



**CertSign WebTrust CA**  
Report of Independent Accountants  
November 12, 2009

## Report of Independent Accountants

To the Management of Certsign SRL:

We have examined the [assertion](#) by the management of Certsign SRL that in providing its Certification Authority (CA) services known as certSIGN Root CA in Bucharest, Romania, during the period 16 October 2008 through 15 October 2009, Certsign SRL has:

- Disclosed its key and certificate life cycle management business and information privacy practices and provided such services in accordance with its disclosed practices as follows:

Certsign - CA	<a href="#">Certificate Policy</a>
	<a href="#">Certification Practice Statement</a>
	Privacy Policy*

- Maintained effective controls to provide reasonable assurance that:
  - Subscriber information was properly authenticated for the registration activities performed by Certsign SRL;
  - The integrity of keys and certificates it managed was established and protected throughout their life cycles;
  - Subscriber and relying party information was restricted to authorized individuals and protected from uses not specified in the CA's business practice disclosure;
  - The continuity of key and certificate life cycle management operations was maintained, and
  - CA systems development, maintenance and operations were properly authorized and performed to maintain CA systems integrity,

based on the [AICPA/CICA WebTrust for Certification Authorities Criteria](#)].

Certsign SRL's management is responsible for its assertion. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on management's assertion based on our examination.

Our examination did not extend to the controls of individual subscribers or relying party locations.

Note \*: Certsign includes the privacy policy as a distinct chapter in the Certification Practice Statement and also states on its website that the information owned by Certsign is obtained, saved and processed according to the Romanian Law of Protecting Personal Data (677/2001) and Processing Personal Data and Privacy Protection in Electronic Communication (506/2004)



Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and accordingly, included (1) obtaining an understanding of Certsign SRL's key and certificate life cycle management business and information privacy practices and its controls over key and certificate integrity, over the authenticity and privacy of subscriber and relying party information, over the continuity of key and certificate life cycle management operations, and over development, maintenance and operation of systems integrity; (2) selectively testing transactions executed in accordance with disclosed key and certificate life cycle management business and information privacy practices; (3) testing and evaluating the operating effectiveness of controls; and (4) performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Because of inherent limitations in controls, errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Furthermore, the projection of any conclusions, based on our findings, to future periods is subject to the risk that the validity of such conclusions may be altered because of changes made to the system or controls, the failure to make needed changes to the system, or deterioration in the degree of effectiveness of the controls.

In our opinion, for the period 16 October 2008 through 15 October 2009, Certsign SRL's management's assertion, as set forth in the first paragraph, is fairly stated, in all material respects, based on the [AICPA/CICA WebTrust for Certification Authorities Criteria](#)

The relative effectiveness and significance of specific controls at Certsign SRL and their effect on assessment of control risk for subscriber and relying parties are dependent on their interaction with the controls and other elements present at individual subscriber and relying party locations. We have performed no procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of controls at individual subscriber and relying party locations.

This report does not include any representation as to the quality of Certsign SRL's services beyond those covered by the WebTrust for Certification Authorities Criteria, nor the suitability of any of Certsign SRL's services for any customer's intended purpose.

Ernst & Young SRL  
November 12, 2009

**Assertions of Management as to  
its Disclosure of its Business Practices and its Controls  
over its Certification Authority Operations  
during the period from October 16, 2008 through October 15, 2009**

*October 12, 2009*

CERTSIGN SRL operates as a Certification Authority (CA) known as CERTSIGN root CA and provides the following certification authority activities:

- Subscriber registration
- Certificate renewal
- Certificate issuance
- Certificate distribution (using online repository)
- Certificate revocation
- Certificate status information processing (using online repository)

Management of CERTSIGN is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective controls over its CA operations, including its CA business practices disclosure in the [Certification Practice Statement](#), service integrity (including key and certificate life cycle management controls), and CA environmental controls. These controls contain monitoring mechanisms, and actions are taken to correct deficiencies identified.

These are inherent limitations in any controls, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even effective controls can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to CERTSIGN SRL's Certification Authority operations. Furthermore because of changes in conditions, the effectiveness of controls may vary over time.

Management of CERTSIGN SRL has assessed the controls over its CA operations. Based on that assessment, in CERTSIGN SRL management's opinion, in providing its Certification Authority (CA) services known as certSIGN Root CA in Bucharest, Romania, during the period from October 16, 2008 through October 15, 2009, CERTSIGN SRL has:

- Disclosed its key and certificate life cycle management business and information privacy practices, and provided such services in accordance with its disclosed practices described in its [Certification Practice](#)

[Statement](#) and

- Maintained effective controls to provide reasonable assurance that:
  - Subscriber information was properly authenticated (for the registration activities performed by CERTSIGN SRL and authorized independent third party registration authorities), and
  - The integrity of keys and certificates it managed was established and protected throughout their life cycles, and
  - Subscriber and relying party information was restricted to authorized individuals and protected from uses not specified in its [Certification Practice Statement](#), and
  - The continuity of key and certificate life cycle management operations was maintained; and
  - CA systems development, maintenance and operations were properly authorized and performed to maintain CA systems integrity

based on the [AICPA/CICA WebTrust for Certification Authorities Criteria](#), including the following:

## **1. CA Business Practices Disclosure**

## **2. Service Integrity**

### **2.1 Key Life Cycle Management Controls**

- 2.1.1 CA Key Generation
- 2.1.2 CA Key Storage, Backup, and Recovery
- 2.1.3 CA Public Key Distribution
- 2.1.4 CA Key Escrow is not applicable to certSIGN-CA
- 2.1.5 CA Key Usage
- 2.1.6 CA Key Destruction
- 2.1.7 CA Key Archival
- 2.1.8 CA Cryptographic Hardware Life Cycle Management
- 2.1.9 CA-Provided Subscriber Key Management Services is not applicable to certSIGN-CA

### **2.2 Certificate Life Cycle Management Controls**

- 2.2.1 Subscriber Registration
- 2.2.2 Certificate Renewal
- 2.2.3 Certificate Rekey is not applicable to certSIGN-CA
- 2.2.4 Certificate Issuance
- 2.2.5 Certificate Distribution
- 2.2.6 Certificate Revocation
- 2.2.7 Certificate Suspension is not applicable to certSIGN-CA
- 2.2.8 Certificate Status Information Processing

### **3. CA Environmental Controls**

- 3.1 Certification Practice Statement and Certificate Policy Management
- 3.2 Security Management
- 3.3 Asset Classification and Management
- 3.4 Personnel Security
- 3.5 Physical and Environmental Security
- 3.6 Operations Management
- 3.7 System Access Management
- 3.8 Systems Development and Maintenance
- 3.9 Business Continuity Management
- 3.10 Monitoring and Compliance
- 3.11 Event Journaling

CERTSIGN SRL

Nicolae Ghibu  
General Director

