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CA AUDIT CRITERIA

The operations of the Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority (FICORA) are based on the Act on Electronic Signatures (14/2003). The Directive 1999/93/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 1999 was implemented by this Act.

The EESSI (European Electronic Signature Standardization Initiative) project set up by the Commission was established for creating standards to meet the requirements of the Directive on Electronic Signatures. A major part of the standardisation work has been done by the European standardisation organisations ETSI (TC ESI) and CEN (WS/E-Sign). If the certification-service-provider or the product or service related to electronic signatures meets the requirements of these standards or technical specifications (e.g. ETSI TS 101 456), usually they also fulfil the requirements laid down in the Directive and the Act.

A qualified certificate is granted to a natural person. The provider of qualified certificates, e.g. the Population Register Centre in Finland, and the information included in qualified certificates shall meet the requirements laid down in law and regulations.

FICORA supervises that qualified certificates are provided in Finland in compliance with the Act on Electronic Signatures and orders issued under it and that the qualified certificates and systems of qualified certificates comply with the provisions mentioned above. The supervision involves, among other things, annual inspections of qualified certificate operations.

The aim of the inspections is to verify that the certification-service-provider, the qualified certificates, the qualified certificate operations and systems used in the operations meet the requirements laid down in the provisions of law and technical regulations.

The previous inspection of the qualified certificate operations of the Population Register Centre in Finland was carried out on 1 July 2008.

Director

Timo Lehtimäki