



Cotecna has developed a state of the art solution to issue secured e-documents that are fully compliant with eUCP600 requirements. The E-dox solution enables the transmission of e-certificates by e-mail instead of paper certificates that are usually sent physically by special couriers, thus speeding up the reception of such documents.

E-dox is:

- **Electronically signed**
- **Based on the most advanced encryption technology**
- **Fully compliant with eUCP600**
- **Easy to handle and circulate**
- **Simple to authenticate: from anywhere at anytime**

The E-dox system was developed to transform a certificate or any other document into a secure e-document. It was created following requests from clients for “e-certificates”, but can secure any other type of document that is issued, signed and transmitted to clients by Cotecna. These e-documents are sent to clients by email as a standard attachment. The e-documents are electronically signed by the authorized signatories of each Cotecna office. The electronic signatures are similarly binding. The addressee can at any time check their genuineness via a dedicated website: <http://edox.cotecna.com/>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is it secured? Encryption method and security features

- > Cotecna has dedicated E-dox server(s) located at the Geneva Headquarters. They are centrally maintained and kept under close supervision by our IT security staff.
- > A state of the art security solution, the E-dox system was designed in-house using the most advanced encryption technology.
- > Documents cannot be modified. Even the slightest modification is detected by the authentication tool and the document is rejected. The document is guaranteed valid at the time of its issuance by Cotecna and will be recognised as such by the validation tool as long as it has not been tampered with by the addressee or cancelled by Cotecna.
- > The verification of genuineness is performed through a dedicated and free access website which allows any addressee of an E-dox to check its validity with a simple internet connection. The user receives an immediate answer to its validity check.

What is an Electronic signature?

Electronic signatures can be defined as any electronic process signifying an approval to a statement and/or document, presented in electronic format. Electronic signatures frequently also have the added benefit of ensuring the integrity of the signed document to signify that

- > the document has not been changed since it was signed and
- > the signer cannot ‘repudiate’ or claim that they did not sign the document. (source http://blogs.adobe.com/security/2008/02/so_what_is_an_electronic_signa.html)

The E-dox system generates documents which are electronically validated and signed by an authorised person. This is equivalent to the manual signature of this person on a paper document.

The validity of an electronic signature varies from one country to the other according to local regulations. However, in the international trade, the eUCP600 fully recognizes the validity of the electronic signature on an electronic document.

What is the role of the scanned signature and the stamp?

When an E-dox is generated by the system, a Cotecna stamp and the scanned signature of the signatories are added at the bottom of the document, strictly for illustration purposes. These stamps and signatures have no value, only the electronic signature (see above) is binding. The absence of the stamp and signature would in no way affect the validity of the E-dox.

For which types of documents the E-dox can be used?

The E-dox was primarily been designed to issue E-certificates. However, it can be used for any documents issued by Cotecna when the client needs a written and signed document. This can include offers, reports, declarations, statements etc. It can also be used to transform any third party paper documents into E-documents and provide our clients with a full set of E-doxs ready to be transmitted to the bank.

How to authenticate an E-dox?

Any E-dox can be authenticated by any person receiving it under an electronic format (attached to an email for example). The file must be uploaded on the dedicated web site: (<http://edox.cotecna.com/>) and its validity checked. This site provides a immediate and clear answer and is available from anywhere at any time. It is important to note that the responsibility of checking the validity of the E-dox remain with the addressee.

How to handle an E-dox?

To remain compliant, the E-dox must always be transmitted electronically. Any electronic copy of the E-dox is considered as an original. It can be saved, re-named stored and re-transmitted like any other electronic document without altering its validity.

Is it compliant with the eUCP600?

A document issued via the E-dox system is fully compliant with the definition of an electronic record given by eUCP600:

- > "Data created, generated, sent, communicated, received or stored by electronic means
- > That is capable of being authenticated as to the apparent identity of a sender and the apparent source of the data contained in it, and as to whether it has remained complete and unaltered, and
- > Is capable of being examined for compliance with the terms and conditions of the eUCP credit"

E-dox, as issued by Cotecna, is fully eUCP600 compliant and will remain so as long as it is transmitted electronically.

Is it valid if printed?

Formally an E-dox is not valid if it is printed, even in colour. The only way to check the validity of an E-dox is via the authentication web site (see above) and the document must remain in an electronic format at all times.

However if all parties in the transaction agree on the principle and mainly for transaction "cash against documents" a printed version of the E-dox can be included in the set of documents for payment. It is done at the risk of the client.

For transactions under LC the printed version is not acceptable because it is no longer compliant with the e-UCP definition. To be negotiable in a bank the E-dox must be transmitted by electronic means (email) only.

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