



TECHNICAL REPORT

**Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI);
Guidance on the use of standards for
signature creation and validation**

Reference

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Foreword

This Technical Report (TR) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI).

Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**shall**", "**shall not**", "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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Introduction

ETSI TR 119 000 [i.1]: "The framework for standardization of signatures: overview", describes the structure of a general framework for digital signatures standardization (hereinafter denoted as Rationalized Framework or Framework) outlining existing and potential standards related to the implementation of digital signatures and the provision of related trust services by trust service providers. This framework identifies six areas of standardization with a list of existing and potential future standards in each area.

ETSI TR 119 000 [i.1] includes a set of guidance documents to assist business stakeholders, users and their suppliers in mapping or deriving from their business driven requirements the appropriate selection of digital signature standards and their options. Each guide addresses a particular area as identified in the aforementioned Rationalized Framework. A complete solution will need to address requirements in most of these areas.

This series is based on the selection of the business scoping parameters for each area of standardization. The selection of these scoping parameters is based on a process involving an analysis of the business requirements and associated risks leading to an identification of the policy and security requirements and to an analysis of the resulting business scoping parameters from which the appropriate standards and options can be selected. From the requirements expressed in terms of business scoping parameters for an area, each guidance document provides assistance in selecting the appropriate standards and their options for that area. Where standards and their options within one area make use of another area this is stated in terms of scoping parameters of that other area.

This general process of the selection of standards and options is described further in ETSI TR 119 000 [i.1], clause 4.2.6.

1 Scope

The present document, which addresses area 1 of the Framework [i.1], provides a **business driven guided process for implementing generation and validation of digital signatures in business' electronic processes**. Starting from a business analysis and risk analysis of the business' electronic processes, stakeholders are guided for making the best choice among the wide offer of standards in order to ensure the best implementation of digital signatures within the addressed application/business electronic processes.

The target audience includes enterprise/business process architects, application architects, application developers, and signature policy issuers.

2 References

2.1 Normative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication, ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

- [i.1] ETSI TR 119 000: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); The framework for standardization of signatures: overview".
- [i.2] ETSI EN 319 122-1: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); CAAdES digital signatures; Part 1: Building blocks and CAAdES baseline signatures".
- [i.3] ETSI EN 319 122-2: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); CAAdES digital signatures; Part 2: Extended CAAdES signatures".
- [i.4] ETSI EN 319 132-1: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); XAdES digital signatures; Part 1: Building blocks and XAdES baseline signatures".
- [i.5] ETSI EN 319 132-2: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); XAdES digital signatures; Part 2: Extended XAdES signatures".
- [i.6] ETSI EN 319 142-1: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); PAdES digital signatures; Part 1: Building blocks and PAdES baseline signatures".
- [i.7] ETSI EN 319 142-2: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); PAdES digital signatures; Part 2: Additional PAdES signatures profiles".