



Press Release

According to a survey carried out by the COIIM (Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros Industriales de Madrid)

65% of Spanish industrial engineering associations use electronic signature

Madrid, 13th January 2005. IpsCA, a Spanish society specializing in digital certificates and electronic signature, has just announced that 65% of Spanish industrial engineering associations already use electronic signature. Nearly all of them sign Adobe PDF files electronically.

The survey carried out by the COIIM (Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros Industriales de Madrid) has revealed that most associations polled add electronic signatures to their PDF files in order to avoid any manipulation of the documents. Associations from Andalusia, Aragon, the Balearics, Castile-Leon, Catalonia, Extremadura, Murcia, Navarre, Basque Country and Madrid are already using or about to use electronic signature.

The survey also reveals that the problems related to the management of official documents is highly ignored by the professionals of this sector, although most of them affirm that they will accept any documentation from the COIIM. This organization has recently included ipsCA's digital signature technology, with which documents' authorization proceedings can be automatically made via internet. Digital stamping guarantees the identity, qualification and authorization of the person that signs a piece of work, proving as well the authenticity, the registration and the accuracy of the files according to applicable legislation and without changing the content of the project.

Rubén Izquierdo, the person in charge of this research, states that *“this survey verifies that the electronic signature has the support of Spanish industrial engineers. It also helped us to find out that there is lack of information among members of associations with regard to digital stamping. We hope that as it becomes more and more common, other Associations and societies will benefit from this new technology”*.

Digital stamping allows members of associations to sign their documents electronically. Electronic signatures are as legally valid as handwritten signatures and they save time, costs, paper and space. Members of associations have a cryptographic smart card and an electronic signature issued by the Association to which they belong to. Generally, this kind of systems use PDF standardized format from Adobe in order to add the author's signature.

U-Sign PDF from ipsCA, the latest solution in Digital Signature

Considering the spreading of PDF format from Adobe among the business world, ipsCA has developed a solution that allows to sign PDF documents electronically in order to identify the author and to avoid any alterations. It is also possible to digitally print seals on the signed documents so that they are protected against modifications. With **U-Sign PDF from ipsCA**, files such as contracts, orders, projects or reports stored in PDF can be safely shared with societies, departments, professional associations or partners. This solution, based on PKI technology is incorporated in Adobe.

The Society

Ips Certification Authority (ipsCA) is a Spanish society that continues the work initiated by IPS in 1995 as a European pioneering Certification Authority. This society, specializing in electronic signature, works with Digital Certificates, Electronic Signature tools, Digital Stamping, Electronic Billing, Training and Consultancy related to PKI. Moreover, it offers legal advice in order to comply with Ley de Protección de Datos (Data Protection Law).

IpsCA takes part in all events related to certification services and electronic signature. Moreover, it has strategic alliances and agreements with other companies such as Microsoft, Netscape, Safelayer, Nokia, Lotus, Rainbow, ActivCard or FNMT and with other certification authorities. It has 350 international partners and is present in Microsoft product as Root Certification Authority since 1999.

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