ideal solution for organizations that publish documents that need to be trusted, including:

- **Financial Services** that are driven by high value transactions, the conservative nature of business operations and need to adhere to government regulations such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act
- **Healthcare Organizations** that must maintain highly sensitive information and compliance with HIPAA regulations
- **Educational Institutions** that want to expedite the dissemination of grades and transcripts, and save on processing costs
- **Manufacturing Companies** that are facing pressure to reduce costs by streamlining business work-flow by replacing paper transactions with electronic transactions
- **Government Agencies** that need to support the e-government Act of 2002 and the Government Paperwork Elimination Act
- **Other uses for CDS** include distribution of invoices, legal documents, engineering and architectural plans, sales quotes, financial and banking documents, real estate documents, press releases, privacy statements, and human resource documents

## SOLUTION HIGHLIGHTS

Certified Document Services is available to either individuals or departments within an organization, and is available in two hardware configurations to meet varying volume requirements.

- **Desktop-based solution** is designed for low or moderate volume signing using Adobe Acrobat. A SafeNet\* FIPS 140-2 level 2 cryptographic smart card or USB token is issued to an individual (Sarah Jones) or a department (ABC Company, Human Resources). The smart card or token, which holds the verified signer's CDS certificate, must be installed in the signing party's USB computer port, and each PDF document is signed individually, using a secure, two factor, process (token plus password).
- **Server-based solution** is designed for organizations that are publishing high-volumes of documents (such as bank statements, billing statements, or reports in the name of an organization). This solution works in conjunction with the Adobe LiveCycle™ Security server, and eliminates the step of manually opening each PDF file and applying a certified signature. In this configuration, the CDS certificate is securely stored on a SafeNet FIPS 140-1 level 3 hardware security module (HSM).

Both solutions include a fully-managed, centralized and secure Web-based management system that provides authorized Registration Authorities the ability to enroll users, run reports, revoke certificates and perform other certificate lifecycle functions; a one-year signing license; and world-class customer support via phone and email. Professional system integration services, as well as a full range of support options, are also available.

