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**BSI Standards Publication**

## **Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration — Long term signature profiles**

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Part 4: Attributes pointing to (external) proof of existence objects  
used in long term signature formats (PoEAttributes)

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## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of ISO 14533-4:2019.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee IST/47/-/3, eBusiness.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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# Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration — Long term signature profiles —

Part 4:

## Attributes pointing to (external) proof of existence objects used in long term signature formats (PoEAttributes)

*Processus, éléments d'informations et documents dans le commerce, l'industrie et l'administration — Profils de signature à long terme —*

*Partie 4: Attributs pointant vers des objets externes de la Preuve de l'existence utilisés dans les formats de la signature à long terme*



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## Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
<b>1 Scope.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 PoE attributes.....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1 General concept of PoE.....	4
4.2 Abstract attribute PoEAttribute.....	5
4.3 LTI <i>PoEAttribute</i> instance based on IETF RFC 3161 timestamp or IETF RFC 4998/ IETF RFC 6283 evidence record.....	8
4.4 ERS <i>PoEAttribute</i> instance based on IETF RFC 4998/IETF RFC 6283 evidence record.....	12
4.5 TStOCSP <i>PoEAttribute</i> instance.....	12
4.6 Attribute PoEHashIndex.....	13
4.7 Attribute preservation-integrity-list.....	14
<b>5 Types of PoE objects with their essential fields.....</b>	<b>16</b>
5.1 General.....	16
5.2 PoE object of status at <i>thisUpdate</i> time value based on <i>CertHash</i> OCSP <i>SingleResponse</i> extension.....	17
5.3 PoE object supported by LTI PoEAttribute or ERS PoEAttribute.....	18
<b>Annex A (normative) ASN.1 module.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Annex B (normative) Definition of the <i>CertHash</i> OCSP <i>SingleResponse</i> extension.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Annex C (normative) Signature timestamp as a timestamp through OCSP.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Annex D (normative) Syntax of the ASN.1 object location in ZIP, PDF container or in DER              encoded ASN.1 object.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Annex E (normative) Use of the PoE objects.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Annex F (informative) Location of DTId in the digital signature.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Annex G (informative) Media type registrations.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Annex H (informative) Evidence record syntax object.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>36</b>

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 154, *Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 14533 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

This document provides detailed information associated with the analysis, selection and implementation of procedures associated with long term signatures. The development of this document is a result of organizational requests to receive information of already existing objects defined in technology standards, technical reports, and industry best practices for electronic signatures verifiable for a long term.

The purpose of this document is to ensure the interoperability of implementations with respect to long term signatures that make electronic signatures verifiable for a long term. This document clarifies conditions used in the validation procedure to provide a complete and unalterable result.

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# Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration — Long term signature profiles —

## Part 4:

## Attributes pointing to (external) proof of existence objects used in long term signature formats (PoEAttributes)

**IMPORTANT** — The electronic file of this document contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of the document. Users should therefore consider printing this document using a colour printer.

### 1 Scope

This document specifies the elements defined in the international standards of ISO/ITU-T, ETSI and IETF RFC that enable at least a proof of existence of data objects and digital signatures and the preservation of the validity status of digital signatures over a long period of time used in validation.

It provides the definitions of the proof of existence (PoE) attributes and clarification of the usage of (external) PoE objects, with digital signatures and trusted time values, which have already existed and can be used by the PoE attributes pointing to (external) PoE objects used in long term signature validation or preservation.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 8825-1<sup>1)</sup>, *Information technology — ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Basic Encoding Rules (BER), Canonical Encoding Rules (CER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) — Part 1*

ISO/IEC 9594-8<sup>2)</sup>, *Information technology — Open Systems Interconnection — The Directory — Part 8: Public-key and attribute certificate frameworks*

ISO 32000-2, *Document management — Portable document format — Part 2: PDF 2.0*

ETSI EN 319 122-1, V1.1.1:2016-04, *Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); CAAdES digital signatures; Part 1: Building blocks and CAAdES baseline signatures*

IETF RFC 3161<sup>3)</sup>, *Timestamp Protocol (TSP)*

IETF RFC 6960<sup>4)</sup>, *Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP)*

IETF RFC 4648<sup>5)</sup>, *The Base16, Base32, and Base64 Data Encodings*

1) Also known as ITU-T Recommendation X.690.

2) Also known as ITU-T Recommendation X.509.

3) Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/3161>.

4) Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/6960>.

5) Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/4648>.