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TECHNICAL REPORT

Visible Digital Seals for Non-Electronic Documents

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1 Introduction

Long term identity documents such as national identity cards or passports nowadays come equipped with a microchip that stores the information printed on the document in a cryptographically secure manner. This effectively prevents any faking or forging of the document, as any manipulation is easily spotted by cryptographic verification of the data stored in the microchip. Attacking the cryptographic protection is associated with very high costs or even infeasible, due to its mathematical nature.

Other types of documents, such as breeder documents¹ or visas are usually protected by physical security features alone. The overall volume of such issued documents is quite high compared to the number of issued long-term travel documents. For example for the European Schengen Area, the number of issued visas has been steadily increasing; from approximately 6.7 million visas issued in the year 2009 up to 11.7 million visas issued in the year 2012 [EU COM Visa]. Similar statistics exist for other nations. To combat visa fraud – and thus related effects such as illegal immigration and human trafficking – it is essential to protect the integrity and authenticity of issued visas and other breeder documents. Issuing documents with such a high-volume and short validity period makes it often economically infeasible to augment their physical security features by electronic microchips.

Aside from their benefits, physical document features have three major disadvantages: First, they are symmetric. This means that the cost of faking or forging a physical document feature roughly corresponds to the cost of issuing it in the first hand. Thus in order to achieve a reasonable level of security, they have to be expensive. Second, since the equipment needed to issue the document is so expensive, it is difficult to securely personalize the document. Usually blank documents are printed with sophisticated physical security features, but personalization is done by comparatively low-cost printing equipment. A potentially dangerous attack vector is thus the loss of blank documents. Third, verification is non-trivial. Since cheap, yet high quality scanning and printing equipment is common today, it is not difficult to construct forgeries that seem authentic on a superficial level. Spotting physical document features – or the lack of them – is difficult for the untrained eye. And even for an expert it can be very challenging when facing time constraints, e.g. in a border-control situation.

This document specifies a digital seal to ensure the authenticity and integrity of non-electronic documents in a comparatively cheap, but highly secure manner using asymmetric cryptography. The information on the visa document is cryptographically signed, and the signature is encoded as a two-dimensional bar code and printed on the document itself. This approach – the *visible digital seal* – mitigates all three problems mentioned above:

1. *Asymmetry*. Due to using asymmetric cryptography, the cost of attacking a digital seal is considerably higher than the cost of issuing a visa document protected with a digital seal. Thus even though the cost of issuing a document is very low, it is extremely costly to fake or forge it.
2. *Personalization*. Each digital seal verifies the information printed on the physical document, and is thus tied to the document holder. There is no direct equivalent of a blank document, and thus no blanks can be lost or stolen.
3. *Easy verification*. Even untrained personal is able to verify a document protected with a digital seal by using low cost equipment, such as an application on a smartphone. Moreover, due to the binary nature of a digital signature, distinguishing between authentic documents and forged ones is easy.

So the digital seal provides a considerable security improvement for (usually paper based) documents having no microchip. Nevertheless, compared to chip based documents there are considerable limitations. Storage capacity of digital seals is usually limited to a few kByte at most and neither the data nor the cryptographic keys or schemes for the digital seal can be updated on existing documents. That is, cryptographic agility is not supported. The digital seal does not provide any protection against cloning, does not implement privacy protection functionality, and is more prone to read errors due to

¹ Documents that can serve as a basis to obtain other identification documents, i.e. a birth certificate that is used to obtain a passport.

wear and tear than chip based documents. Besides, the versatility of crypto chips allows implementation of additional features like signature schemes, terminal authentication, two factor authentication methods based on shared secrets like a PIN, or secure cryptographic protocols based on symmetric schemes. In particular, 2D bar codes can by no means replace the functional or security features of microchips. Therefore, whenever possible, travel documents shall employ microchips.

This document is structured as follows. In Section 2, we introduce terminology needed, and give reference definitions for various concepts used in this document. The container format of a digital seal is defined in Section 3, whereas Section 4 defines a generic description of Digital Seal Encoding and Section 5 gives definitions for the use-case of digital seals applied to travel documents, including the generation, encoding rules, the public key infrastructure (PKI) required, and validation policy. Section 6 adds specific definitions for digital seals for emergency travel documents, respectively. A worked example for visa documents is given in Section 7 and for Emergency Travel Documents in Section 8. In **Error! Reference source not found.**, a general overview of the concept of visible digital seals is provided.

2 Terminology and Definitions

The key words "MUST", "SHALL", "REQUIRED", "SHOULD", "RECOMMENDED", and "MAY" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119].

MUST This word, or the terms "REQUIRED" or "SHALL", mean that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.

MUST NOT This phrase, or the phrase "SHALL NOT", mean that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.

SHOULD This word, or the adjective "RECOMMENDED", mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.

SHOULD NOT This phrase, or the phrase "NOT RECOMMENDED" mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.

MAY This word, or the adjective "OPTIONAL", mean that an item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because the vendor feels that it enhances the product while another vendor may omit the same item. An implementation which does not include a particular option **MUST** be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does include the option, though perhaps with reduced functionality. In the same vein an implementation which does include a particular option **MUST** be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does not include the option (except, of course, for the feature the option provides.)

We identify binary values with their hexadecimal representation preceded by `0x` in monospaced font, e.g. `0x2A`. If clear from context, the prefix `0x` is sometimes omitted. Sometimes binary values are identified with their decimal value, written by appending `dec`, e.g. `42dec`. Throughout this document, we assume Big Endian encoding, i.e. byte sequences are read from left to right. Bit sequences are read from right to left, i.e. we assume the least significant bit (LSB) to be at (the rightmost) position 0.

Moreover we define the following terminology:

Bar Code

Optical, machine-readable representation, in one or two dimensions, of data relating to the object to which it is attached.

Bar Code Signer

A bar code Signer digitally signs the data (header and message) encoded in the bar code. The signature is also stored in the bar code.

Bar Code Signer Certificate (BSC)

A BSC is a certificate that contains the bar code Signer's public key. Bar code Signer certificates are used to verify the validity of data that were signed with the bar code Signer's private key.

Bar Code Symbology

A mapping between messages and bar codes is called a symbology. Such mapping is defined in the specification of the bar code and includes the encoding of single digits or characters, the size of a so called quiet zone around the bar code, as well as the computation of checksums for error correction.

Certificate

Electronic file attesting that a cryptographic key pair belongs to a person or a hardware or software component as identified in the certificate. A certificate is issued by a Certification Authority. By signing the certificate, the Certification Authority approves the link between the identity of a person or component and the cryptographic key pair. The certificate may be revoked if it doesn't attest the validity of this link any more. The certificate has a limited validity period.

Certificate Revocation List (CRL)

A list of certificates that have been revoked. Documents that identify a certificate from a CRL for verification SHALL thus no longer be trusted.

Country Signing Certificate Authority (CSCA)

The Certification Authority of a country that signs bar code signer certificates. Document issuers, such as makers of passports, use the private keys corresponding to the bar code signer certificates to sign data on electronic machine readable travel documents (eMRTDs). The CSCA of each Issuing State or organization acts as the trust point for the Receiving State.

Data To Be Signed (DTBS)

The message that is given as input to a signature generation algorithm of a signature scheme.

Cryptographic Signature

The output generated by a signature algorithm of a signature scheme.

Cryptographic Signature Scheme

A tuple of three algorithms. The key-generation algorithm takes as input a security parameter and outputs a key pair consisting of a private and a public key. The signature algorithm takes as input a private key, and a message, and outputs a cryptographic signature. The verification algorithm takes as input a public key, a message, and a signature, and outputs “valid” if the signature was generated using the signature generation algorithm with the private key of the key pair and the message as input, and “invalid” otherwise.

(Digital) Document Feature

A property of a document which can be used to verify the contents of the document. Examples are textual information such as the name of the holder, or the issuing date, or a printed image of the document holder. A digital document feature is the digitized version of a document feature.

Digital Seal

short for *Visible Digital Seal*.

Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA)

A variant of the Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) based on elliptic curve cryptography.

Machine Readable Travel Document (MRTD)

A travel document as defined in Doc 9303-1.

Machine Readable Zone (MRZ)

A fixed dimensional area on the MRTD (e.g. passport or visa) as defined in the applicable parts of Doc 9303, consisting of textual data printed in a font designed for easy Optical Character Recognition (OCR).

Master List

A Master List is a digitally signed list of the certificates that are ‘trusted’ by the Receiving State that issued the Master List (see Doc 9303-12).

Physical Document Features

Physical properties of a document that prevent forging or faking it. Examples are watermarks, holograms, or micro-printing.

Signature Scheme

See cryptographic signature scheme

(Feature) Tag

A byte that uniquely identifies a document feature. The mapping between feature tags and features must be specified in a profile.

Visa Signer (VS)

The authority that receives data from a visa personalization system and that uses a VS certificate and the corresponding private key to encode and sign a visible digital seal.

Visa Signer Certificate

A certificate containing information identifying the entity that signed a visible digital seal on a visa, and containing the public key corresponding to the private key with which the signature was created.

Visa Validation Authority (VVA)

The authority that validates a visible digital seal based on a visa based on a validation policy.

Visible Digital Seal (VDS)

A cryptographically signed data structure containing document features, encoded as a 2D bar code and printed on a document.

3 Digital Seal Encoding

A visible digital seal is a cryptographically signed data structure containing document features, encoded as a 2D bar code and printed on a document. This section gives a definition of the encoding and structure of a visible digital seal.

3.1 Bar code Format and Print Requirements

This specification defines how data are encoded into a stream of bytes. Only 2D bar codes whose symbology is specified as an ISO standard SHALL be used. ISO standardized 2D bar codes symbologies include for example DataMatrix [ISO/IEC 16022], Aztec Codes [ISO/IEC 24778], and QR Codes [ISO/IEC 18004].

The bar code SHOULD be printed in a way, that reader equipment (i.e. off-the-shelf smartphones or scanners) are capable to reliably decode the bar code; in particular [ISO/IEC 15415] SHOULD be taken into account when assessing print quality. The resulting printing and scanning quality requirements depend on the document and application scenario specific details MAY be specified in a profile. Due to the fact that the quality of printing and scanning affects error rates and influences the robustness of digital seal verification, these requirements SHOULD ensure that the bar code containing the digital seal and all mandatory document features can be reliably verified. Another important requirement addresses symbol contrast of the bar code, because the digital seal might be printed on security paper with a colored background (e.g. green).

When using standard inkjet printers, it is RECOMMENDED to print with a module size (size of one block of a 2D bar code) of at least 0.3386mm sidelength per module, corresponding to 4 dots per module sidelength (i.e. 16 dots per module) on a 300dpi printer, or 8 dots per module sidelength (i.e. 64 dots per module) on a 600 dpi printer. Smaller printing sizes MAY be acceptable, if high-resolution printers or laser-printers are used. For the placement of the bar code on the document see the respective parts of Doc 9303.

The encoded bar code consists of a header (see section 3.2), message (see section 3.3), and signature zone (see section 3.4). An overview of the structure is given in Figure 1.

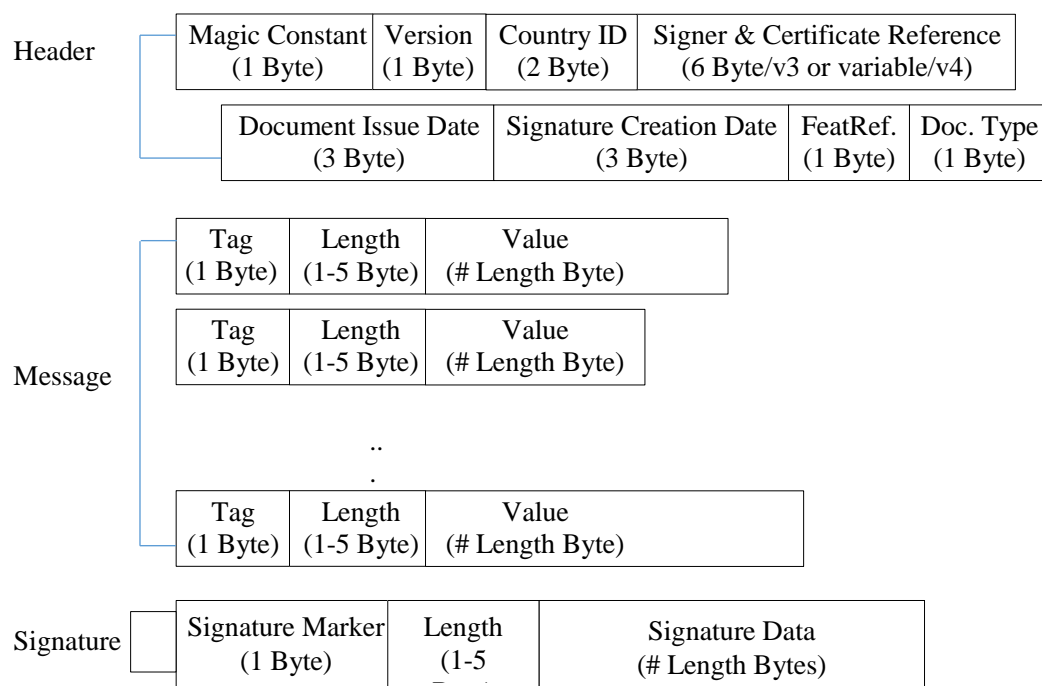


Figure 1: Digital Seal Structure

3.2 Header

The header contains meta-data about the document and the encoding, such as a version number, and document issuance and signature creation dates.

This specification defines two versions of the header, denoted by Version Identifier “3” and “4”, respectively. The versions differ in the definition of the certificate reference (see below) and the length encoding of document features (see section 3.3)

The overall length of the header is 18 bytes for version 3 and variable for version 4. A definition of the header is given in Table 1.

Signer Identifier and Certificate Reference

Due to size restrictions, it is impossible to store the certificates that contain the public key corresponding to the signature within the bar code. Therefore, the certificate **MUST** be acquired on a different channel. In order to uniquely identify the certificate and the signer that is the subject of the certificate, and to link the certificate to the bar code, a string containing the signer identifier and a reference to the certificate is stored in the header. This string consists of:

1. The *Signer Identifier*: The combination of the two letter country code according to Doc 9303-3 of the Signer’s country and of two alphanumeric characters to identify a Signer within the above defined country. The Signer Identifier **MUST** be unique for a Signer in a given country.
2. The *Certificate Reference*:
 - a. For header version 3: A hex-string of exactly five characters that **MUST** uniquely identify a certificate for a given Signer.
 - b. For header version 4: A hex-string comprising the concatenation of
 - i. exactly two characters denoting the number of following characters, and
 - ii. characters that **MUST** uniquely identify a certificate for a given Signer.

Note that for the specific use case of visas (cf. Section 5), the Signer is the *Visa Signer*.

The Certificate Reference 0 . . . 0 is reserved for testing purposes and **MUST NOT** be used in production.

The (bar code) Signer Identifier and Certificate Reference **MUST** correspond to the Subject Distinguished Name (DN) and the serial number, respectively, of a Signer Certificate (for a bar code Signer this is described as an example in detail in Section 4.3.6). Thus, the Signer Certificate can be uniquely identified upon decoding the header.

Document Feature Definition Reference and Document Type Category

The combination of the *Document Feature Definition Reference* and *Document Type Category* identifies a specific set of rules, such as this specification. Future use cases can thus reuse the same bar code and header format, but reference different feature definitions or document type categories. This allows to reuse existing codebases, simplifies implementations and increases interoperability.

Table 1: Format of the Header

Start Position	Length (Byte)	Content
0x00	1	<i>Magic Constant</i> . The magic constant has a fixed value of 0xDC identifying a bar code conforming to this specification
0x01	1	<i>Version</i> . A byte value identifying the version of this specification. The versions defined in this specification are identified by the byte value 0x02 / 0x03, respectively. The number n indicates version n+1, e.g. a value 0 indicates version 1

0x02	2	<i>Issuing Country.</i> A three letter code identifying the issuing state or organization. The three letter code is according to Doc 9303-3. If the three letter code comprises less than three letters, the code MUST be padded with filler characters ('<'), e.g. 'D' is padded to 'D<<'. The code is encoded by C40 (cf. Error! Reference source not found.) as a two-byte sequence.
0x04	6 / v	<i>Signer Identifier and Certificate Reference.</i> Version 3: A nine letter code identifying the (bar code) Signer and the certificate. Version 4: A variable length letter code identifying the (bar code) Signer and the certificate ('v' denotes the overall length of this field).
0x0A / 0x04+v	3	<i>Document Issue Date.</i> The date the document was issued.
0x0D / 0x07+v	3	<i>Signature Creation Date.</i> The date the signature was created. Encoded as defined in Section 3.3.1.
0x10 / 0x0A+v	1	<i>Document Feature Definition Reference.</i> A reference code to a document that defines the number and encoding of document features. This definition is independent for each document type category, i.e. the same document feature definition reference code may have different meanings for different document type categories. Values MUST be in the range between 01dec and 254dec.
0x11 / 0x0B+v	1	<i>Document Type Category.</i> The category of the document, e.g. (visa, emergency travel document, birth certificate, etc.). Odd numbers in the range between 01dec and 253dec SHALL be used.
Sum	18 / 12 + v	

3.3 Message Zone

Following the header is the message zone. The message zone consists of the digitally encoded document features, as specified in this Section. Any order of the document features is valid, as long as all mandatory document features are present.

Each document feature is preceded by

- a tag identifying the type of feature (one byte)
- the length of the feature (one byte to five bytes)

Depending on the Version Identifier (at start position 0x01 in the Header, cf. Table 1) two types of length encoding have to be distinguished.

- For version number 3 and below, the length MUST be directly encoded in 1 byte (this “length byte” is the 2nd byte directly after the “Tag” of the message, cf. Figure).
- For version number 4 and above, the length MUST be encoded using DER-TLV according to [X.690]

For VISA documents it is RECOMMENDED to use version number 4 (or higher) and thus DER-TLV length encoding. Usage of version number 3 (or below) and thus direct encoding of the length is valid but discouraged.

For ETD documents version number 4 (or higher) and thus DER-TLV length encoding MUST be used.

3.3.1 Digital Encoding of Document Features (Binary Encoding)

Document features are encoded in the following way. As building blocks, we consider the following basic types:

1. *Alphanumeric*: Strings of uppercase² alphanumeric characters (i.e. A-Z, 0-9 and space)
2. *Binary*: Sequences of bytes
3. *Int*: Positive Integers
4. *Date*: Dates

These basic types are converted to sequences of bytes as follows:

1. Strings of alphanumeric characters are encoded as bytes by C40 encoding (cf. **Error! Reference source not found.**).
2. Sequences of bytes are taken as they are.
3. For positive integers, their unsigned integer representation is taken.
4. A date is first converted into a positive integer by concatenating the month, the days, and the (four digit) year. This positive integer is then concatenated into a sequence of three bytes as defined in the point 3) above.

Example

Consider March 25th, 1957. Concatenating the month, date and year yields the integer 03251957, resulting in the three bytes 0x31 0x9E 0xF5.

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A digital document feature is a sequence of bytes. It has the following structure:

tag | length | value

Here *tag* is an integer in the range 0–254_{dec} acting as an unique identifier of the document feature. Note that tag 255_{dec} is reserved to denote the start of the signature. *length* consists of one to five bytes according to DER-TLV length fields encoding. *length* denotes the length of the following value. *value* is a basic type converted to a sequence of bytes.

Example

Consider a document feature that encodes the string “VISA01” with assigned tag 0x0A. The C40 encoded byte sequence (cf. Section **Error! Reference source not found.**) of length 4 is 0xDE515826. The document feature is thus the byte sequence 0x0A04DE515826.

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A specific use case must hence augment this definition by enumerating which document features must be present and which can be optionally present, define their tag values and allowed length ranges.

Additional features, i.e. features with unknown tags MAY be present, for example for optional use of the issuing entity. Such additional features MUST NOT use the tag of the additional feature field, or the tag of any other optional or mandatory feature. The presence of features with unknown tags SHALL NOT affect the validity of the bar code, if the signature is recognized as valid.

3.4 Signature Zone

The beginning of the signature zone is indicated by the signature marker that has the value 0xFF, encoded as one byte, followed by one byte to five bytes denoting the length (the number of bytes) of the signature using the DER-TLV length fields encoding scheme.

The input of the signature algorithm MUST be the (hash of the) concatenation of the header and the complete message zone, excluding the tag that denotes the beginning of the signature zone or the length of the signature. The signature zone contains the resulting signature.

² The restriction to uppercase letters is due to the limited data capacity of a bar code.

Only hashing and signature algorithms defined in Doc 9303-12 SHALL be used. Due to the resulting signature size, ECDSA with a key length of at least 256 bit in combination with SHA-256 is (at the time this document was created) RECOMMENDED.

Remark

Applying the ECDSA signature algorithm results in a pair of positive integers (r, s) . This signature MUST be stored in raw format in the seal. The bit length of r and s respectively corresponds to the key length. Thus for example for ECDSA-256, the length of r and s is at most 256 bit = 32 byte each. The signature MUST be stored by computing the unsigned integer representation of r and s , potentially adding leading zeros to fit r and s to their expected length (i.e. the key length), and appending the resulting value of s to the one of r . See **Error! Reference source not found.** for a conversion between the ASN.1 and raw format of (r, s) .

3.5 Padding

If the header, message and signature together do not fill the available space of the bar code, padding characters SHALL be appended after the signature. All relevant 2D bar code symbologies define methods for padding in their respective standard, and padding MUST follow that definition.

4 Digital Seal Usage

This section gives a generic description of the Digital Seal Usage, which applies to visa and Emergency Travel Documents. Specific requirements are defined in the corresponding profiles.

4.1 Content and Encoding Rules

4.1.1 Header

The encoding of the header for digital seals is according to Section 3.2. The value of the last 2 bytes for the *Document Feature Definition Reference* and the *Document Type Category*, depends on the specific document profile. The Document Type Category must be an odd number for ICAO profiles. Even numbers may be used for national profiles not specified by ICAO.

4.1.2 Document Features Encoded in the Digital Seal

The document feature that **MUST** be stored in the seal is the Machine Readable Zone:

The digital seal **SHALL** encode the MRZ of a document. The MRZ may be of any of the types specified in Doc 9303. However, the specific document profiles **MAY** restrict the types of permissible types of MRZs.

Each document profile **MAY** define additional **REQUIRED** and **OPTIONAL** fields.

4.1.3 Encoding Rules for Document Features

The encoding of document features depends on the *Document Feature Definition Reference* in combination with the *Document Type Category*. Specific values are defined in the corresponding document profiles.

4.2 Bar code Signer and Seal Creation

All kinds of documents can be signed by bar code Signers, which certificates are issued in a way that allows verification by CSCA certificates. Recall that CSCAs were put in place to enable verification of signatures of the data stored on eMRTDs. As a consequence, requirements applying to bar code Signer Certificates and CRLs are aligned w.r.t. Doc 9303-12. Note that the present specification defines additional requirements.

4.2.1 Architecture of the bar code Signer System

The bar code Signer receives data from a Document Personalization System to encode a digital seal, and uses a signing key to sign it. Figure Figure depicts a possible implementation of the bar code Signer and its client, the Document Personalization System.

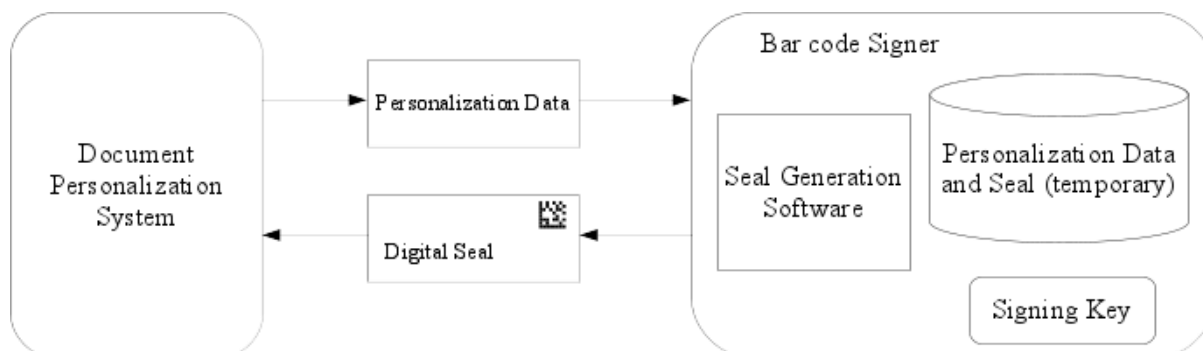


Figure 2: Document Personalization: Scenario with centralized bar code Signer

The bar code Signer relies on the following software and data:

- The *seal generation software* produces digital seals conforming to the present standard. It receives the personalization data sent by the client, signs these data with a private signing key, and encodes the personalization data and the signature to a bar code. The personalization data and the digital seal are the input and output data, respectively, of the seal generation software. This data must be stored temporarily in the bar code Signer during the generation of the seal.
- The *signature keys* (private and public key) are used to sign and verify a digital seal. The private signing key is the most critical data of the bar code Signer.

Remark

Depending on the deployment scenario, the distinction between the document personalization system and the bar code signer is not always strict. For example, the bar code signer can be part of the personalization system at an embassy. A possible scenario is extending the personalization system to include signature generation, and storing signing keys on a smartcard within an embassy. Another approach (depicted in Figure) is to set up a central bar code signer in the home country, and let embassies connect to it via a secure channel. Last, some embassies might not personalize documents themselves; then the personalization system could be also set up at the home country and integrated with the bar code signer.

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As it produces the signature, the bar code Signer is a very critical component. The signature allows to verify the integrity of the bar code data , i.e. whether the data have been manipulated, as well as their authenticity, i.e. whether they are issued by an authorized entity.

In order to achieve a sufficiently high security level, it is RECOMMENDED that the bar code Signer is a central service, and not deployed at embassies, unless operational, technical, or logistical reasons prevent a centralized deployment. This is in order to concentrate the security measures on a limited perimeter, while taking into account best practices for ensuring recoverability and business continuity. Private signature keys shall be stored securely by the bar code Signer.

4.2.2 Security of the Bar code Signing System

The Bar code Signing System SHOULD be hosted and operated according to best security practices in the following areas: physical security, server and network infrastructure, system, development and support processes, access control, and operations security. If the bar code Signer is set up as a central service, it is RECOMMENDED to ensure compliance with [ISO/IEC 27002] on the perimeter of the bar code Signer in order to ensure compliance to these best security practices.

4.3 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Certificate Profiles

4.3.1 Certificate Authorities (CAs) Hierarchy

The root-CAs of the relevant PKIs are always the CSCA of each country or international organisation issuing travel documents. The CSCA in turn issues the bar code signers used to sign visible seals.

4.3.2 Management of Signature Keys

As mentioned, the signature keys are the most critical data of the bar code Signer and as such SHALL be protected according to the best security practices:

- It is RECOMMENDED that signature keys are generated and confined in a cryptographic module or secure signature creation device according to one of [FIPS 140-2], [EN 419211], [PP-0045].
- Access to the signature keys MUST be controlled, and signing MUST be authorized solely to the seal generation software.

A bar code Signer is a specific type of signature server used to sign a unique Document Type Category, e.g. a visa. To follow the best practices in the field, it is RECOMMENDED that only a limited number of signing keys (a lower one-digit number) is used in parallel to create signatures for digital seals, unless operational requirements make a larger number of keys absolutely necessary. To ensure availability of the bar code Signer in case of a security incident related to the signing keys, it is

RECOMMENDED to have measures to ensure business continuity in place (e.g. preparation of back-up keys, backup site, etc.).

In order to facilitate the handling of the corresponding certificates (see Section 4.3.7), the number of published signature validation keys MUST be limited to five signature keys per year.

4.3.3 Key Requirements

Validity periods are as follows:

CSCA Certificates (as specified in Doc 9303-12)

Private Key Usage Time: 3 to 5 years

Certificate Validity: Private Key Usage Time + Max. of Key Lifetime (= Certificate Validity) of bar code Signer Certificates or other certificates below the CSCA – whichever is longer

bar code Signer Certificates

Private Key Usage Time: As per document profile

Certificate Validity: Private Key Usage Time + document Validity Timeframe

Example

Note: The actual validity periods used for the calculation this example do not imply any recommendations.

Suppose documents with a validity period of 5 years are issued, and the private key usage time of the bar code Signer Certificate is 1 years. Then validity of the bar code Signer Certificate is $1 + 5 = 6$ years. If the usage time of the private key of the CSCA Certificate is 3 years, then the validity of the CSCA Certificate is $3 + 6 = 9$ years.

4.3.4 Certificates

The used hash function, signature algorithm and (domain) parameters MUST be present in the SubjectPublicKeyInfo Extension of the bar code Signer Certificate (cf. Table 2).

Note: Irrespective of the algorithms and key lengths used in the bar code signers certificates, the CSCA is not restricted to ECDSA:

The bar code Signer Certificates SHALL be distributed using the CSCA-PKI, see Doc 9303-12. A general outline of this procedure is depicted in Figure Figure.

In the sections below we use the following terminology for presence requirements of each of the components/extensions in certificates:

- m mandatory – the field MUST be present
- x do not use – the field MUST NOT be populated
- o optional – the field MAY be present

For the criticality of certificate extensions we use the following terminology:

- c critical – the extension is marked critical, receiving applications MUST be able to process this extension
- nc the extension is marked non-critical, receiving applications that do not understand this extension MUST ignore it

For detailed certificate profiles, see the sections below.

4.3.5 CSCA Certificate Profile

The CSCA Certificate is defined in Doc 9303-12.

4.3.6 Bar code Signer Certificate Profile

The bar code Signer certificates MUST comply with the LDS2.0 Signer certificate profile. Since bar code Signer certificates serve a different role than LDS2.0 certificates, their profile deviates in some respects. In particular, the `subjectDN` of the bar code signer certificate contains an identifier, and the serial number is of special form. In Table 2, we list the complete body of a bar code Signer certificate.

Table 2: Bar code Signer Certificate Profile: Certificate Body

<i>Certificate Body</i>	<i>Presence</i>	<i>Remark</i>
Certificate	m	
TBSCertificate	m	see below
signatureAlgorithm	m	dependent on selected algorithm
signatureValue	m	dependent on selected algorithm
TBSCertificate		
version	m	2 (indicating version 3)
serialNumber	m	MUST be the positive integer that results from interpreting the hex-string that uniquely identifies a bar code Signer Certificate for one bar code Signer as a positive integer (see clause 3.2). leading bit MUST be zero in DER encoding (cf. Doc 9303-12).
signature	m	value inserted here MUST be the same as that in the signatureAlgorithm component of certificate sequence
issuer	m	MUST be the value of the subject DN of the CSCA certificate with which the bar code Signer certificate was signed.
validity	m	MUST terminate with Zulu (Z). The seconds element MUST be present. Dates through 2049 MUST be in UTCTime, represented as YYMMDDHHMMSSZ. Dates in 2050 and beyond MUST be in GeneralizedTime. GeneralizedTime MUST not have fractional seconds, and MUST be represented as YYYYMMDDHHMMSSZ. The validity (i.e. difference between notBefore and notAfter) MUST be according to Section 4.3.3.
subject	m	the following two MUST be present; other attributes MUST NOT be present.

<i>Certificate Body</i>	<i>Presence</i>	<i>Remark</i>
		commonName: MUST consist of <i>two uppercase characters</i> , printableString format, that uniquely define the bar code Signer within one country, and MUST match the letters 3 and 4 of the <i>Signer Identifier</i> in the bar code (see section 3.2).
		countryName: MUST consist of the two letter country code (see Doc 9303-3) of the bar code Signer, uppercase characters, printableString format, and MUST match letters 1 and 2 of the <i>Signer Identifier</i> in the bar code (see section 3.2).
subjectPublicKeyInfo	m	MUST adhere to [RFC 5280] and Doc 9303-12
issuerUniqueID	x	
subjectUniqueID	x	
extensions	m	cf. next table and Doc 9303-12 on which extensions should be present. Default values for extensions MUST NOT be encoded.

Extensions are depicted in Table 3. Other certificate extensions MUST NOT be present.

Table 3: Bar code Signer Certificate Profile: Extensions

<i>Extension Name</i>	<i>Presence</i>	<i>Criticality</i>	<i>Remark</i>
AuthorityKeyIdentifier	m	nc	
keyIdentifier	m		
authorityCertIssuer	o		
authorityCertSerialNumber	o		
DocumentType	o		This extension indicates the document type, which the bar code signer is allowed to produce (c.f. Doc 9303-12)
ExtKeyUsage	m		analogous to [LDS2.0], the EKU extension for each bar code Signer MUST be

<i>Extension Name</i>	<i>Presence</i>	<i>Criticality</i>	<i>Remark</i>
			populated as: For Digital Seal Signer Certificate the OID 2.23.136.1.1.11.1 MUST be used.

4.3.7 Certificate Publication

The bar code Signer Certificates are not contained in the digital seal itself. Hence, a country that issues documents protected with digital seals **MUST** publish all its bar code Signer Certificates. The primary distribution channel for bar code Signer Certificates is PKD/bilateral. Other mechanisms, e.g. publication on a website, are secondary channels.

Publication **MUST** adhere to the following principles:

1. As soon as a new certificate is created, it **MUST** be published with a delay of no more than 48 hours.
2. The certificates **MUST** remain published until their expiration or revocation.

4.3.8 Certificate Revocation List (CRL) and CRL Profile

Concerning the CRL of the bar code Signer Certificates, the following principles apply:

1. If a certificate has to be revoked, the corresponding CRL **MUST** be renewed and published by the issuing CSCA within 48 hours.
2. In absence of any security incident, the issuing CSCA **MUST** renew the CRL at least every 90 days.

CRLs must comply with the CRL profile defined in Doc 9303-12 and [LDS2.0].

4.3.9 Certificate Generation

The certificate generation process consists of the following steps:

- The signature key pair of the bar code Signer is generated in a cryptographic module or a secure signature creation device.
- A certificate request is created by the bar code Signer. This request contains the public key of the signature key pair of the bar code Signer that should be certified, and is signed with the private key of the bar code Signer.
- This certificate request is sent to the CSCA on a secure channel.
- The CSCA verifies the signature of the certificate request, and creates a certificate corresponding to the public key of the bar code Signer.
- The CSCA returns the certificate to the bar code Signer.
- The CSCA publishes the certificate via PKD as described in previous sections.

4.3.10 Certificate Re-Keying³

A new certificate **MUST** always contain a newly generated key pair. Re-Keying must be done when the corresponding signature keys reach the end of their signing validity period.

4.3.11 Certificate Revocation

A bar code Signer Certificate **MUST** be revoked in case of a security incident concerning the signature key. The certificate revocation of a bar code Signer Certificate is decided by the country that

³ Sometimes this is also called "Certificate Renewal". Strictly speaking, however, renewal denotes the process where a new certificate is issued while keeping the same key pair for signature creation and verification.

issues the document. The revocation of a bar code Signer certificate is done by the CSCA and published in a CRL as described in Section 4.3.8

4.3.12 Bar Code Validation Authority

The bar code Validation Authority validates a digital seal by applying a Validation Policy. Section 4.4 specifies in detail validation criteria and algorithms to generate a validation status.

Figure illustrates the functional architecture of the bar code Validation Authority. The bar code Validation Authority relies on validation software which can be deployed on any computer used by the border control authorities.

The validation software is connected with a reader that takes an image of the bar code to retrieve the bar code and the MRZ of the document, and also, an image of the document to retrieve its MRZ. To verify the validity of the signature of the digital seal, the validation software **SHOULD** be synchronized with the PKI publication point at least every 24 hours to retrieve the latest bar code Signer Certificates and CRLs.

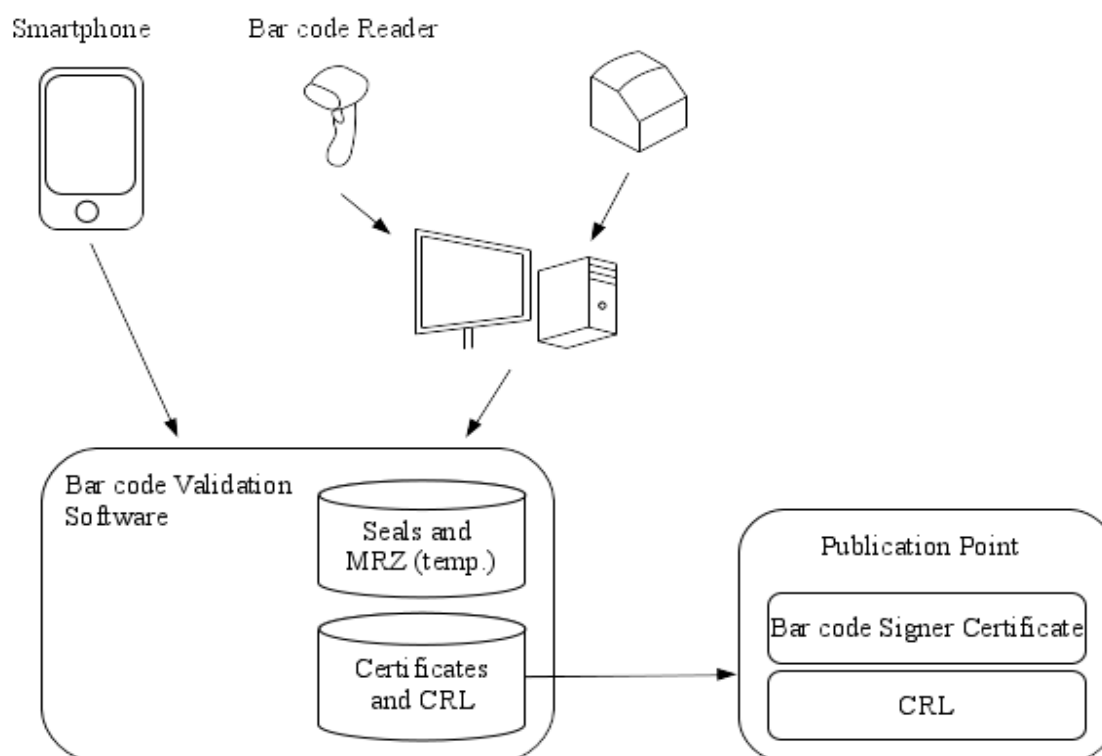


Figure 3: Bar code Validation

The bar code validation software decodes the digital seal and the MRZs of any associated documents (e.g. visa or passport), validates the signature of the digital seal, and applies a validation policy (cf. Section 4.4) to generate a validation status of the document.

In mobile scenarios, the validation software can also be directly run on a smartphone. Whereas the validity of the seal can be verified by the software on the smartphone, the comparison between the (signed) data inside the seal and the printed MRZs (e.g. of the visa or passport) **MUST** be done either manually, or by OCR of the MRZs out of the captured image, the latter being often a challenging problem in practice.

The following data are processed by the bar code validation software:

- Input data provided by readers, e.g. the images of visas or passports
- Certificates and CRLs

4.4 Validation Policy Rules (Informative)

The Validation Policy is a set of validation rules that allow to determine the validity of the seal on the document. The application of this Validation Policy outputs a status indication with one of the following values:

1. *VALID*. The seal's authenticity and integrity has been confirmed. Here authenticity means that the data in the seal were indeed signed by a bar code Signer of the issuing country of the document, and the corresponding bar code Signer Certificate is valid. Integrity means that the data of the MRZ of the sealed document were not modified, and the digital seal was not swapped from the document on which it was originally attached to.
2. *INVALID*. The seal is not recognised valid, and further investigation is needed. Invalidity may occur due to the following three reasons:
 - a) *Fraud/Forgery*. This includes unauthorized personalization of a document, based on a stolen blank sticker, changes of the personalization data of a document based on an original sticker, or swapping a bar code sticker from a stolen document (e.g. passport) to another one, or other falsifications.
 - b) *Damage/Tear*. The bar code cannot be decoded due to wear, tear or stains.
 - c) *Unknown and/or Unexpected Errors*. This includes unpredictable errors, for example due to bugs in the software implementation used for decoding, or erroneous encoding during personalization.

Attached to the status indication *INVALID* are status sub-indications. These indicate the reasons for the invalidity of the seal. Since the chance of a fraud is dependent on these reasons, it is **RECOMMENDED** to map the status indications and sub-indications to the three trust levels “trustable”, “medium fraud potential”, and “high fraud potential”. The recommended mapping is illustrated in Table 4.

This generic Validation Policy always considers the following questions:

1. Is the visible digital seal valid?
2. Is the MRZ of the document valid?
3. Does the MRZ of the document match with the visible digital seal?

Below we give the validation rules for each type of control, list the validation criteria, expected results for each criteria, and resulting status sub-indications.

Visible Digital Seal Validation

1. Format Validation
 - if the physical encoding format is not compliant with the specification, or if errors due to physical noise cannot be corrected, the status is *INVALID* with sub-indication *READ_ERROR*
 - if the encoding format (i.e. the seal structures consisting of header, message zone and signature zone, or the binary/C40 encoding) is not compliant with the specification, or
 - if values expected in the header are unknown, or
 - if a mandatory field in the message zone is missing, or
 - if the format of a field in the message zone is not compliant with the specification of the version defined in the header, then the status is *INVALID* with sub-indication *WRONG_FORMAT*, otherwise continue.
 - if an unknown field is present in the message zone, then the sub-indication *UNKNOWN_FEATURE* should be set. The status indication will be *VALID* or *INVALID* depending on the validity of the signature verified in the steps below. Note that if the signature is valid, the presence of an unknown feature alone **MUST NOT** violate the validity of the seal however.

2. Signature Validation

- if the bar code Signer Certificate referenced in the header of the seal is not present, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **UNKNOWN_CERTIFICATE**.
- if the bar code Signer Certificate referenced in the header of the seal was not signed by the CSCA, or the signature verification fails, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **UNTRUSTED_CERTIFICATE**
- if the bar code Signer Certificate contains a DocumentType-Extension and the content of the bar code contains a MRZ, and the document type of the MRZ is not contained in the DocumentType-Extension, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **INVALID_DOCUMENTTYPE**
- if the bar code Signer Certificate referenced in the header of the seal is expired, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **EXPIRED_CERTIFICATE**
- if the bar code Signer Certificate referenced in the header of the seal is revoked, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **REVOKED_CERTIFICATE**
- if the signature verification of the header and message zone using the bar code Signer Certificate referenced in the header of the seal fails, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **INVALID_SIGNATURE**
- otherwise continue

3. Issuer Validation

- if the CSCA is not trusted by the bar code Validation System on its trust domain, the status is **INVALID** with sub-indication **UNTRUSTED_CERTIFICATE**, otherwise continue.

The above validation rules cover a comparison of the data stored in the seal against data stored on the MRZ of the document. On top of that, a manual inspection of those data that are stored in the seal and printed on the document, but are not present in the MRZ of the documents, could be conducted.

Table 4: Recommended Trust Levels of the Document Policy

<i>Status Indication</i>	<i>Sub Status Indication</i>	<i>Trust Level</i>
VALID	-	<i>trustable</i>
	UNKNOWN_FEATURE	
INVALID	READ_ERROR	<i>medium fraud potential</i>
	EXPIRED_CERTIFICATE	
	WRONG_FORMAT	<i>high fraud potential</i>
	UNKNOWN_CERTIFICATE	
	UNTRUSTED_CERTIFICATE	
	INVALID_DOCUMENTTYPE	
	REVOKED_CERTIFICATE	
INVALID_SIGNATURE		

5 Digital Seals for Visa Documents

5.1 Content and Encoding Rules

5.1.1 Header

The *Document Feature Definition Reference* for this use-case is 93dec.

The *Document Type Category* for Visas is 0x01.

Otherwise, the content of the header is the same as defined in Section 4.1.1.

5.1.2 Document Features of a VDS for Visas

The following document features are stored in the seal:

Machine Readable Zone (REQUIRED)

The Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of a visa contains the following information (see Doc 9303-7):

- issuing state
- surname and first name of the document holder
- passport or visa number
- nationality of the document holder
- date of birth of the document holder
- sex of the document holder
- validity period (valid until ...)

Some countries may not issue paper based visas according to Doc 9303-7, but instead use a domestic database to store visa applications, and merely attach a confirmation sticker to the passport. If such countries choose to adopt this standard for such stickers, the above information SHALL be encoded as either the MRZ of an MRV-A or MRV-B.

Additionally, the following document features are stored:

Number of Entries (OPTIONAL)

The number of times the visa holder may enter the territory for which the visa is valid.

Duration of Stay (REQUIRED)

This feature denotes the number of days, months or years during which the visa holder may stay in the territory for which the visa is valid. Note that this is distinct from the valid-until date of the MRZ, which is already stored in the Visa-MRZ: First, in Doc 9303-7 it is remarked that *in most cases this [Valid-Until field of the Visa-MRZ] will be the date of expiry of the MRV and indicates the last day on which the visa can be used to seek entry. For some States this will be the date by or on which the holder should have left.* Second, for some issuing countries the stay must be continuous, and for others, the stay can spread over several periods. Thus, to avoid ambiguity during validation, the feature for the duration of stay is required.

Passport Number (REQUIRED)

This feature denotes the number of the passport to which the visa sticker is attached. The passport number might already be present in the MRZ: In Doc 9303-7 it is remarked that *at the discretion of the issuing State, either the passport number or the visa number SHALL be used in this field [document number field of the Visa-MRZ]; however, the latter option can only be exercised where the visa number has 9 characters or fewer.* To avoid ambiguity during validation, the field for the passport number (separate from the MRZ) is required.

Visa Type (OPTIONAL)

This feature encodes the type of the visa. The field is especially intended to be used, if the type of the visa is not encoded as the second letter of the MRZ.

Additional Feature Field (OPTIONAL)

Reserved for future use. This field is OPTIONAL, and intended to store additional verification information in future versions of this standard.

5.1.3 Encoding Rules for Document Features

In the following, the digital encoding of document features of the visa seal is defined.

MRZ of Machine-Readable Visa of Type A (MRV-A, see Doc 9303-7)

Tag: 0x01

Min. Length: 48 Byte

Max. Length: 48 Byte

Value Type: Alphanumeric

Required: Required (if visa is of type MRV-A)

Content: The first line of the MRZ of an MRV-A (44 chars.) and the first 28 chars. of the second line of the MRZ of an MVR-A, concatenated and encoded by C40. The filler symbol < in the MRZ is replaced by <SPACE> prior to encoding by C40.

MRZ of Machine-Readable Visa of Type B (MRV-B, see Doc 9303-7)

Tag: 0x02

Min. Length: 44 Byte

Max. Length: 44 Byte

Value Type: Alphanumeric

Required: Required (if visa is of type MRV-B)

Content: The first line of the MRZ of an MRV-B (36 chars.) and the first 28 chars. of the second line of the MRZ of an MVR-B, concatenated and encoded by C40. The filler symbol < in the MRZ is replaced by <SPACE> prior to encoding by C40.

Number of Entries

Tag: 0x03

Min. Length: 1 Byte

Max. Length: 1 Byte

Value Type: Integer

Required: Optional

Content: The integer in the range of 0-255dec encodes the number of allowed entries. A value of 0 denotes unlimited entries.

Duration of Stay

Tag: 0x04

Min. Length: 3 Byte

Max. Length: 3 Byte

Value Type: Integer

Required: Mandatory

Content: The duration of stay is encoded as specified in Table 5.

Passport Number

Tag: 0x05

Min. Length: 6 Byte

Max. Length: 6 Byte

Value Type: Alphanumeric

Required: Mandatory

Content: The passport number of the passport of the applicant on which the visa sticker is attached.

Table 5: Encoding for the Duration of Stay

Integer Values of			Meaning
Byte 1	Byte 2	Byte 3	
0	0	0	The <i>valid-until</i> field of the MRZ denotes the last day on which the visa holder may stay in the country for which the visa was issued.
255	255	255	The <i>valid-until</i> field of the MRZ denotes the last day on which the visa holder may seek entry at the border for which the visa was issued. The duration of stay is determined by the authorities at the time of entry at the border.
number of days	number of month	number of years	The duration of stay is the sum of the number of days, the number of month, and the number of years, calculated from the time on which the visa holder enters the country for which the visa was issued. The <i>valid-until</i> field of the MRZ denotes the last day on which the visa-holder may seek entry. The triples (0,0,0) and (255,255,255), are reserved and, as seen above, MUST NOT be used in this case.

Visa Type

Tag: 0x06

Min. Length: 1 Byte

Max. Length: 4 Byte

Value Type: Binary

Required: Optional

Content: The visa type is encoded as a binary sequence.

Additional Feature

Tag: 0x07

Min. Length: 0 Byte

Max. Length: 254 Byte

Value Type: Binary

Required: Optional

Content: Reserved for future use by ICAO.

5.2 Visa Signer and Seal Creation

W.r.t. this Visa profile, Visa Signer Certificates are issued in a way that allows verification by CSCA certificates. A possible architecture and implementation for the Visa signer and its client is described in Section 4.2.1. For the security of the Visa signing system, see Section 4.2.2

5.3 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Certificate Profiles

In general the requirements from Section 4.3 apply. The following deviations apply due to the specific characteristics and properties of Visa documents.

Visa specific validity periods are as follows:

Private Key Usage Time for Visa signer certificates: 1 to 2 years

5.4 Validation Policy Rules (Informative)

For the validation policy of digital seals on visas, all rules from Section 4.4 are valid. In addition the following rules to determine the validity of the digital seal apply.

In addition to the generic document Validation Policy the policy for Visas considers the following questions:

1. Is the MRZ of the passport valid?
2. Does the MRZ of the passport match with the MRZ of the visa?

Below we give the additional Visa specific validation rules for each type of control, list the validation criteria, expected results for each criteria, and resulting status sub-indications.

Visible Digital Seal Validation

1. Visa-MRZ Validation
 - if the checksums of the visa MRZ are not compliant with the applicable norm – dependent on the visa type – then the status is INVALID with sub-indication INVALID_VISA_MRZ
 - if there is a mismatch between a field of the Visa MRZ and the corresponding document feature stored within the seal, then the status is INVALID with SEAL_VISA_MISMATCH. Additional information on the mismatch SHOULD be provided. Otherwise, continue.
2. Passport MRZ Validation
 - if the checksums of the passport MRZ are not compliant with the applicable norm – dependent on the passport type – then the status is INVALID with sub-indication INVALID_PASSPORT_MRZ. Otherwise continue.
3. Passport-link Validation
 - If any of the fields of the passport MRZ listed as follows do not correspond to their equivalent feature stored in the digital seal, then the status is INVALID with sub-indication SEAL_PASSPORT_MISMATCH. The MRZ fields of the passport are: 1.) passport number and 2.) passport issuing country. Otherwise if all fields match, the status of the Visible Seal is VALID.

The generic and Visa specific validation rules cover a comparison of the data stored in the seal against data stored on the MRZ of the visa and the passport. On top of that, a manual inspection of those data that are stored in the seal and printed on the visa, but are not present in the MRZ of the visas, could be conducted.

Table 6: Recommended Trust Levels of the Visa Policy for Visa specific sub status indications

Status Indication	Sub Status Indication	Trust Level
INVALID	INVALID_VISA_MRZ	<i>high fraud potential</i>
	SEAL_VISA_MISMATCH	
	INVALID_PASSPORT_MRZ	
	SEAL_PASSPORT_MISMATCH	

6 Digital Seals for Emergency Travel Documents

This section specifies the profile for digital seals in Emergency Travel Documents (ETDs). Considering the ETDs limited security level compared to eMRTDs, they are being targeted by potential fraudsters. Digital seals are means to ensure the integrity and authenticity of ETD data in situations where it is not possible to issue a standard full validity passport or other regular travel documents. A worked example for the MRZ of an ETD is described in chapter 8.

6.1 Content and Encoding Rules

6.1.1 Header

The *Document Feature Definition Reference* for this use-case is 0x5E.

The *Document Type Category* for ETDs is 0x03.

Otherwise, the content of the header is the same as defined in Section 4.1.1.

6.1.2 Document Features of a digital seal for ETDs

For the document feature set including only the MRZ as below, the *Document Feature Definition Reference* value is 94dec.

Machine Readable Zone (REQUIRED)

Basic Information are encoded using a Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of a TD2-Format MROTD, see Doc 9303-6. The MRZ of ETDs contains the following information:

- document code
- issuing state or organization
- surname and first name of the document holder
- document number
- nationality of the document holder
- date of birth of the document holder
- sex of the document holder
- date of expiry

Additional Document Features (Future use)

In future versions of this specification additional (OPTIONAL and/or REQUIRED) feature fields may be defined. In case additional fields are present, a new unique Document Feature Definition Reference MUST be assigned for each combined set of OPTIONAL and REQUIRED feature fields.

6.1.3 Encoding Rules for Document Features

In the following, the digital encoding of document features of the ETD seal is defined.

MRZ (TD2-Type Doc 9303, Part 6: Specifications for TD2 Size Machine Readable Official Travel Documents (MROTDs), Seventh Edition, 2015.)

Tag: 0x02

Min. Length: 48 Byte

Max. Length: 48 Byte

Value Type: Alphanumeric

Required: Required

Content: The first line and second line of the MRZ of a TD2-MROTD (2*36 chars.).
The filler symbol < in the MRZ is replaced by <SPACE> prior to encoding by C40.

6.1.4 Signature

Appropriate key lengths offering protection against attacks SHALL be chosen for the hashing and signature algorithms. Suitable cryptographic catalogues SHOULD be taken into account.

6.2 Bar Code Signer and Seal Creation

A possible architecture and implementation for the ETD signer and its client is described in Section 4.2.1. For the security of the ETD signing system, see Section 4.2.2

6.3 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Certificate Profiles

For the ETD the requirements which are mentioned in section 4.3 apply. The following deviations are given for the specific ETD profile:

6.3.1 Key Requirements (Validity Period)

ETD-Signer Certificates

Private Key Usage Time: 1 year + 2 month (the 2 month are meant for smooth roll-over)

Certificate Validity: Private Key Usage Time + ETD Validity Timeframe

6.4 Validation Policy Rules (Informative)

The Validation Policy Rules of section 4.4 apply. In addition to these rules, there are further validation rules for the ETD which are described in the following paragraphs:

In addition to the generic document Validation Policy the policy for ETDs considers the following questions:

1. Is the MRZ printed on the ETD valid?
2. Does the MRZ of the ETD match with the MRZ stored in the digital seal?

Further validation steps (e.g. utilizing additionally encoded data) are out of scope of this profile. Below we give ETD specific validation rules for each type of control, list the validation criteria, expected results for each criteria, and resulting status sub-indications.

Visible Digital Seal Validation

1. Format Validation
2. Digital Seal MRZ Validation
 - if the checksums of the MRZ stored in the seal are not compliant/valid then the status is INVALID with sub-indication INVALID_SEAL_MRZ

If all checks above do not result in INVALID and the reader is not capable of OCRing the printed MRZ, the status is VALID. If the reader is capable of OCRing the printed MRZ, the next checks MUST be conducted:

3. Printed MRZ Validation (depending on reader capability)
 - if the checksums of the OCRed, printed MRZ are not compliant/valid then the status is INVALID with sub-indication INVALID_PRINTED_MRZ
 - if the checksums of the OCRed, printed MRZ is compliant/valid then compare the printed MRZ character by character with the MRZ stored in the seal (note that for storing the MRZ in the seal, the filler character '<' is replaced by <SPACE>, [Editor's note: The previous reference to Section 1.2.3 is no longer applicable, thus it was removed.], cf.

Error! Reference source not found.) If any characters mismatch, then the status is INVALID with sub-indication SEAL_DOCUMENT_MISMATCH.

- Otherwise, the result is VALID.

The above step covers a comparison of the data stored in the seal against data stored on the MRZ of the document. If an automatic check is impossible since the printed data of the document cannot be OCRed during validation, a manual inspection should be conducted by comparing the printed MRZ with the one stored in the (valid) seal.

Table 7: Trust Levels of the ETD Policy

Status Indication	Sub Status Indication	Trust Level
INVALID	INVALID_SEAL_MRZ	<i>high fraud potential</i>
	INVALID_PRINTED_MRZ	
	SEAL_DOCUMENT_MISMATCH	

7 Worked Example (Visa Document)

The following example shows a visible digital seal that results from encoding the data shown in Table 9. To generate the signature, ECDSA-256 with the curve brainpoolP256r1 was used. The domain parameters of brainpoolP256r1 and the private key encoded as Base64 are:

```
-----BEGIN EC PARAMETERS-----
MIHgAgEBMCwGByqGSM49AQECIQCP+1fboe6pvD5mCpCdg41ybjv2I9UmICggE0gd
H25TdZBEB9Wgl1/CwwV+72dTBBev/n+4BVwSbcXGzpSktE8zC12QQgJtxcb0lK
S0TzMLXZu9d8v5WEF1lc9+HOa8zcGP+MB7YEQQSL0q65y35XyyxLSC/8gbevud4n
4e09I8I6RFO9ms4yYlR++DXD2sT9l/hGGhRhHcnCd0UTLe2OVFwdVMcvBGmXAiEA
qftX26Huqbw+ZgqQnYONcYw5eq01Yab3kB40gpdIVqcCAQE=
-----END EC PARAMETERS-----
-----BEGIN EC PRIVATE KEY-----
MIIBUQIBAQQgNN2C+Njrq+F9bmAQ5FEgW/GCdul78V+XgV9h+dMyw7eggeMwgeAC
AQEwLAYHKoZiZj0BAQIhAKn7V9uh7qm8PmYKkJ2DjXJuO/Yj1SYgKCATSB0fb1N3
MEQEIH1aCXX8LDBX7vZ1MEF6/+f7gFXBJtxcb0lKS0TzMLXZBCAm3Fxs6UpLRPMw
tdm713y/1YQWKVz34c5rzNwY/4wHtgRBBivSrrnLflfLLEtIL/yBt6+53ifh470j
wjpeU72azjJiVH74NcPaxP2X+EYafGEedycJ3RRMt7Y5UXB1Uxy8EazcCIQCp+1fb
oe6pvD5mCpCdg41xjDl6o7VhpveQHg6Cl0hWpwIBAAFEA0IABB1CQwfc2PkvPYKu
gQ3qA0tqEhzH0ox4M9c0q8ajzKotHG2jrwliUHaemRad0qG1pltdHgZOC59HwI0P
yLNvXHc=
-----END EC PRIVATE KEY-----
```

Encoding input data yields a byte stream, which are both depicted in Table 9. Hashing the header (cf. Table 8) and message with SHA-256 and signing them with the above private key gave the following signature (r, s) :

```
r: 56BCBFEDFD2DC884247426A240A7068D32B37C6CE370AEEAB62B548B5FCC16FA
s: 6A098CA74CB22559435FD4DBDE709B45F6FC4C850DA421A6E75CD05A88707CBB
```

For the sake of completeness, the signature as DER encoded ASN.1:

```
3044022056bcbfedfd2dc884247426a240a7068d32b37c6ce370aeeab62b
548b5fcc16fa02206a098ca74cb22559435fd4dbde709b45f6fc4c850da4
21a6e75cd05a88707cbb
```

Table 8: Header of Example

Header Field	Content	Hex Dump
<i>Magic Constant</i>	0xDC	dc
<i>Version</i>	3dec	03
<i>Issuing Country</i>	UTO	d9c5
<i>Certificate Authority and Certificate Reference</i>	DE01FFAFF	6d15224c5a8c
<i>Document Issue Date</i>	25th of March, 2007	319f27
<i>Signature Creation Date</i>	26th of March, 2007	31c637
<i>Document Feature Definition Reference</i>	93dec	5d
<i>Document Type Category</i>	1dec	01

8 Emergency Travel Document (Worked Example)

The following example shows a digital visible seal that results from encoding of data shown in table 11. To generate the signature ECDSA256 with the curve brainpool256r1 must be used. This example only contains the header and data of the document. Table 10 describes the 18 Byte length header of the ETD with the input data (MRZ of type TD2) below.

Table 10: Header of Example of an ETD

Header Field	Content	Hex Dump
<i>Magic Constant</i>	0xDC	dc
<i>Version</i>	3dec	03
<i>Issuing Country</i>	UTO	d9c5
<i>Certificate Authority and Certificate Reference</i>	UT01FFAFF	d9ad224c5a8c
<i>Document Issue Date</i>	08th of August, 2016	7b5260
<i>Signature Creation Date</i>	09th of August, 2007	7b7967
<i>Document Feature Definition Reference</i>	94dec	5e
<i>Document Type Category</i>	3dec	03

The Input data for seal generation is mentioned in table 11 and contains the MRZ of TD2 format. The following minimal input data are used:

Table 11: Message Zone of Example of an ETD

Message Field	Content	Hex Dump		
		Tag	Length	Value
MRZ (TD2)	First full line (36 characters):	02	30	8a1bd2b3c549
	I<UTOERIKSSON<<ANNA<MARIA< <<<<<<<<<<<<<<			cd1da93c5bd458135c6f57fc 133c133c133c 6b38208a4d0d
	Second full line (36 characters):			4a32b0c11ae6
	D231458907UTO7408122F1204159<< <<<<<<6			2684203532d251bc133c1343

9 References

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A: Exemplary Use Case (Informative)

This section gives a general overview of using a digital seal to protect a non-electronic document. The specific use case considered here is the protection of a visa document, and depicted in Figure Figure. Whereas technical details may vary for other use cases, the same general principles apply. The general workflow can be separated into three steps. As a prerequisite, Visa Signer Certificates (VSC's) have to be generated. Next, digital seals are generated, and then later validated.

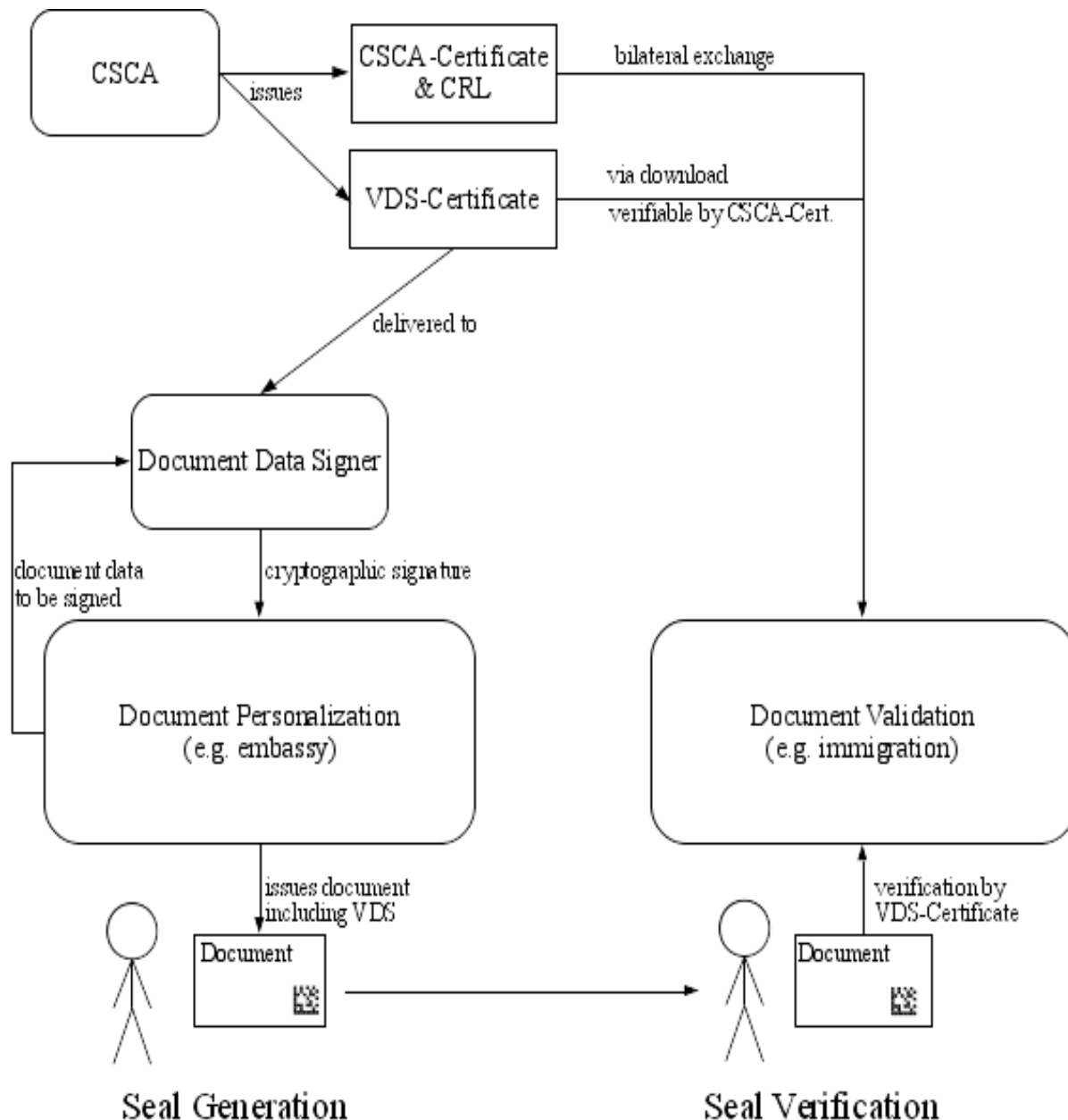


Figure 4: Exemplary VDS Use Case

Prerequisite: Visa Signer Certificate Generation

The visa signing PKI is based upon the PKI set up for electronic passports defined by ICAO. At the root is the Country Signing Certificate Authority (CSCA) of each country. The CSCA publishes a CSCA-Certificate containing the public key of the CSCA. To enable trust between countries, this CSCA-Certificate is distributed in a trustworthy manner via bilateral exchange, or via master lists.

The Visa Signer is the entity that actually signs digital seals. Visa signer certificates are issued by the CSCA and can therefore be verified by the CSCA-Certificate

Digital Seal Generation

A digital seal is generated in two steps:

1. An applicant applies for a visa at the embassy where he resides. The embassy records the applicant's data and checks whether the applicant meets the requirements to receive a visa. If the requirements are fulfilled, the embassy sends a digital representation of the recorded data to the Visa Signer (VS). The VS can either be (1) a central entity located in the country that issues the visa, and the embassy connects to the VS via a secure channel, or (2) the VSs are decentralized entities placed at each embassy, for example using smartcards containing cryptographic keys that are directly attached to the personalization system. In any way, the VS cryptographically signs the recorded data.
2. For signing, the Visa Signer uses a key pair of a private key and a public key. The actual signing is done with the private key, whereas the public key is stored in a Visa Signer Certificate. The resulting signature is sent back to the Visa Personalization System if the Visa Signer is not a local part of the personalization system, printed on the visa sticker, and the visa sticker is attached to the applicant's passport.

Digital Seal Validation

When the applicant enters the issuing country, he presents his visa to a Visa Validation Authority (VVA), e.g. the immigration control of the issuing country. The VVA verifies the authenticity and integrity of the digital seal on the visa by validating the signature of the seal, and comparing the printed information on the visa sticker and on the passport with the digital information stored in the seal. The signature of the seal is verified by identifying the corresponding VS-Certificate with the help of the identifier stored in the header of the digital seal, and then using the public key of the VS-Certificate. As described in the previous paragraphs, the validity of the VS-Certificate itself can be verified by the CSCA-Certificate.

Remark

Since all certificates are publicly available, the validity of the visa can be verified by *any* third party, not just by the issuing state. The approach can thus handle use cases for unions of countries, where one country issues a visa for another country (as is done for example in the European Union). Another use case is verification of visas by airlines prior to boarding a plane.

Remark

The criteria to determine if a visa document can be trusted or not based on the digital seal and the MRZs of the visa and the passport are defined in a validation policy (see Section 4.4).

Annex B: Conversion of ECDSA Signature Formats (Informative)

Integer Encoding in DER/BER.

Integers are encoded according to both the Basic Encoding Rules (BER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) as the signed big endian encoding of minimal length, after which Tag-Length-Value (TLV) scheme is applied. We distinguish the following cases:

1. Suppose the integer value is positive, and the most significant bit (MSB) is zero in the minimal unsigned integer representation. Then the unsigned integer representation has the form below, which is the BER/DER value.

$$|0\text{bbbbbbb}| \dots$$

2. Suppose the integer value is positive, and the MSB is one in the minimal unsigned integer representation, i.e. has the form $|1\text{bbbbbbb}| \dots$. Then a byte containing zeros is put in front and the BER/DER value is

$$|00000000|1\text{bbbbbbb}| \dots$$

3. Suppose the integer value is negative. Then that value is encoded as the two's complement, for example by taking the unsigned minimal integer representation, inverting, and adding one. Afterwards the MSB is set to one. For example for -25357 we have the unsigned minimal integer representation

$$|0110\ 0011|0000\ 1101|$$

This is inverted to

$$|1001\ 1100|1111\ 0010|$$

One is added

$$|1001\ 1100|1111\ 0011|$$

and results in the BER/DER value. Note that the fact that the number is negative can be directly inferred by the fact that the MSB (here leftmost) is one.

Finally, one yields a TLV value by putting two bytes in front of the above encoded BER/DER values. The first byte is the tag with the constant 0×02 . The second byte contains the length (i.e. number of bytes) of the following encoded BER/DER value. Decoding can be simply done by e.g. distinguishing according to the MSB whether a negative or positive integer is encoded, and applying the above steps in reverse.

Example

Table 12 gives some examples of DER/BER encoded integers.

#

Table 12: DER/BER encoding examples for some integer values.

Value (dec)	Tag (hex)	Length (hex)	Value (hex)	Value (binary)
0	0x02	0x01	0x00	00000000
127	0x02	0x01	0x7F	01111111
128	0x02	0x02	0x00 0x80	00000000 10000000
-129	0x02	0x02	0xFF 0x7F	11111111 01111111

ECDSA signatures in ASN.1/DER

The ASN.1 description of an ECDSA signature is

```
Signature ::= SEQUENCE {
    r INTEGER, s INTEGER
}
```

This sequence is encoded according to DER as a TLV triple with tag 0x30, the length as the number of bytes of the following value, and the value as the concatenation of the TLV triples of the encoding of r appended with the encoding of s .

Two example sequences – integers r and s of an ECDSA signature are of course much larger in practice – are given in Table 13.

Table 13: DER encoded sequences of two integers

Integers		TLV of Sequence				
R	S	Tag	Length	Value		
127	1	0x30	0x06	0x02	0x01	0x7F 0x02 0x01 0x01
128	127	0x30	0x07	0x02	0x02	0x00 0x80 0x02 0x01 0x7F

Note that r and s are always positive integers for an ECDSA signature. Therefore to convert from a raw signature to DER, one has to first split the raw signature in half to get r and s individually, and then encode them as a DER encoded ASN.1 sequence according to the definition above. Conversely, to decode from an ECDSA signature in DER, one has to first decode the sequence, extract the unsigned integer representation of r and s and set both r and s to a fixed length (= length of key size) representation by stripping or adding leading zero bytes if required (e.g. in the case of ECDSA-256 both r and s must have a length of 256 bit = 32 byte), and appending the value resulting from s to the value resulting from r .

Annex C: C40 Encoding of Strings (Normative)

In order to save space in encoding alphanumeric characters and the filler symbol <, the encoding scheme C40 is used, as defined in [ISO/IEC 16022]. In the following we define how these definitions are used in the current setting. The following two definitions apply for document features and their digital encoding:

1. Strings consist only of upper case letters, numbers, <SPACE>, and the symbol '<'. The latter is used as a filler symbol for the MRZ of travel documents. If '<' occurs in the string, all occurrences of '<' are replaced by <SPACE> before encoding. A string **MUST NOT** contain any other symbols.
2. Given a string of length L, the length (i.e. the number of bytes) of the corresponding digital encoding is the least even number, that is larger or equal to L.

In the following calculations, we implicitly convert between a byte value and the corresponding unsigned integer equivalent. For example we define the value of a byte by a formula consisting of integer arithmetic on integer values.

Encoding

Encoding a string of characters into a sequence of bytes works as follows: First, the string is grouped into tuples of three characters, and each character is replaced with the corresponding C40 value according to Table 16, resulting in a triple (U1, U2, U3). Then for each triple, the value

$$U = (1600 * U1) + (40 * U2) + U3 + 1$$

is computed. The result is in the range from 1 to 64000, giving an unsigned 16 bit integer value. This 16 bit value I16 is packed into two bytes by

$$\text{Byte 1} = (I16) \text{ div } 256$$

$$\text{Byte 2} = (I16) \text{ mod } 256$$

Here div denotes integer division (no remainder), and mod denotes the modulo operation. Note that these operations can be implemented by bit-shifting.

Decoding

The encoding can be easily inverted. Given a pair of bytes, let (I1, I2) denote their unsigned integer values. The 16 bit value I16 is recalculated as

$$V16 = (I1 * 256) + I2$$

The triple (U1, U2, U3) can be recomputed by

$$U1 = (V16 - 1) \text{ div } 1600$$

$$U2 = (V16 - (U1*1600) - 1) \text{ div } 40$$

$$U3 = V16 - (U1*1600) - (U2*40) - 1$$

Here again, div denotes integer division. Characters can be decoded from the triple (U1, U2, U3) by simply looking up the corresponding values in Table 16.

Padding

The above definition is only well defined, if the length of the string to be encoded is a multiple of three. Akin to the padding-definitions given in [ISO/IEC 16022], the following padding rules apply:

1. If two C40 (=two characters) values remain at the end of a string, these two C40 values are completed into a triple with the C40 value 0 (Shift 1). The triple is encoded as defined above.

2. If one C40 value (=one character) remains, then the first byte has the value 254_{dec} (0xFE). The second byte is the value of the ASCII encoding scheme of DataMatrix of the character corresponding to the C40 value. Note that the ASCII encoding scheme in DataMatrix for an ASCII character in the range 0-127 is the ASCII character plus 1.

Example 1

Suppose the string “XK<CD” is to be encoded. By definition, all occurrences of '<' are replaced by <SPACE> before encoding. The resulting string is thus “XK CD”, i.e. “XK<SPACE>CD” (one space inserted). The C40 encoding/decoding of the string “XK<SPACE>CD” is depicted in Table 14.

#

Example 2

Suppose the “XKCD” is to be encoded. The string solely consists of uppercase letters. Its C40 encoding/decoding is depicted in Table 15.

#

Table 14: Encoding/Decoding example for the string “XK<SPACE>CD”.

Operation	Result			
original string	“XK<SPACE>CD”			
grouping into triples	(X, K, <SPACE>)		(C, D,)	
replacing with C40 values and padding	(37, 24, 3)		(16, 17, padding)	
calculating the 16 bit integer value	60164		26281	
	Byte 1 (div)	Byte 2 (mod)	Byte 1 (div)	Byte 2 (mod)
resulting byte sequence (decimal)	235	4	102	169
resulting byte sequence (hex)	0xEB	0x04	0x66	0xA9

Table 15: Encoding/Decoding example for the string “XKCD”.

Operation	Result			
original string	“XKCD”			
grouping into triples	(X, K, C)		(D, ,)	
replacing with C40 values and padding	(37, 24, 16)		(unlatch C40 and encode in ASCII)	
calculating the 16 bit integer value	60177			
	Byte 1 (div)	Byte 2 (mod)	Byte 1	Byte 2
resulting byte sequence (decimal)	235	11	254	69
resulting byte sequence (hex)	0xEB	0x11	0xFE	0x45

Table 16: C40 Encoding chart and correspondence to ASCII.

C40 Value	Character	ASCII Value	C40 Value	Character	ASCII Value
0	Shift 1	n/a	20	G	71
1	Shift 2	n/a	21	H	72
2	Shift 3	n/a	22	I	73
3	<SPACE>	32	23	J	74
4	0	48	24	K	75
5	1	49	25	L	76
6	2	50	26	M	77
7	3	51	27	N	78
8	4	52	28	O	79
9	5	53	29	P	80
10	6	54	30	Q	81
11	7	55	31	R	82
12	8	56	32	S	83
13	9	57	33	T	84
14	A	65	34	U	85
15	B	66	35	V	86
16	C	67	36	W	87
17	D	68	37	X	88
18	E	69	38	Y	89
19	F	70	39	Z	90