

# Code Signing Certificates

Secure distributable code and increase download rates by eliminating security warnings

## Why should I sign my code?

Unsigned software is subject to tampering, such as the insertion of spyware or malware, so end users are encouraged not to run unsigned code. Downloading or running unsigned applications will generate worrying "Unknown Publisher" security warnings. Once digitally signed, customers can be sure of the identity of the software developer and that the software has not been altered since being published by the original vendor. The security warnings that appear with unsigned code are replaced with notifications containing the software publisher's information – adding an essential level of trust to the application.



### Regular Code Signing vs. EV Code Signing

Extended Validation (EV) Code Signing certificates build on the existing benefits of regular Code Signing certificates, but offer stronger levels of assurance that the identity of the publisher is correct and has been verified.

#### Advanced security features of EV

- Stricter vetting process verifies more information about the publisher, making it more difficult to impersonate a legitimate developer and obtain a falsified credential
- Certificate stored on USB token reduces the risk that the certificate will be stolen or compromised
- Immediate reputation with Microsoft SmartScreen Filter removes scary warning messages to end users that the application might be malicious

# Supported Platforms

GlobalSign Code Signing certificates are used by developers on all platforms to digitally sign applications and software. The same certificate can be used to sign code on any of the following platforms:

- Microsoft Authenticode (32 and 64 bit) files, ActiveX controls, and Kernel software
- Microsoft Office Macros, VBA
- Java Applets
- Mozilla and Netscape objects
- Adobe AIR files
- Apple Mac OS applications

# Feature Comparison-Regular vs. EV

	Regular	EV
Information displayed in certificate	Organization name	Organization name Organization address Type of organization
Remove "unknown publisher" security warnings	X	X
Signature does not expire when timestamping is applied	X	Mandatory timestamping
Sign an unlimited number of applications	Х	Х
Compatible with all major platforms	X	Х
Certificate stored on hardware token		X
Immediate reputation with Microsoft SmartScreen		Х