



# Document Security Helps Safeguard Electronic Government Communications

## Adobe® solutions help enable authenticity, confidentiality, and accountability

Digital signatures and permissions travel with documents and forms across network boundaries.

Government agencies have unique security requirements for electronic document exchange:

- Ensure the integrity of official communications
- Protect constituent privacy
- Authenticate people and processes
- Control sensitive, defense-related information

Adobe delivers a security solution:

- Electronic document control
- Digital signatures
- Persistent document security features
- Easy-to-use interfaces

With Adobe security solutions, government organizations can easily communicate and conduct transactions with citizens, businesses, and other agencies in a more secure and reliable online environment. The solutions work within and beyond secured networks and deliver access control, permissions, and digital signature capabilities that travel with documents and forms wherever they go.

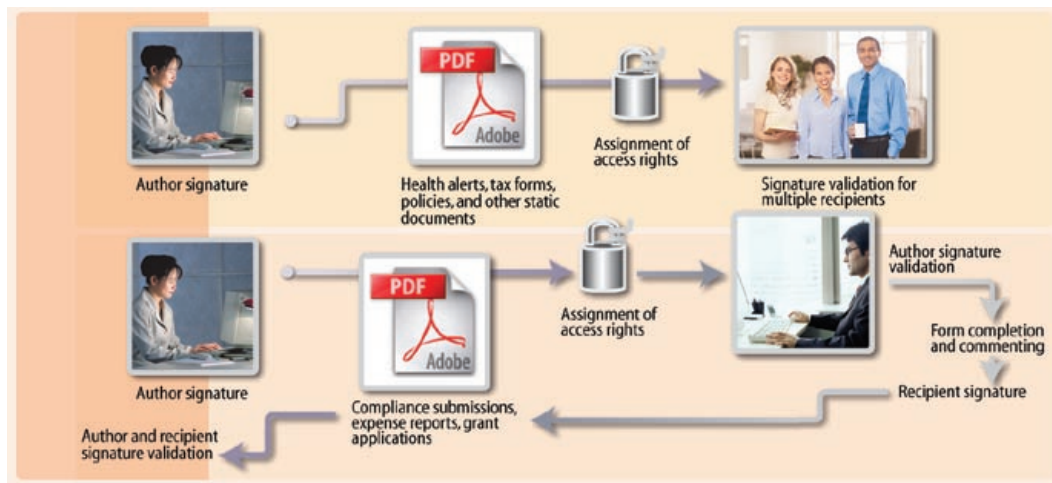
E-government and homeland security initiatives require agencies to bring paper processes online in a manner that equals the verifiable and auditable paper environment. As a result, government agencies must distribute official documents electronically while protecting constituent privacy and ensuring data integrity. Government agencies need to conduct complex, online transactions with internal and external recipients, knowing that both the people and the processes can be authenticated. Moreover, government agencies need to share sensitive information that is critical to the country's defense, yet retain tight control over access to that information. However, efforts to comply with these requirements are hampered by the struggle to maintain the necessary security.

- Unauthorized tampering of official documents can erode the authenticity and integrity of communications, resulting in documents that are inappropriately—even maliciously—modified.
- Incompatible security technologies and desktops make conducting complex, online government transactions cumbersome and inconsistent and often result in unprotected communications outside the agency.
- Sophisticated hackers and instant dissemination via e-mail or the Web can easily put confidential information into the wrong hands.

Adobe solutions can help government agencies meet strict requirements for safely sharing information online. Unlike most electronic document formats, security assigned to an Adobe® Portable Document Format (PDF) file is persistent to the document itself. Access control and user permissions travel with the document, helping to prevent unauthorized users from viewing or forwarding confidential information. Digital signatures are also embedded within an Adobe PDF file to help provide ongoing assurance of authenticity, integrity, and confidentiality. As a result, government agencies can:

- Exchange official and confidential information quickly and easily with a decreased risk of unauthorized access or tampering
- Implement complex, electronic workflows that include more secure files, accountability, controlled document access, and the ability to authenticate document integrity
- Integrate electronic processes with those of other agencies using certificate authorities
- Leverage the free Adobe Reader® software—the only software tool recipients need to open Adobe PDF files





**Digital Signatures and Document Control Bring Simple and Complex Government Transactions Online**

Digital signatures provide multiple recipients with increased assurance of a document's authenticity and integrity

Access can be controlled at the individual level so that a single document can be restricted in different ways for each user.

## Adobe Security Solutions Highlights

Verify document authenticity and integrity.

Keep official and confidential electronic documents private and more secure.

- Help ensure document integrity and authenticity by digitally signing documents sent to both internal and external audiences.
- Verify an author's certified document signature using only the free Adobe Reader software or Adobe Acrobat® and no additional security software.

Control access to documents by defining user rights and privileges.

- Leverage current investments in public key infrastructure (PKI) to assign unique access rights—within a single Adobe PDF file—for each recipient based on the recipient's security certificate.

### Conduct more secure, complex government transactions online.

- Fill in an Adobe PDF form online or offline, digitally sign it, and send it back—using only the free Adobe Reader.

Implement accountability with digital signatures.

- Simplify complex transactions by binding multiple documents and forms into a single Adobe PDF file for recipients to complete and sign.

Help ensure document confidentiality and privacy with PKI encryption and Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

- Acknowledge or approve information received from and/or supplied to the author using digital signatures—this is especially useful for electronic forms such as compliance submissions, case forms, and grant applications.

- Establish a more complete, auditable document trail by using certified documents and recipient signatures together.

- Utilize smart cards and biometrics for even greater security.

- Leverage PKI interoperability to connect to the U.S. Federal Bridge Certification Authority, which acts as a “trust” hub and conduit among differing government environments.

For more information on Adobe's security solution for government, please visit [www.adobe.com/security](http://www.adobe.com/security).

Adobe Systems Incorporated • 345 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95110-2704 USA • [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

Adobe, the Adobe logo, Acrobat, Adobe PDF, Reader, and “Tools for the New Work” are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

© 2003 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.

95001827 8/03



Tools for the New Work™