

IdenTrust S/MIME Certificates for Secure Email Communications

Protect Communications From Being Compromised Using Signed and Encrypted Emails Secured by S/MIME Certificates (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions)

The impact of the 2024 global IT meltdown triggered after a CrowdStrike software update earned the magnanimous security event a BINGO space on the cards of those still playing “Didn’t See That Coming.” In the wake of frequent unprecedented events on the global stage, there are looks back at what measures are in place to mitigate the risk of one of these events coming to fruition in nearly every industry. In the case of security, one of the most widely used methods of communication is email.

USE CASES

With privacy, security and confidentiality coming in on the periphery, here are some examples of rules and regulations that support the use of secured email:

1. Government Agencies

Government agencies must secure communications to comply with regulations like FISMA and CJIS to ensure that classified and/or interagency communications cannot be intercepted or tampered with in transit or at rest.

2. Legal Proceedings

The American Bar Association’s Opinion 477 emphasizes the need for enhanced security measures in protecting client communications to ensure sensitive legal information remains confidential and meets ethical obligations for safeguarding client data.

3. Healthcare

In the healthcare industry, the secure exchange of patient information and medical records is critical. S/MIME certificates help provide HIPAA-compliant encryption and digital signatures for secure communications between providers and patients within healthcare applications and portals.



KEY BENEFITS

- **Robust Reputation of Sender:** Sender maintains element of reputability when email is digitally signed even if the recipient is unable to validate the S/MIME digital certificate signature
- **Trusted by Browser Community:** Mailbox validated certificate standards are guided by a global community setting requirements for certificate authorities to maintain trust by browser providers
- **Global Validation:** Mailbox validation is supported for citizens of nations around the world and guided by the US list of embargoed countries to do business with

KEY FEATURES

- **Unlimited Emails:** Use your S/MIME certificate to sign an unlimited number of outgoing emails

Digital Signed Email	Digital Signature Validation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always sent from a sender with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. S/MIME protocol enabled and 2. Certificate trusted in their PKI hierarchy • Recipient of the digitally signed email sees the signature on the email as a hallmark of trustworthiness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires the email to be sent from a sender with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. S/MIME protocol enabled and 2. Certificate trusted in their PKI hierarchy • Requires a comparison of the digital signatures for validation between <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signed message received from the sender 2. Original message obtained digitally signed by S/MIME protocol in the receiver's inbox • Recipient of the digitally signed email receives validation of matching digital signature as a hallmark of trustworthiness

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Software-Based Certificates	S/MIME mailbox-validated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US applications accepted • Non-US applications accepted Validity periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 days, 1 year, 2 years
Hardware-Based Certificates	All the features of a software-based certificate installed on a portable hardware device
Technical Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicly trusted certificates • CA with CAB forum



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2024-09-17-iams-identrust-smime-ds-en PLT-08039

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