

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**2002 No. 318**

**The Electronic Signatures Regulations 2002**

**Interpretation**

**2. In these Regulations—**

“advanced electronic signature” means an electronic signature—

- (a) which is uniquely linked to the signatory,
- (b) which is capable of identifying the signatory,
- (c) which is created using means that the signatory can maintain under his sole control, and
- (d) which is linked to the data to which it relates in such a manner that any subsequent change of the data is detectable;

“certificate” means an electronic attestation which links signature-verification data to a person and confirms the identity of that person;

“certification-service-provider” means a person who issues certificates or provides other services related to electronic signatures;

“Directive” means Directive [1999/93/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Community framework for electronic signatures<sup>(1)</sup>;

“electronic signature” means data in electronic form which are attached to or logically associated with other electronic data and which serve as a method of authentication;

“qualified certificate” means a certificate which meets the requirements in Schedule 1 and is provided by a certification-service-provider who fulfils the requirements in Schedule 2;

“signatory” means a person who holds a signature-creation device and acts either on his own behalf or on behalf of the person he represents;

“signature-creation data” means unique data (including, but not limited to, codes or private cryptographic keys) which are used by the signatory to create an electronic signature;

“signature-creation device” means configured software or hardware used to implement the signature-creation data;

“signature-verification data” means data (including, but not limited to, codes or public cryptographic keys) which are used for the purpose of verifying an electronic signature;

“signature-verification device” means configured software or hardware used to implement the signature-verification data;

“voluntary accreditation” means any permission, setting out rights and obligations specific to the provision of certification services, to be granted upon request by the certification-service-provider concerned by the person charged with the elaboration of, and supervision of compliance with, such rights and obligations, where the certification-service-provider is not entitled to exercise the rights stemming from the permission until he has received the decision of that person.

---

(1) OJNo. L13, 19.1.00, p. 12.

