



THE CERTIFICATION PRACTICE STATEMENT

OF

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

As

**A Recognized Certification Authority
under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance**

for

**Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal)
Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational)
Hongkong Post e-Cert (Encipherment)
Hongkong Post e-Cert (Server)**



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PREAMBLE

The Electronic Transactions Ordinance (Cap 553) (the "Ordinance") set out the legal framework for the public key infrastructure (PKI) initiative. The PKI facilitates the use of electronic transactions for commercial and other purposes. The PKI is composed of many elements, including legal obligations, policies, hardware, software, databases, networks, and security procedures.

Public Key Cryptography involves the use of a Private Key and a Public Key. A Public Key and its corresponding private key are mathematically related. The main principle behind Public Key Cryptography used in electronic transactions is that a message that is encrypted with a Public Key can only be decrypted with its corresponding private key, and a message that is encrypted with a private key can only be decrypted by its corresponding Public Key.

The PKI is designed to support the use of such a method for commercial and other transactions in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("Hong Kong SAR").

Under the Ordinance, the Postmaster General is a Recognized Certification Authority ("CA") for the purposes of the Ordinance and the PKI. Under the Ordinance the Postmaster General may perform the functions and provide the services of a CA by the officers of the Hong Kong Post Office. The Postmaster General has decided so to perform his functions, and he is therefore referred for the purposes of this document as **HKPost**.

HKPost, as a recognized CA, is responsible under the Ordinance for the use of a Trustworthy System for the issuance, revocation or suspension, and publication in a publicly available Repository of recognized and accepted digital certificates for secure on-line identification. The e-Cert (Personal), e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Encipherment) and e-Cert (Server) certificates issued under this CPS are referred to as "certificates" or "e-Certs" in this CPS.

HKPost issues e-Cert (Personal) certificates which can be embedded onto the Smart ID Cards. Furthermore, the e-Cert (Personal) certificate can also be embedded onto other storage media such as floppy disk, smart card, etc, subject to agreement between HKPost and its Subscribers.

Under the Ordinance HKPost may do anything that is expedient for the performance of the functions, and the provision of the services, of a CA and under the Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities issued by the Government Chief Information Officer HKPost may appoint agents or sub-contractors to carry out some or all of its operations.

It is expedient for HKPost to appoint certain organisations as its agents to carry out certain of the functions of HKPost as a recognized CA. In this CPS these institutions are called Registration Authorities or RAs and their functions are set out in this CPS. A list of Registration Authorities can be found in **Appendix E**. HKPost is responsible for the conduct and activities of the RAs in carrying out the functions or providing the services of HKPost as its agents as a recognized CA in respect of the issuing and revocation of e-Certs.

The structure of this CPS is as follows:

Section 1 of this CPS contains an overview and contact details
Section 2 sets out the responsibilities and liabilities of the parties
Section 3 sets out application and identity confirmation procedures
Section 4 describes some of the operational requirements
Section 5 presents the security controls
Section 6 sets out how the public/private key pairs will be generated and controlled
Section 7 describes some of the technical requirements
Section 8 documents how this CPS will be administered

Appendix A contains a glossary
Appendix B contains format of e-Certs issued under this CPS
Appendix C contains a Hongkong Post Certificate Revocation List (CRL) format
Appendix D contains a summary of features of e-Certs issued under this CPS
Appendix E contains a list of Hongkong Post e-Cert Registration Authorities (RAs)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

This Certification Practice Statement ("CPS") is published for public knowledge by HKPost and specifies the practices and standards that HKPost employs in issuing, revoking or suspending and publishing certificates.

The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority ("IANA") has assigned the Private Enterprise Number 16030 to HKPost. For identification purpose, this CPS bears an Object Identifier ("OID") "1.3.6.1.4.1.16030.1.1.9" (see description of the field "Certificate Policies" in **Appendix B**).

This CPS sets out the roles, functions, obligations, and potential liabilities of the participants in the system used by HKPost. It specifies the procedures used to confirm the identity of all Applicants for certificates issued under this CPS and describes the operational, procedural, and security requirements of HKPost.

Certificates issued by HKPost in accordance with this CPS will be relied upon by Relying Parties and used to verify Digital Signatures. Each Relying Party making use of a HKPost issued certificate must make an independent determination that PKI based Digital Signatures are appropriate and sufficiently trusted to be used to authenticate the identity of the participants in each Relying Party's particular PKI application.

Under the Ordinance HKPost is a recognized CA. **HKPost has designated the e-Cert (Personal), e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates issued under this CPS as Recognized Certificates.** This means for both Subscribers and Relying Parties, that HKPost has a legal obligation under the Ordinance to use a Trustworthy System for the issuance, revocation or suspension, and publication in a publicly available Repository of accepted Recognized Certificates. Recognized Certificates have characteristics of accuracy and contain representations of fact which are defined in law by the Ordinance, including a representation (as further defined below) that such certificates have been issued in accordance with this CPS. The fact that HKPost has appointed Registration Authorities as its agents does not diminish HKPost's obligation to use a Trustworthy system, nor does it alter the characteristics that e-Certs have as recognized certificates.

A summary of the features of the certificates issued under this CPS is in **Appendix D**.

1.2 Community and Applicability

1.2.1 Certification Authority

Under this CPS, HKPost performs the functions and assumes the obligations of a CA. HKPost is the only CA authorised to issue certificates under this CPS (see Section 2.1.1).

1.2.1.1 Representations by HKPost

By issuing a certificate that refers to this CPS, HKPost represents to Relying Parties who act in accordance with Section 2.1.5 and other relevant sections of this CPS, that HKPost has issued the certificate in accordance with this CPS. By publishing a certificate that refers to this CPS, HKPost represents to Relying Parties who act in accordance with Section 2.1.5 and other relevant sections of this CPS, that HKPost has issued the certificate to the Subscriber identified in it.

1.2.1.2 Effect

HKPost publishes recognized certificates that are accepted by and issued to its Subscribers in a Repository (See Section 2.5).

1.2.1.3 HKPost's Right to Subcontract

HKPost may subcontract its obligations for performing some or all of the functions required by this CPS and the Subscriber Agreement provided that the subcontractor agrees to undertake to perform those functions and enters into a contract with HKPost to perform the services. In the event that such sub-contracting occurs, HKPost shall remain liable for the performance of the CPS and the Subscriber Agreement as if such sub-contracting had not occurred.

1.2.2 End Entities

Under this CPS there are two types of end entities, Subscribers and Relying Parties. A Subscriber is the "Subscriber" or "Subscriber Organisation" referred to in **Appendix A**. Relying Parties are entities that have relied on any class or category of certificate issued by HKPost, including, but not limited to e-Cert for use in a transaction. For the avoidance of doubt, Relying Parties should not rely on the RA. For e-Certs that are issued via the RA as the agent of HKPost, RAs do not owe a duty of care and are not responsible to the Relying Parties in anyway for the issue of those e-Certs (see also Section 2.1.2). Applicants and Subscribers who rely on an e-Cert of another Subscriber in a transaction will be Relying Parties in respect of such a certificate. **NOTE TO RELYING PARTIES: The HKPost's e-Cert system is not age restricted and minors may apply for and receive e-Certs.**

1.2.2.1 Warranties and Representations by Applicants and Subscribers

Each Applicant (represented by the Authorised Representative in the case of applying for an e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) certificate or e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate) must sign, or confirm his/her acceptance of, an agreement (in the terms specified in this CPS) which includes a term by which the Applicant agrees that by accepting a certificate issued under this CPS, the Applicant warrants (promises) to HKPost and represents to all other relevant parties (and in particular Relying Parties) that during the operational period of the certificate the following facts are and will remain true:

- a) No person other than the Subscriber of an e-Cert (Personal) and e-Cert (Server) certificate, the Authorised User of an e-Cert (Organisational) certificate or the Authorised Unit of an e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate has had access to the Subscriber's private key.
- b) Each Digital Signature generated using the Subscriber's private key, which corresponds to the Public Key contained in the Subscriber's e-Cert, is the Digital Signature of the Subscriber.
- c) An e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate is to be used only for the purposes stipulated in Section 1.2.3.4 below.
- d) All Information and representations made by the Subscriber included in the certificate are true.
- e) The certificate will be used exclusively for authorised and legal purposes.
- f) All Information supplied in the certificate application process does not infringe or violate in any way the trademarks, service marks, trade name, company name, or any other intellectual property rights of any third party.

1.2.3 Classes of Subscribers

HKPost issues certificates under this CPS only to Applicants whose application for a certificate has been approved by HKPost and who have signed or confirmed their acceptance of a Subscriber Agreement in the appropriate form. Four classes of e-Certs are issued under this CPS:-

1.2.3.1 e-Cert (Personal) Certificates

An e-Cert (Personal) certificate is issued under this CPS and the Subscriber Agreement to individuals who have a HKID Card. These certificates may be used to perform commercial operations. e-Cert (Personal) certificates may be issued to persons under 18 who have a HKID Card (see also Section 3.1.1.2).

1.2.3.2 e-Cert (Organisational) Certificates

An e-Cert (Organisational) certificate is issued to Bureaux and Departments of the Government of Hong Kong SAR, Organisations that hold a valid business registration certificate issued by the Government of the Hong Kong SAR and statutory bodies of Hong Kong whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR (the “Subscriber Organisation”); and identifies a member or employee whom that Subscriber Organisation has duly authorised to use the Private Key of that e-Cert (Organisational) (the “Authorised User”). These certificates may be used for the same purposes as e-Cert (Personal) certificates.

1.2.3.3 e-Cert (Server) Certificates

An e-Cert (Server) certificate is issued to Bureaux and Departments of the Government of Hong Kong SAR, Organisations that hold a valid business registration certificate issued by the Government of the Hong Kong SAR and statutory bodies of Hong Kong whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR (the “Subscriber Organisation”); and that wish to have a certificate issued in a server name owned by that Organisation.

1.2.3.4 e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates

An e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate is issued to Bureaux and Departments of the Government of Hong Kong SAR, Organisations that hold a valid business registration certificate issued by the Government of Hong Kong SAR and statutory bodies of Hong Kong SAR whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR (the “Subscriber Organisation”). Such a certificate is designed for use by a unit of the Subscriber Organisation which that Subscriber Organisation has duly authorised to use the Private Key of that e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate (the “Authorised Unit”).

Certificates of this class are to be used only:

- i) to send encrypted electronic messages to the Subscriber Organisation;
- ii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to decrypt messages; and
- iii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to acknowledge receipt of the encrypted message by sending an acknowledgement with a digital signature added to it to confirm the identity of the receiving Subscriber Organisation.

SUBSCRIBER ORGANISATIONS UNDERTAKE TO HKPOST NOT TO GIVE AUTHORITY TO THE AUTHORISED UNITS TO USE A DIGITAL SIGNATURE OF THIS CLASS OF CERTIFICATE FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE AND ACCORDINGLY ANY DIGITAL SIGNATURE GENERATED BY THE PRIVATE KEY OF THIS CLASS OF CERTIFICATE USED OTHER THAN TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF A MESSAGE AS SET OUT ABOVE MUST BE TREATED AS A SIGNATURE GENERATED AND USED WITHOUT

THE AUTHORITY OF THE SUBSCRIBER ORGANISATION WHOSE SIGNATURE IT IS AND MUST BE TREATED FOR ALL PURPOSES AS AN UNAUTHORISED SIGNATURE.

Further, digital signatures generated by this class of certificate are only to be used to acknowledge the receipt of electronic messages in transactions which are not related to or connected with the payment of money on-line or the making of any investment on-line or the conferring on-line of any financial benefit on any person or persons or entities of whatsoever nature and under no circumstances are digital signatures generated by these certificates to be used to acknowledge the receipt of messages sent in connection with the negotiation or conclusion of a contract or any legally binding agreement.

1.2.4 Certificate Lifespan

The validity period of a certificate commences on the date the certificate is generated by the HKPost system.

The validity period of certificates issued under this CPS to new Applicants is as follows:-

Certificate type	Validity Period specified in the certificate
e-Cert (Personal)	3 years
e-Cert (Organisational)	1 year or 2 year to be selected by the Applicant at the time of application
e-Cert (Server)	
e-Cert (Encipherment)	

Certificates issued under this CPS as a result of certificate renewal may be valid for a period longer than the respective validity period listed above (see Sections 3.3 and 3.4). The validity period of an e-Cert is specified in the certificate itself. Format of certificates issued under this CPS is in **Appendix B**.

1.2.5 Application at HKPost Premises

All first applications and applications of a new e-Cert following the revocation or expiration of an e-Cert will require the applicants to submit their applications as described in Sections 3 and 4.

1.3 Contact Details

Subscribers may send their enquiries, suggestions or complaints by:

Mail to : Hongkong Post Certification Authority, Kowloon East Post Office Box 68777
Tel: 2921 6633
Fax: 2775 9130
Email: enquiry@hongkongpost.gov.hk

1.4 Complaints Handling Procedures

HKPost will handle all written and verbal complaints expeditiously. A full reply will be given to the complainant within 10 days. In the cases where full replies cannot be issued within 10 days, interim replies will be issued. As soon as practicable, designated staff of HKPost will contact the complainants by phone, email or letter mail to acknowledge and reply to the complaints.

2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 Obligations

HKPost's obligations to Subscribers are defined and limited by this CPS and by the terms of the contracts with Subscribers in the form of a Subscriber Agreement. This is so whether the Subscriber is also a Relying Party in relation to a certificate of another Subscriber. In relation to Relying Parties who are not Subscribers, this CPS gives them notice that HKPost undertakes only to exercise reasonable care and skill to avoid causing certain categories of loss and damage to Relying Parties in issuing, suspending or revoking and publishing certificates in conformity with the Ordinance and the CPS, and places a monetary limit in respect of such liability as it may have as set out in below and in the certificates issued.

2.1.1 CA Obligations

HKPost, as a recognized CA, is responsible under the Ordinance for the use of a Trustworthy System for the issuance, revocation or suspension, and publication in a publicly available Repository of Recognized Certificates that have been accepted by the Subscriber. In accordance with this CPS, HKPost has the obligation to:-

- a) issue and publish certificates in a timely manner (see Section 2.5);
- b) notify Applicants of the approval or rejection of their applications (see Section 4.4);
- c) suspend or revoke certificates and publish Certificate Revocation Lists in a timely manner (see Section 4.5); and
- d) notify Subscribers of the suspension or revocation of their certificates (see Section 4.5.1, 4.5.2 and 4.5.3)

2.1.2 RA Obligations and Liability

Registration Authorities (RAs) are responsible only to HKPost under the terms of the agreement (the "RA Agreement") under which they are appointed by HKPost as its agents to carry out on HKPost's behalf certain of HKPost's obligations as detailed in this CPS. RAs, on behalf of HKPost, collect and keep documents and information supplied under the terms of the CPS and Subscriber Agreements. HKPost is and remains responsible for the activities of its Registration Authorities in the performance or purported performance by them of the functions, power, rights and duties of HKPost.

RAs shall not become parties to any Subscriber Agreement, nor shall they accept any duty of care to Subscribers or Relying Parties, in connection with the issuance, revocation or suspension and publication of e-Certs, nor in relation to the collection and keeping of documents or information. RAs only carry out on HKPost's behalf HKPost's obligations and duties in these matters. RAs have the authority to act on behalf of HKPost to enforce the terms of the Subscriber Agreements (unless and until that authority is withdrawn and Subscribers duly notified of any such withdrawal). **RAs shall not be liable in any circumstances to Subscribers or Relying Parties in any way connected either with the performance of a Subscriber Agreement or any certificate issued by RAs on behalf of HKPost as a CA.**

2.1.3 Subscriber Obligations

Subscribers are responsible for:-

- a) Agreeing that the key pair is generated by HKPost in a Trustworthy System and environment within HKPost's premises on behalf of the Subscriber.
- b) Completing the application procedures properly and signing, or confirming acceptance of, a Subscriber Agreement (by the Authorised Representative in the case of applying for an e-Cert (Organisational) certificate, e-Cert (Server) certificate or e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate) in the appropriate form and performing the obligations placed upon them by that Agreement, and ensuring accuracy of representations in certificate application.
- c) Accurately following the procedures specified in this CPS as to the completion of certificates.
- d) Acknowledging that they are undertaking an obligation to protect the confidentiality (i.e. keep it secret) and the integrity of their Private Key using reasonable precautions to prevent its loss, disclosure, or unauthorised use, and that they are responsible for any consequences under any circumstances for the compromise of the Private Key.
- e) Reporting any loss or compromise of their private key immediately upon discovery of the loss or compromise (a compromise is a security violation in which Information is exposed to potential unauthorised access, such that unauthorised disclosure, alteration, or use of the Information may have occurred).
- f) Notifying HKPost immediately from time to time of any change in the Information in the certificate provided by the Subscriber or of any change in the Authorised User.
- g) Notifying HKPost immediately from time to time of any change in the appointment and information of the Authorised Representative in the case of e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Encipherment) and e-Cert (Server) certificates.
- h) Notifying HKPost immediately of any fact which may give rise to HKPost, upon the grounds set out in Section 4 below, having the right to revoke the certificate for which that Subscriber is responsible.
- i) Agreeing that by having been issued or accepting a certificate they warrant (promise) to HKPost and represent to all Relying Parties that during the operational period of the certificate, the facts stated in Section 1.2.2.1 above are and will remain true.
- j) Not using a certificate in a transaction on becoming aware of any ground upon which HKPost could suspend or revoke it under the terms of the CPS, or after the Subscriber has made a revocation request or been notified by HKPost of HKPost's intention to suspend or revoke the certificate under the terms of this CPS.
- k) Upon becoming so aware of any ground upon which HKPost could suspend or revoke the certificate, or upon the Subscriber making a revocation request or upon being notified by HKPost of its intention to suspend or revoke the certificate, immediately notifying Relying Parties in any transaction that remains to be completed at the time, that the certificate used in that transaction is liable to be suspended or revoked (either by HKPost or at the Applicant's or Subscriber's request) and stating in clear terms that, as this is the case, the Relying Parties should not rely upon the certificate in respect of the transaction.
- l) Acknowledging that by submitting an e-Cert application form, they authorize the publication of the e-Cert to any other person or in the HKPost's Repository.

Subscribers of e-Cert (Personal) certificates are also responsible for agreeing to forfeit the use of any private keys embedded on the Subscriber's HKID Card in case the Subscriber's HKID Card is lost, destroyed, defaced or damaged, or surrendered to or invalidated or seized by the Immigration Department or other law enforcement agencies under the laws of the Hong Kong SAR, and that HKPost and the Government of the Hong Kong SAR shall be under no liability to the Applicant or Subscriber in respect of any such events. The Applicant/Subscriber may request HKPost to revoke the e-Cert embedded on the HKID Card in accordance with the procedures stipulated in Section 4.5.2.

Subscribers of e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates are also responsible for ensuring that :

- authorised users only have the Subscriber Organisation's authority to use and in fact use the certificate and digital signature associated with it only to decrypt incoming electronic messages and to acknowledge the receipt of the same and for no other purposes whatsoever;
- such certificates are used only (i) to send encrypted electronic messages to the Subscriber; (ii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to decrypt messages; and (iii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to acknowledge receipt of the encrypted message by sending an acknowledgement with a digital signature added to it to confirm the identity of the receiving Subscriber Organisation;
- no attempt is made to use the private key relating to an e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate to generate a digital signature other than for the purpose of acknowledging receipt of an incoming electronic message; and
- reasonable precautions are taken by the authorised users to maintain the security of the private key.

2.1.4 Subscriber's Liability

Each Subscriber acknowledges that if they do not discharge their responsibilities as set out above properly or at all, each Subscriber may become liable under the Subscriber Agreement and/or in law to pay HKPost and/or, under the law, other persons (including Relying Parties) damages in respect of liabilities or loss and damage they may incur or suffer in consequence.

2.1.5 Relying Party Obligations

Relying Parties relying upon HKPost e-Cert certificates are responsible for:

- a) Relying on such certificates only when the reliance is reasonable and in good faith in light of all the circumstances known to the Relying Party at the time of the reliance.
- b) Before relying upon a certificate determining that the use of the certificate is appropriate for its purposes under this CPS while the RA (see **Appendix E**) does not undertake any duty of care to Relying Parties at all.
- c) Checking the status of the certificate on the certificate revocation list prior to reliance.
- d) Performing all appropriate certificate path validation procedures.

2.2 Further Provisions

Obligations of HKPost to Subscribers and Relying Parties

2.2.1 Reasonable Skill and Care

HKPost undertakes to each Subscriber and to each Relying Party that a reasonable degree of skill and care will be exercised by HKPost or by a RA acting on behalf of HKPost in performing the obligations and exercising the rights it has as a CA set out in this CPS. **HKPost does not undertake any absolute obligations to the Subscriber(s) or Relying Parties. It does not warrant that the services it provides under this CPS by itself or by a RA or otherwise howsoever will be uninterrupted or error free or of a higher or different standard than that which should be achieved by the exercise by HKPost, or the officers, employees or agents of Hong Kong Post Office of a reasonable degree and skill and care.**

The implications of this are that, if, despite the exercise of a reasonable degree of skill and care by HKPost or by a RA acting behalf of HKPost in carrying out this contract and in

exercising its rights and obligations under the CPS, a Subscriber, either as a Subscriber or Relying Party as defined in this CPS, or a Relying Party who is not a Subscriber suffers any liability, loss or damage of whatsoever nature arising out of or in connection with the PKI system as described in this CPS, including loss and damage consequent upon reasonable reliance upon a certificate of another Subscriber, each Subscriber agrees and each Relying Party must accept that HKPost and the Hong Kong Post Office and any RA are under no liability of any kind in respect of such liability, loss or damage.

This means, for example, that provided that the HKPost or a RA acting on behalf of HKPost has exercised a reasonable degree of skill and care, HKPost and Hong Kong Post Office and any such RA will not be liable for any loss to a Subscriber or Relying Party caused by his reliance upon a false or forged Digital Signature supported by another Subscriber's Recognized Certificate issued by HKPost.

This means, also, that, provided HKPost (by the Hong Kong Post Office or a RA acting on behalf of HKPost) has exercised a reasonable degree of skill and care to avoid and/or mitigate the effects of matters beyond its control, neither HKPost nor the Hong Kong Post Office nor any such RA is liable for the adverse effects to Subscribers or Relying Parties of any matters outside HKPost's control whatsoever, including (without limitation) the availability of the Internet, or telecommunications or other infrastructure systems or the adverse effects of the acts of God, war, military operations, national emergency, epidemic, fire, flood, earthquake, strike or riots or the negligence or deliberate wrongful conduct of other Subscribers or other third parties.

2.2.2 No Supply of Goods

For the avoidance of doubt, a Subscriber Agreement is not a contract for the supply of goods of any description or at all. Any and all certificates issued pursuant to it remain the property of and in the possession and control of HKPost and no right, title or interest in the certificates is transferred to the Subscriber, who merely has the right to rely upon it and the certificates of other Subscribers in accordance with the terms of the Subscriber Agreements. Accordingly the Subscriber Agreements contain (or is to contain) no express or implied terms or warranties as to the merchantability or fitness of a certificate for a particular purpose or any other terms or conditions appropriate in a contract for the supply of goods. Equally HKPost, in making available the certificates in a public Repository accessible by Relying Parties is not supplying any goods to Relying Parties and likewise gives to Relying Parties no warranty as to the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose of a certificate nor makes any other representation or warranty as if it were supplying goods to Relying Parties. HKPost agrees to transfer those articles into possession of Applicants or Subscribers for the limited purposes set out in this CPS. Nonetheless HKPost will exercise reasonable care to see that the same is fit for the purposes of completing and accepting a certificate as set out in this CPS, and if it is not, then HKPost's liability shall be as set out in Sections 2.2.3 and 2.2.4 below. In addition, the articles transferred from HKPost may contain other material not relevant to the completion and acceptance of an e-Cert, if it does, the legal position in relation to such material is not governed by the CPS or the Subscriber Agreement, but by separate terms and conditions that will be referred to in the terms and conditions enclosed in the articles.

2.2.3 Limitation of Liability

2.2.3.1 Reasonableness of Limitations

Each Subscriber and Relying Party must agree that it is reasonable for HKPost to limit its liabilities as set out in the Subscriber Agreement and in this CPS.

2.2.3.2 Limitation on Types of Recoverable Loss

In the event of HKPost's breach of :-

- a) the Subscriber Agreement; or
- b) any duty of care; and in particular its duty under the Subscriber Agreement to exercise reasonable skill and care and/or duties that may arise to a Subscriber or Relying Party when any certificate issued by HKPost under the PKI is relied upon or used by a Subscriber or Relying Party or anyone else or otherwise howsoever;

whether a Subscriber or Relying Party suffers loss and damage as a Subscriber or as a Relying Party as defined by the CPS or otherwise howsoever, **HKPost shall not be liable for any damages or other relief in respect of :-**

- a) **any direct or indirect loss of profits or revenue, loss or injury to reputation or goodwill, loss of any opportunity or chance, loss of projects, or the loss or loss of use of any data, equipment or software; or**
- b) **for any indirect, consequential or incidental loss or damage even if, in respect of the latter, HKPost has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage in advance.**

2.2.3.3 HK\$ 200,000 Limit

Subject to the exceptions that appear below, in the event of HKPost's breach of :-

- a) **the Subscriber Agreement and provision of this CPS; or**
- b) **any duty of care, and in particular, any duty under the Subscriber Agreement, under this CPS or in law to exercise reasonable skill and care and/or any duties that may arise to a Subscriber or Relying Party when any certificate issued by HKPost under the public key infrastructure initiative is relied upon or used by a Subscriber or Relying Party or anyone else or otherwise howsoever, whether a Subscriber or Relying Party suffers loss and damage as a Subscriber or as a Relying Party as defined by the CPS or otherwise howsoever;**

the liability of HKPost to any Subscriber and any Relying Party, whether as Subscriber or Relying Party as defined by the CPS or in any other capacity at all, is limited to, and shall not under any circumstances exceed, HK\$200,000 in respect of one e-Cert (Personal) certificate, e-Cert (Organisational) certificate, e-Cert (Server) certificate or e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate, or HK\$0 (zero) in respect of one e-Cert (Personal) certificate issued to a person under 18.

2.2.3.4 Time Limit For Making Claims

Any Subscriber or Relying Party who wishes to make any legal claim upon HKPost arising out of or in any way connected with the issuance, suspension, revocation or publication of an e-Cert must do so within one year of the date upon which that Subscriber or Relying Party becomes aware of any facts giving rise to the right to make such a claim or (if earlier) within one year of the date when, with the exercise of reasonable diligence, they could have

become aware of such facts. For the avoidance of doubt, ignorance of the legal significance of those facts is immaterial. After the expiration of this one-year time limit the claim shall be waived and absolutely barred.

2.2.3.5 Hong Kong Post Office , RAs and their Personnel

Neither the Hong Kong Post Office nor any RA nor any officer or employee or other agent of the Hong Kong Post Office or any RA is to be a party to the Subscriber Agreement, and the Subscriber and Relying Parties must acknowledge to HKPost that, as far as the Subscriber and Relying Parties are aware, neither the Hong Kong Post Office nor any RA nor any of their officers, employees or agents voluntarily accepts or will accept any personal responsibility or duty of care to the Subscriber or Relying Parties in connection with any action or omission done in good faith by any of them in any way connected either with the performance of HKPost of a Subscriber Agreement or any certificate issued by HKPost as a CA and each and every Subscriber and Relying Party accepts and will continue to accept that and undertakes to HKPost not to sue or seek any form of recovery or redress by other legal means whatsoever from any of the foregoing in respect of any act or omission done by that person in good faith (whether done negligently or not) in any way connected with either the performance of HKPost of a Subscriber Agreement or any certificate issued by HKPost as a CA and acknowledges that HKPost has a sufficient legal and financial interest to protect these organizations and individuals from such actions.

2.2.3.6 Liability For Wilful Misconduct, Personal Injury or Death

Any liability for fraud or wilful misconduct, personal injury and death is not within the scope of any limitation or exclusionary provision or notice of this CPS, any Subscriber Agreement or certificate issued by HKPost and is not limited or excluded by any such provision or notice.

2.2.3.7 Certificate Notices, Limitations and Reliance Limit

Certificates issued by HKPost shall be deemed to have contained the following Reliance Limit and/or limitation of liability notice:

“The Postmaster General acting by the officers of the Hong Kong Post Office has issued this certificate as a recognized CA under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance upon the terms and conditions set out in the Postmaster General’s Certification Practice Statement (CPS) that applies to this certificate.

Accordingly, any person, before relying upon this certificate should read the CPS that applies to e-Certs which may be read on the HKPost CA web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>. The laws of Hong Kong SAR applies to this certificate and Relying Parties must submit any dispute or issue arising as a result of their reliance upon this certificate to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of Hong Kong SAR.

If you, as a Relying Party, do not accept the terms and conditions upon which this certificate is issued, then do not rely upon it.

The Postmaster General (by the Hong Kong Post Office, its officers, employees and agents) issues this certificate without undertaking any responsibility or duty of care to Relying Parties save as set out in the CPS.

Relying Parties, before relying upon this certificate are responsible for:-

a) Relying on it only when reliance is reasonable and in good faith in the light of all the circumstances known to the Relying Party at the time of reliance;

- b) *Before relying upon this certificate, determining that the use of the certificate is appropriate for its purposes under the CPS;*
- c) *Checking the status of this certificate on the Certificate Revocation List prior to reliance; and*
- d) *Performing all appropriate certificate path validation procedures.*

If, despite the exercise of reasonable skill and care by the Postmaster General and the Hong Kong Post Office, its officers, employees or agents, this certificate is in any way inaccurate or misleading, the Postmaster General, Hong Kong Post Office, its officers, employees or agents, accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to the Relying Parties and the applicable Reliance Limit that applies to this certificate under the Ordinance in these circumstances is HK \$0.

If this certificate is in any way inaccurate or misleading and this is the result of the negligence of the Postmaster General, Hong Kong Post Office, its officers, employees or agents, then the Postmaster General will pay a Relying Party up to HK \$200,000, or HK\$0 if this certificate is an e-Cert (Personal) certificate issued to a person under 18, in respect of proved loss caused by reasonable reliance upon such inaccurate or misleading matters in this certificate where such losses are not and do not include (1) any direct or indirect loss of profits or revenue, loss or injury to reputation or goodwill, loss of any opportunity or chance, loss of projects, or the loss or loss of use of any data, equipment or software or (2) any indirect, consequential or incidental loss or damage even if, in respect of the latter, HKPost has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage in advance. The applicable Reliance Limit that applies to this certificate under the Ordinance in these circumstances is HK \$200,000, or HK\$0 if this certificate is an e-Cert (Personal) certificate issued to a person under 18, and in all cases in relation to categories of loss (1) and (2), is HK \$0.

Neither the Hong Kong Post Office nor any officer, employee or agent of the Hong Kong Post Office undertakes any duty of care to Relying Parties in any circumstances in relation to this certificate.

Time Limit For Making Claims

Any Relying Party who wishes to make any legal claim upon the Postmaster General arising out of or in any way connected with the issuance, suspension, revocation or publication of this e-Cert must do so within one year of the date upon which that Relying Party becomes aware of any facts giving rise to the right to make such a claim or (if earlier) within one year of the date when, with the exercise of reasonable diligence, they could have become aware of such facts. For the avoidance of doubt, ignorance of the legal significance of those facts is immaterial. After the expiration of this one-year time limit the claim shall be waived and absolutely barred.

If this certificate contains any intentional or reckless misrepresentation by the Postmaster General, the Hong Kong Post Office, its officers, employees or agents, this certificate does not impose any limit upon their liability to Relying Parties who suffer loss in consequence of reasonable reliance upon such misrepresentations in this certificate.

The limits of liability contained herein do not apply in the (unlikely) event of liability for personal injury or death”.

2.2.4 HKPost's Liability for Received but Defective Certificates

2.2.4.1 Notwithstanding the limitation of HKPost's liability set out above, if, after receiving the certificate, a Subscriber finds that, because of any error in the Private Key or Public Key of the certificate, no transactions contemplated by the PKI can be completed properly or at all, and that Subscriber notifies HKPost of this immediately to permit the certificate to be revoked and (if desired) re-issued, then, if such notification has occurred within 3 months after receiving the certificate and the Subscriber no longer wants a certificate, HKPost, on being satisfied of the existence of any such error will refund the fee paid. If the Subscriber waits longer than 3 months after receiving the certificate before notifying HKPost of any such error, the fee paid will not be refunded as of right, but only at the discretion of HKPost.

2.2.5 Assignment by Subscriber

Subscribers shall not assign their rights under Subscriber Agreement or certificates. Any attempted assignment shall be void.

2.2.6 Authority to Make Representations

Except expressly authorized by HKPost, no agent or employee of the Hong Kong Post Office or of any RA has authority to make any representations on behalf of HKPost as to the meaning or interpretation of this CPS.

2.2.7 Variation

HKPost has the right to vary this CPS without notice (See Section 8). Subscriber Agreement cannot be varied, amended or changed except to comply with a variation or change in this CPS or with the express written consent of the Postmaster General.

2.2.8 Retention of Title

The physical, copyright, and intellectual property rights to all Information on the certificate issued under this CPS are and will remain vested in HKPost.

2.2.9 Conflict of Provisions

In the event of a conflict between this CPS and the Subscriber Agreement or other rules, guidelines, or contracts, the Subscriber, Relying Parties and HKPost shall be bound by the provisions of this CPS, except to the extent that the provisions are prohibited by law.

2.2.10 Fiduciary Relationships

Neither HKPost nor any RA acting on behalf of HKPost is an agent, fiduciary, trustee or other representative of the Subscribers or Relying Parties at any time. Subscribers and Relying Parties have no authority to bind HKPost or any RA acting on behalf of HKPost, by contract or otherwise, to any obligation as an agent, fiduciary, trustee or other representative of the Subscribers or Relying Parties.

2.2.11 Cross Certification

HKPost reserves the right in all instances to define and determine suitable grounds for cross-certification with another CA.

2.2.12 Financial Responsibility

An insurance policy is in place to cover the potential or actual liabilities and claims against Reliance Limit on the certificates.

2.3 Interpretation and Enforcement (Governing Law)

2.3.1 Governing Law

The laws of Hong Kong SAR govern this CPS. Subscribers and Relying Parties agree to submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of Hong Kong SAR.

2.3.2 Severability, Survival, Merger, and Notice

If any provision of this CPS is declared or found to be illegal, unenforceable, or void, then any offending words in it will be deleted to the extent necessary to make it legal and enforceable while preserving its intent. The unenforceability of any provision of this CPS will not impair the enforceability of any other provision of this CPS.

2.3.3 Dispute Resolution Procedures

The decisions of HKPost pertaining to matters within the scope of this CPS are final. Any claims should be submitted to HKPost at the following address:

Hongkong Post Certification Authority
Kowloon East Post Office Box 68777
Email: enquiry@hongkongpost.gov.hk

2.3.4 Interpretation

Where there is a conflict of interpretation of wording between the English and Chinese versions of this CPS, the English version shall prevail.

2.4 Subscription Fees

The subscription fee and administration fee shall be paid before the commencement of each subscription period (see section 3.2) unless waived by HKPost. HKPost may suspend or revoke an e-Cert if its subscription terminates during the validity period specified in the certificate (see also section 4.5.1.4(f)). HKPost reserves its absolute right to review and determine the subscription fee and administration fee from time to time and will notify the Subscribers and the public at the HKPost web site <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>.

2.4.1 e-Cert (Personal) Certificates

For both new and renewal applications of e-Cert (Personal) certificates, the subscription fee is HK\$50 per certificate per year.

2.4.2 e-Cert (Organisational) Certificates

<u>Subscription Fees for e-Cert (Organisational) Certificates</u>	<u>Certificates with a 1-year validity period</u>	<u>Certificates with a 2-year validity period</u>
First time application	HK\$50 per certificate	HK\$200 per certificate
Non-first time application or renewal	HK\$150 per certificate	HK\$300 per certificate
Administration fee (irrespective	HK\$150 per application	HK\$300 per application

of the number of Authorised Users)	The Administration Fee is HK\$300 if the application form contains applications for certificates of 1-year validity and certificates of 2-year validity.
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2.4.3 e-Cert (Server) Certificates

<u>Subscription Fees for e-Cert (Server) Certificates</u>	<u>Certificate with a 1-year validity period</u>	<u>Certificate with a 2-year validity period</u>
New application or renewal	HK\$2,500 per certificate	HK\$5,000 per certificate

2.4.4 e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates

<u>Subscription Fees for e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates</u>	<u>Certificates with a 1-year validity period</u>	<u>Certificates with a 2-year validity period</u>
New application or renewal	\$150 per certificate	\$300 per certificate
Administration fee (irrespective of the number of Authorised Units)	HK\$150 per application	HK\$300 per application
	The Administration Fee is HK\$300 if the application form contains applications for certificates of 1-year validity and certificates of 2-year validity.	

2.5 Publication and Repository

Under the Ordinance, HKPost maintains a Repository that contains a list of accepted certificates issued under this CPS, the current certificate revocation list, the HKPost Public Key, a copy of this CPS, and other Information related to e-Cert certificates which reference this CPS. The Repository is available on a substantially 24 hour per day, 7 days per week basis, subject to scheduled maintenance of up to 2 hours per week and any emergency maintenance. HKPost promptly publishes each certificate accepted by and issued to the Subscriber under this CPS in the Repository. The HKPost Repository can be accessed at URLs as follows:-

<http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>
<ldap://ldap1.hongkongpost.gov.hk>

2.5.1 Certificate Repository Controls

The Repository is maintained in a location that is viewable on-line and is protected from unauthorised access.

2.5.2 Certificate Repository Access Requirements

Only authorised HKPost employees have access to the Repository to update and modify the contents.

2.5.3 Certificate Repository Update Cycle

The Repository is updated promptly after each certificate is accepted by and issued to the Subscriber and any other applicable events such as revocation of certificates.

2.5.4 Permitted Use of Information Contained in the Repository

The Information, including any personal data, contained in the Repository is published under the Ordinance and for the purpose of facilitating the conduct of lawful electronic transactions or communications.

2.6 Compliance Assessment

Compliance assessments conducted on the HKPost's system of issuing, revoking, suspending and publishing e-Certs to determine if this CPS is being properly followed are performed at least once in every 12 months in accordance with the requirements set out in the Ordinance and the Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities.

2.7 Confidentiality

HKPost will ensure that the restrictions in this subsection will be adhered to by itself and any persons of HKPost, RAs and any HKPost subcontractors who have access to any record, book, register, correspondence, information, document or other material in performing tasks related to HKPost's system of issuing, suspending, revoking and publishing e-Certs shall not disclose or permit or suffer to be disclosed any information relating to another person as contained in such record, book, register, correspondence, information, document or other material to any other person. Information about Subscribers that is submitted as part of an application for an e-Cert certificate under this CPS will be used only for the purposes collected and is kept confidential except to the extent necessary for HKPost to perform its obligations under this CPS. Such Information will not be released without the prior consent of the Subscriber except when required by a court-issued subpoena or order, or when otherwise required by the laws of Hong Kong SAR. HKPost is specifically precluded from releasing lists of Subscribers or Subscriber Information (except for the release of compiled data which is not traceable to an individual Subscriber) unless required by a court-issued subpoena or order, or when otherwise required by the laws of Hong Kong SAR.

3. IDENTIFICATION AND AUTHENTICATION

3.1 Initial Application

In respect of e-Cert (Personal) certificate applications, each Applicant (save in the case of Applicants who are holders of valid e-Cert (Personal) certificates) must appear in person at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost, and present proof of identity as described in Section 3.1.9. In the case of Applicants who are holders of valid e-Cert (Personal) certificates, their attendance is not required, but their valid Digital Signatures supported by their e-Cert (Personal) certificates are required as proof of identity.

In respect of e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate applications, the Authorised Representative must appear in person at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost, and present proof of identity as described in Section 3.1.8. Attendance of the Authorised Users to be named in e-Cert (Organisational) certificates is not required.

All Applicants for e-Certs shall submit a completed application form to HKPost. e-Cert (Organisational) certificate, e-Cert (Server) certificate and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate applications require the Authorised Representative of the Organisation to complete and sign the application form and the Organisation will become a Subscriber. Following approval of the application, HKPost prepares an e-Cert and notifies the Applicant of how the certificate may be issued..

3.1.1 Types of Names

3.1.1.1 e-Cert (Personal) certificates

The Subscriber for an e-Cert (Personal) certificate is identified in the certificate with a Subject Name (referred to in **Appendix B**) consisting of the Subscriber's name as it appears on the Subscriber's Hong Kong identity card. The Subscriber's Hong Kong identity card number will be stored in the certificate as a hash value (see **Appendix B**).

3.1.1.2 e-Cert (Personal) certificates issued to Subscribers who are under 18

The Subscriber is identified in the certificate with a Subject Name specified in 3.1.1.1 and the wording "e-Cert (Personal/Minor)" (see **Appendix B**) to indicate that the Subscriber is under 18 at the time the certificate is issued.

3.1.1.3 e-Cert (Organisational) certificates

The Subscriber Organisation for an e-Cert (Organisational) certificate is identified in the certificate with a Subject Name (referred to in **Appendix B**) consisting of:

- a) the Authorised User's name as it appears on the Authorised User's Hong Kong identity card/passport;
- b) the Subscriber Organisation's name as it is registered with the appropriate Hong Kong Government Department or registration agency or as a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR, or the official name of that Bureau or Department where the Subscriber Organisation is a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong Kong SAR; and
- c) the Subscriber Organisation's Hong Kong Company/Business Registration Number where the Subscriber Organisation is not a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong

Kong SAR or as a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR.

3.1.1.4 e-Cert (Server) certificates

The Subscriber Organisation for an e-Cert (Server) certificate is identified in the certificate with a Subject Name (referred to in **Appendix B**) consisting of:-

- a) the Subscriber Organisation's name as it is registered with the appropriate Hong Kong Government Department or registration agency or as a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR, or the official name of that Bureau or Department where the Subscriber Organisation is a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong Kong SAR;
- b) the Subscriber Organisation's Hong Kong Company/Business Registration Number where the Subscriber Organisation is not a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong Kong SAR or a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR; and
- c) the server name (including domain name of the server) owned by the Subscriber Organisation.

3.1.1.5 e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates

Subscriber Organisations for e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates will be identified in the certificate with a Subject Name (referred to in **Appendix B**) consisting of:-

- a) the Subscriber Organisation's name as it is registered with the appropriate Hong Kong Government Department or registration agency or as a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR, or the official name of that Bureau or Department where the Subscriber Organisation is a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong Kong SAR;
- b) the Subscriber Organisation's Hong Kong Company/Business Registration Number where the Subscriber Organisation is not a Bureau or Department of the Government of Hong Kong SAR or a statutory body whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong SAR; and
- c) the name of Authorised Unit of the Subscriber Organisation.

3.1.1.6 The Authorised Representative

Although the Authorised Representative of the Organisation is responsible for administering on its behalf the application for an e-Cert (Organisational) certificate, e-Cert (Server) certificate or e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate, that person will not be identified in the e-Cert.

3.1.1.7 Organisation Names in Chinese Language

All e-Certs are issued in English language only. For Organisations who subscribe to e-Cert and are companies with company names in the Chinese language only or who have provided their company's Chinese name only, their company names will not be displayed on the e-Cert .

3.1.2 Need for Names to be Meaningful

All names must be meaningful using commonly understood semantics to determine the identity of the Subscriber.

3.1.3 Rules for Interpreting Various Names

The types of names of the Subscriber (Subject Name) to be included in the e-Cert certificates are described in Section 3.1.1. **Appendix B** should be referred to for interpretation of the subject name of the e-Cert certificates.

3.1.4 Name Uniqueness

The Subject Name (referred to in **Appendix B**) shall be unambiguous and unique to a Subscriber. However, this CPS does not require that a specific component or element of a name be unique or unambiguous by itself.

3.1.5 Name Claim Dispute Resolution Procedure

The decisions of HKPost in matters concerning name disputes are discretionary and final.

3.1.6 Infringement and Violation of Trademarks

Applicants and Subscribers warrant (promise) to HKPost and represent to Relying Parties that the Information supplied by them in the e-Cert application process does not infringe or violate in any way the trademarks, service marks, trade name, company name, or any other intellectual property rights of any third party.

3.1.7 Method to Prove Possession of the Private Key

HKPost carry out the central key generation service on behalf of the Subscriber. HKPost will generate the certificate in a Trustworthy System and environment within HKPost's premises to ensure that the Private Key is not tampered with. The Private Key together with the certificate are delivered to the Applicant in a secure manner stipulated in Section 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 below.

3.1.8 Authentication of Identity of Organisational Applicant

3.1.8.1 Applications for e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates should be made at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost by the personal attendance of the Applicant's Authorised Representative who is required to present his/her own Hong Kong SAR identity card or passport. At the sole discretion of HKPost, the Applicant may be allowed to submit the application accompanied by a copy of the AR's own Hong Kong SAR identity card or passport with the AR's signature, in lieu of the AR's personal attendance, provided that (a) the AR's identity has been authenticated in a past application of the Subscriber Organisation, and the AR has appeared at the designated HKPost premises for identity verification in that application; and (b) reasonable justification is available for re-affirming the identity of the AR, such as confirmation with the AR through telephone call or checking the AR's signature against that on past application records. In case of doubt, HKPost may decline the application.

3.1.8.2 Each application for e-Cert (Organisational) certificates must be accompanied by the following documentation:-

- a) An authorisation letter bearing the "For and on behalf of" chop and the authorised signature(s) of the Organisation giving authority to the Authorised Representative to make the application and identify the Authorised Users to be identified in the e-Cert (Organisational) certificates;

- b) Photocopies of the Hong Kong identity cards or passports of all Authorised Users to be so identified. If Authorised Users are not Hong Kong citizen, photocopies of valid travel documents of Authorised Users are accepted.
- c) Documentation issued by the appropriate Hong Kong registration agency attesting to the existence of the Organisation. The validity of the documentation should not expire within one month by the time the application is submitted;

3.1.8.3 Each application for e-Cert (Server) certificates must be accompanied by the following documentation:-

- a) An authorisation letter bearing the “For and on behalf of” chop and the authorised signature(s) of the Organisation giving authority to the Authorised Representative to make the application and prove the ownership of the domain name to be identified in the e-Cert (Server) certificate; and
- b) Documentation issued by the appropriate Hong Kong registration agency attesting the existence of the Organisation. The validity of the documentation should not expire within one month by the time the application is submitted;

3.1.8.4 Each application for e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates must be accompanied by the following documentation:-

- a) An authorisation letter bearing the “For and on behalf of” chop and the authorised signature(s) of the Organisation giving authority to the Authorised Representative to make the application; and
- b) Documentation issued by the appropriate Hong Kong registration agency attesting the existence of the Organisation. The validity of the documentation should not expire within one month by the time the application is submitted;

3.1.8.5 Applications from Bureaux or Departments of the Government of Hong Kong SAR, must be accompanied by a memo, a letter or a relevant application form impressed with the relevant Bureau or Department chop, appointing the Authorised Representative to sign on behalf of the Bureau or Department, any documents relating to the application, revocation and renewal of HKPost e-Certs. The memo, letter or relevant application form must be signed by a Departmental Secretary or officer at equivalent level.

3.1.8.6 For Subscriber Organisations to whom an e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Encipherment) or e-Cert (Server) certificate with a 2-year validity period is issued, HKPost will verify again the existence of the Subscriber Organisation, and in the case of e-Cert (Server) the ownership of the domain name identified in the certificate, approximately at the end of the first year of the validity period. HKPost may suspend or revoke the certificates issued to that Subscriber Organisation in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 4.5 (Certificate Revocation) of this CPS if the Subscriber Organisation’s existence cannot be attested, or in the case of e-Cert (Server) the ownership of the domain name cannot be attested.

3.1.9 Authentication of Identity of Personal Applicant

Confirmation of the identity of each Applicant of e-Cert (Personal) certificate will be accomplished through one of the following processes:-

- a) Each Applicant for a certificate shall appear at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost, and submit a completed and signed e-Cert

application form and the Subscriber Agreement and the Applicant's Hong Kong identity card. Personnel at the aforementioned premises will review and certify the application package, and forward the application to HKPost CA Centre for processing.

- b) Each Applicant for a certificate shall present his valid Digital Signature supported by a valid e-Cert (Personal) certificate. Applicants without valid e-Cert (Personal) certificate should follow the process at (a) above for identity confirmation.

3.2 Subscription Period of e-Cert (Personal) Certificates

3.2.1. An e-Cert (Personal) certificate issued is physically valid for three years and its subscription period is one year. HKPost will notify Subscribers to extend the subscription period prior to its expiry. The subscription of e-Cert service can be extended before expiry of the subscription period at the request of the Subscriber, the discretion of HKPost, or upon special promotional program introduced by HKPost. HKPost will not perform extension of subscription period for expired or revoked certificates.

3.2.2 Subscribers will not be issued another e-Cert (Personal) certificate upon extension of subscription period during the three-year validity period. If a Subscriber does not pay the subscription fee when required before the subscription period expires, his e-Cert may be revoked upon expiry of subscription period. In the case of e-Cert (Personal) certificate embedded in Smart ID Card, the Subscriber may leave the e-Cert on the Smart ID Card or go to one of the designated Post Offices to have his e-Cert removed from the Smart ID Card.

3.2.3 The subscription period of an e-Cert (Personal) certificate may be extended without going through the process of an authentication of the identity of the Subscriber which is required when a new certificate application is made. To request for extension of the subscription period, the Subscriber is required to settle the payment by such means as HKPost will from time to time stipulate. HKPost CA may, at its discretion, extend the subscription period of the Subscriber without asking the Subscriber to request for the extension of the subscription period. Upon extension of the subscription period, the Subscriber's e-Cert and key pair will continue to be valid and generation of new key pair of the Subscriber will not be required. Upon extension of the subscription period, the terms and conditions of the original Subscriber Agreement will apply to the certificate, except insofar as such terms are incompatible with the terms of the CPS current at the date of the extension of subscription period. In the case of such incompatibility the terms of the current CPS will prevail. Upon extension of the subscription period, the Subscriber should read the terms of the CPS current at the date of the request.

3.3 Renewal of e-Cert (Personal) Certificate

3.3.1 HKPost will notify Subscribers to renew the e-Cert (Personal) certificates prior to the expiry of the certificates' validity period. The certificates can be renewed before expiry of their validity at the request of the Subscriber and the discretion of HKPost. HKPost will not perform renewal of expired, suspended or revoked certificates. At the discretion of HKPost, the new certificate to be issued to the Subscriber may be valid as from the date the new certificate is generated and expire on the date that is three (3) years after the expiry date of the old certificate being renewed. Accordingly, the new e-Cert (Personal) certificate may have a validity period of more than three years but no more than three years and one month.

3.3.2 By using valid digital signature as specified in section 3.1.9 (b), an e-Cert (Personal) certificate may be renewed without going through the process of an authentication of the identity of the Subscriber which is required when a new certificate application is made. Other than that, the Subscriber is required to submit a completed and signed renewal application form to HKPost to apply for renewal. Details of the renewal application are available at both post offices and HKPost's web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>. Upon certificate renewal, a new key pair of the Subscriber will be generated through HKPost's central key generation service by HKPost's personnel. Upon certificate renewal, the terms and conditions of the original Subscriber Agreement will apply to the renewed certificate, except insofar as such terms are incompatible with the terms of the CPS current at the date of renewal. In the case of such incompatibility the terms of the current CPS will prevail. Applicants for renewal should read the terms of the CPS current at the date of renewal before submitting the renewal forms.

3.4 Renewal of e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates

3.4.1 HKPost will notify Subscribers to renew the e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates prior to the expiry of the certificates. The certificates can be renewed before expiry of their validity at the request of the Subscriber and the discretion of HKPost. HKPost will not perform renewal of expired, suspended or revoked certificates. At the discretion of HKPost, the validity period of the new certificate to be issued to the Subscriber may be valid for a period longer than the validity period of the certificate specified in Section 1.2.4.

<u>Validity period of new certificate</u>	<u>Validity period start date to be specified in the new certificate</u>	<u>Validity period end date to be specified in the new certificate</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
One year	The date the new certificate is generated	The date that is one year after the expiry date of the old certificate being renewed	The new certificate may have a validity period of more than one year but no more than one year and one month
Two years	The date the new certificate is generated	The date that is two years after the expiry date of the old certificate being renewed	The new certificate may have a validity period of more than two years but no more than two years and one month

3.4.2 There is no automatic certificate renewal of an e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates. The process of "Authentication of Identity of Organisational Applicant" as described under Section 3.1.8 will be conducted. The Authorised Representative of the Organisation will need to complete and submit a Certificate Renewal Form (available at HKPost web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>) along with the other documentation referred to in the application form and appropriate renewal fee. In circumstances where Authorised Representatives are replaced, the new Authorised Representative will need to also complete and submit an application form.

3.4.3 Upon renewal, the terms and conditions of the original Subscriber Agreement will apply to the renewed certificate, except insofar as such terms are incompatible with the terms of the CPS current at the date of renewal. In the case of such incompatibility the terms of the current

CPS will prevail. Applicants for renewal should read the terms of the CPS current at the date of renewal before submitting the renewal forms.

4. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 e-Cert (Personal) Certificates

4.1.1 Certificate Application

4.1.1.1 Application Processing

4.1.1.1.1 Citizens who have been issued the Smart ID Card but have not applied for an e-Cert on the Smart ID Card may apply to embed an e-Cert on their Smart ID Card (see Section 4.1.3) by submitting application forms at designated HKPost premises.

4.1.1.1.2 Citizens may apply for issuance of an e-Cert on a floppy disk or alternative storage media other than on the smart ID card at designated HKPost premises (see Section 4.1.3.2).

4.1.1.1.3 By submitting an e-Cert application form, the Applicant authorizes the publication of the e-Cert to any other person or in the HKPost Repository and thus accepts the e-Cert to be issued to the Applicant.

4.1.1.2 Back-up Copy of e-Cert and Private Key

4.1.1.2.1 The e-Cert and the Private Key embedded on the Smart ID Card shall not be recovered in case the card is lost or damaged. Accordingly, the Applicant is provided with an option to have a backup copy of his e-Cert and Private Key embedded on the Smart ID Card on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium at a charge specified on the application form. The Applicant may, at the time of submitting an application form, opt for a backup e-Cert and Private Key.

4.1.1.2.2 If the Applicant has opted for a back-up copy of e-Cert, the Private Key and e-Cert, which are protected by the Applicant's PIN, will then be stored on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium. The floppy disk or alternative storage medium, which will be sealed up in a tamper-proof envelope or other forms of containers, will then be delivered to the Applicant.

4.1.1.2.3 All Private Keys stored in the HKPost system are in an encrypted form. Proper security controls are in place to guard against unauthorized access to and disclosure of the encrypted Private Keys. Upon completion of delivery of the e-Certs and Private Keys to the Applicants, the Applicants' Private Keys will be purged from the HKPost system.

4.1.1.3 Identity Verification

4.1.1.3.1 The Applicant is required to present his HKID Card for identity verification conducted by HKPost staff at HKPost premises as stated in section 3.1.9 (a). Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, an e-Cert PIN envelope will be delivered to the Applicant.

4.1.1.3.2 Each of the e-Certs and Private Keys embedded onto the Smart ID Cards will be protected by individual PINs. The PINs will be distributed to the e-Cert Applicants separately in

the form of sealed PIN envelopes. The e-Cert PIN will be required for any subsequent use of the e-Cert and Private Key in order to prevent unauthorized access to the e-Cert and Private Key.

4.1.1.4 Verification on Certificate Information

Applicants can either verify the information on the certificate by browsing the certificate file or through HKPost CA repository. Applicants can also verify the information of certificate that was embedded on the SmartID card by applying appropriate smartcard reader. Applicants should notify HKPost immediately of any incorrect information of the certificate.

4.1.2 Issuance of e-Cert (Personal) Certificate at HKPost Premises

4.1.2.1 Issuing and Embedding e-Cert (Personal) Certificate onto Smart ID Cards at HKPost Premises

4.1.2.1.1 For citizens who decide to opt for the e-Cert after their Smart ID Cards are issued, they may complete their applications and embed their e-Certs and Private Keys on their Smart ID Cards over the designated HKPost premises (the list is published at the HKPost web site at www.hongkongpost.gov.hk) through the following steps:-

- a) The Applicant submits the application, completes identity verification and collects the PIN envelope in accordance with the process described in Section 4.1.1.1.2, 4.1.1.2 and 4.1.1.3.
- b) HKPost's staff will capture the Applicant's data provided on the application form at the terminal installed at the counter for the generation of the Applicant's e-Cert.
- c) The content of the e-Cert to be generated will be displayed on the screen for the Applicant's verification.
- d) If the Applicant confirms the accuracy of the information on him/her to be contained in the e-Cert, the Applicant's Smart ID Card will be inserted into a card reader and the corresponding e-Cert and Private Key will be retrieved from the back-end secure system and then loaded onto the Smart ID Card through a secure mechanism. The e-Cert and Private key embedded on the Smart ID Card will be protected by the e-Cert PIN inside the sealed PIN envelope delivered to the Applicant. If the Applicant rejects the information on him/her to be contained in the e-Cert, no e-Cert and Private Key will be loaded onto the Smart ID Card.
- e) After completing the above process, the Smart ID Card will be returned to the Applicant immediately;
- f) The accepted and issued e-Cert will then be published in the HKPost Repository.

4.1.2.2 Issuing and Embedding e-Cert onto Floppy Disk or Alternative Storage Medium

4.1.2.2.1 For citizens who wish to apply for an e-Cert on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium, other than on the Smart ID Card, may complete the application at designated HKPost premises. The list of designated HKPost premises is published at the HKPost web site at www.hongkongpost.gov.hk.

4.1.2.2.2 Citizens may complete their applications and collect their e-Certs and Private Keys stored on floppy disks or alternative storage media over the designated HKPost premises through the following steps:-

- a) The Applicant submits the application, completes identity verification and collects the PIN envelope in accordance with the following process:-
 - The Applicant presents his HKID Card for identity verification conducted by HKPost staff at HKPost premises. Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, an e-Cert PIN envelope will be delivered to the Applicant.
 - Each of the e-Certs and Private Keys embedded onto the floppy disks or alternative storage media will be protected by individual PINs. The PINs will be distributed to the e-Cert Applicants separately in the form of sealed PIN envelopes. The e-Cert PIN will be required for any subsequent use of the e-Cert and Private Key in order to prevent unauthorized access to the e-Cert and Private Key.
- b) HKPost's staff will capture the Applicant's data provided on the application form at the terminal installed at the counter for the generation of the Applicant's e-Cert. This is done in a Trustworthy System and environment within HKPost's premises to ensure that the Private Key will not be tampered with.
- c) The content of the e-Cert to be generated will be displayed on the screen for the Applicant's verification.
- d) If the Applicant confirms the accuracy of the information on the Applicant to be contained in the e-Cert, the Applicant's e-Cert and Private key will be retrieved from the back-end secure system and then loaded onto floppy disk or alternative storage medium through a secure mechanism. The e-Cert and Private key embedded on the floppy disk or alternative storage medium will be protected by the e-Cert PIN inside the sealed PIN envelope delivered to the Applicant. If the Applicant rejects the information on him/her to be contained in the e-Cert, no e-Cert and Private Key will be loaded onto any floppy disk or alternative storage media at the HKPost premises.
- e) After completing the above process, the floppy disk or alternative storage medium will be delivered to the Applicant immediately.
- f) The accepted and issued e-Cert will then be published in the HKPost Repository.

4.1.2.2.3 Citizens may also complete their application at designated HKPost premises and collect their e-Certs and Private Keys stored on floppy disks or alternative storage media by post through the following steps:-

- a) The Applicant presents his HKID Card for identity verification conducted by HKPost staff at HKPost premises. Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, an e-Cert PIN envelope will be delivered to the Applicant.
- b) Following the identity verification process, HKPost will generate the e-Certs (including the associated key pairs) of the respective Applicants. This is done in a Trustworthy

System and environment within HKPost's premises to ensure that the Private Key will not be tampered with.

- c) The Private Key and e-Cert will then be stored on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium. Each of the e-Certs and Private Keys embedded onto the floppy disks or alternative storage media will be protected by the e-Cert PIN in the Applicant's PIN envelope. The e-Cert PIN will be required for any subsequent use of the e-Cert and Private Key in order to prevent unauthorized access to the e-Cert and Private Key. The floppy disk or alternative storage medium, which will be sealed up in a tamper-proof envelope or other forms of containers, will then be delivered to the Applicant in a secure manner such as by registered mail.
- d) The accepted and issued e-Cert will then be published in the HKPost Repository.

4.2 e-Cert (Organisational) Certificates

4.2.1 Certificate Application

4.2.1.1 Application Processing

4.2.1.1.1 Applicants for e-Cert (Organisational) must complete and submit an application at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost.

4.2.1.1.2 By submitting an e-Cert application form, the Applicant authorizes the publication of the e-Cert to any other person or in the HKPost Repository and thus accepts the e-Cert to be issued to the Applicant.

4.2.1.2 Identity Verification

The documentation required for proving the identity of the Subscriber Organisation, Authorised Representative(s) and Authorised Users is stipulated in Section 3.1.8 of this CPS. Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, the e-Cert PIN envelopes will be delivered to the Authorised Representative in a secure manner such as by registered mail.

4.2.2 Certificate Issuance

4.2.2.1 Following the identity verification process, HKPost will generate the e-Certs (including the associated key pairs) of the respective Authorised Users. This is done in a Trustworthy System and environment within HKPost's premises to ensure that the Private Key will not be tampered with.

4.2.2.2 The Private Key and e-Cert, which are protected by a PIN, will then be stored on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium. The floppy disk or alternative storage medium, which will be sealed up in a tamper-proof envelope or other forms of containers, will then be delivered to the Authorised Representative in a secure manner such as by registered mail.

4.2.2.3 The Subscriber Organisation agree that it is fully accountable for the safe custody of the Private Key upon receipt of the disk or alternative storage medium and agree that they will be responsible for any consequences under any circumstances for the compromise of the Private Key.

4.2.2.4 All Private Keys stored in the HKPost system are in an encrypted form. Proper security controls are in place to guard against unauthorized access to and disclosure of the encrypted Private Keys. Upon completion of delivery of the e-Certs and Private Keys to the Authorised Representative, the respective Private Keys will be purged from the HKPost system.

4.2.3 Publication of e-Cert

Under the Ordinance, HKPost will publish promptly the accepted and issued e-Cert in the Repository (see Section 2.5). Applicants can either verify the information on the certificate by browsing the certificate file or through HKPost CA repository. Applicants should notify HKPost immediately of any incorrect information of the certificate

4.3 e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates

4.3.1 Certificate Application

4.3.1.1 Application Processing

4.3.1.1.1 Applicants for e-Cert (Encipherment) must complete and submit an application at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost.

4.3.1.1.2 By submitting an e-Cert application form, the Applicant authorizes the publication of the e-Cert to any other person or in the HKPost Repository and thus accepts the e-Cert to be issued to the Applicant.

4.3.1.2 Identity Verification

The documentation required for proving the identity of the Subscriber Organisation and Authorised Representative(s) is stipulated in Section 3.1.8 of this CPS. Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, the e-Cert PIN envelopes will be delivered to the Authorised Representative in a secure manner.

4.3.2 Certificate Issuance

4.3.2.1 Following the identity verification process, HKPost will generate the e-Certs (including the associated key pairs) of the respective Authorised Units. This is done in a Trustworthy System and environment within HKPost's premises to ensure that the Private Key will not be tampered with.

4.3.2.2 The Private Key and e-Cert, which are protected by a PIN, will then be stored on a floppy disk or alternative storage medium. The floppy disk or alternative storage medium, which will be sealed up in a tamper-proof envelope or other forms of containers, will then be delivered to the Authorised Representative in a secure manner such as by registered mail.

4.3.2.3 The Subscriber Organisation agree that it is fully accountable for the safe custody of the Private Key upon receipt of the disk or alternative storage medium and agree that they will be responsible for any consequences under any circumstances for the compromise of the Private Key.

4.3.2.4 All Private Keys stored in the HKPost system are in an encrypted form. Proper security controls are in place to guard against unauthorized access to and disclosure of the encrypted Private Keys. Upon completion of delivery of the e-Certs and Private Keys to the Authorised Representative, the respective Private Keys will be purged from the HKPost system.

4.3.3 Publication of e-Cert

Under the Ordinance, HKPost will publish promptly the accepted and issued e-Cert in the Repository (see Section 2.5). Applicants can either verify the information on the certificate by browsing the certificate file or through HKPost CA repository. Applicants should notify HKPost immediately of any incorrect information of the certificate.

4.4 e-Cert (Server) Certificates

4.4.1 Certificate Application

4.4.1.1 Application Processing

4.4.1.1.1 Applicants for e-Cert (Server) must complete and submit an application at a designated HKPost premises, or premises of other organisations designated by HKPost.

4.4.1.1.2 By submitting an e-Cert application form, the Applicant authorizes the publication of the e-Cert to any other person or in the HKPost Repository and thus accepts the e-Cert to be issued to the Applicant.

4.4.1.2 Identity Verification

The documentation required for proving the identity of the Subscriber Organisation and Authorised Representative(s) is stipulated in Section 3.1.8 of this CPS. Upon satisfactory completion of the identity verification process, the e-Cert PIN envelopes will be delivered to the Authorised Representative in a secure manner such as by registered mail.

4.4.2 Certificate Issuance and Publication

4.4.2.1 Following the identity verification process, HKPost will notify the Applicant approval of an application. The certificate issuance process is as follows:-

- a) The applicant generates the private key and public key on his/her own devices.
- b) The applicant generates on his/her own devices the Certificate Signing Request (CSR) containing the public key, and transmits the CSR to HKPost through a designated web page at www.hongkongpost.gov.hk.
- c) Upon receipt of the CSR, HKPost will verify that the applicant is in possession of the corresponding private key by checking the digital signature on the CSR structure containing the public key material. HKPost will not have possession of the applicants' private keys.
- d) Upon verifying the applicant's possession of his/her private key, HKPost will generate the certificate in which the applicant's public key will be included.
- e) The Applicant verifies and confirms the accuracy of the information contained in the e-Cert at the designated web page at www.hongkongpost.gov.hk. If the

Applicant rejects the e-Cert, HKPost will revoke that e-Cert. The issued and accepted e-Cert will then be transmitted to the Applicant and published in the Repository under the Ordinance.

- f) Applicants can either verify the information on the certificate by browsing the certificate file or through HKPost CA repository. Applicants should notify HKPost immediately of any incorrect information of the certificate.

4.5 Certificate Revocation

4.5.1 Circumstances for Revocation

4.5.1.1 The compromise of a HKPost Private Key will result in prompt revocation of the certificates issued under that Private Key. Procedures stipulated in the business continuity plans will be exercised to facilitate rapid revocation of all certificates in the event of compromise of the HKPost Private Keys (see Section 4.9.2).

4.5.1.2 Each Subscriber may make a request to revoke the certificate for which they are responsible under a Subscriber Agreement at any time for any reason by following the revocation procedure set out in this CPS.

4.5.1.3 Each Subscriber MUST apply to HKPost for the revocation of the certificate in accordance with the revocation procedures in this CPS immediately after the Subscriber's Private Key, or the media containing the Private Key corresponding to the Public Key contained in an e-Cert has been, or is suspected of having been, compromised (see also Section 2.1.3(g)).

4.5.1.4 HKPost may suspend or revoke a certificate and will notify the Subscriber either by email or updating the certificate revocation list of such suspension or revocation ("Notice of Revocation") in accordance with the procedures in the CPS whenever it:-

- a) Knows or reasonably suspects that a Subscriber's Private Key has been compromised;
- b) Knows or reasonably suspects that any details upon a certificate are not true or have become untrue or that the certificate is otherwise unreliable;
- c) Determines that a certificate was not properly issued in accordance with the CPS;
- d) Determines that the Subscriber had failed to meet any of the obligations set out in the CPS or the Subscriber Agreement;
- e) Is required to do so by any regulation, or law applicable to the certificate;
- f) Determines that the Subscriber has failed to pay the subscription fee;
- g) Knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the Subscriber whose details appear on an e-Cert (Personal) certificate:
 - (i) Is dead or has died;
 - (ii) Is or has become an undischarged bankrupt or has entered into a composition or scheme of arrangement or a voluntary arrangement within the meaning of the Bankruptcy Ordinance (Cap. 6) within 5 years preceding the date of revocation; or
 - (iii) Has been convicted in Hong Kong or elsewhere of an offence for which it was necessary to find that the person acted fraudulently, corruptly or dishonestly or committed an offence under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance;

- h) Knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the Authorised User named in an e-Cert (Organisational) certificate has ceased to be a member or employee of the Subscriber Organisation; or
- i) Knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the Subscriber whose details appear on an e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Server) or e-Cert (Encipherment) certificate that:-
 - i) the Subscriber is in liquidation, or a winding up order relating to the Subscriber has been made by any Court of competent jurisdiction;
 - ii) the Subscriber has entered into a composition or a scheme of arrangement or a voluntary arrangement within the meaning of the Bankruptcy Ordinance (Cap.6) within 5 years preceding the date of intended revocation;
 - iii) a director, officer or employee of the Subscriber has been convicted of an offence for which it was necessary to find that that person acted fraudulently, corruptly or dishonestly or committed an offence under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance;or
- iv) a receiver or administrator has been appointed over any part of the Subscriber's assets within 5 years preceding the date of revocation.

4.5.2 Revocation Request Procedure

4.5.2.1 A Subscriber, or the Authorised Representative of a Subscriber Organisation, may submit a certificate revocation request to HKPost through a designated web page on the HKPost web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>, by fax, letter mail, email or in-person. Subscribers need to submit revocation request in case they fail to pay the subscription fee and refuse to accept the promotional offer in extending the subscription period. Based on the revocation request, HKPost will suspend the validity of the certificate. The certificate will be revoked, which terminates the validity of the certificate permanently, upon receipt of the final confirmation of revocation from the Subscriber or through the RA to which the request for revocation was first submitted. Such final confirmation of revocation can be an email digitally signed by the Subscriber's Private Key, an original letter signed by the Subscriber or a Request for Certificate Revocation Form signed by the Subscriber. If no final confirmation of revocation is received from the Subscriber, the validity of the certificate will remain suspended and will be included in the Certificate Revocation List (CRL) until the certificate expires. The Request for Certificate Revocation Form can be obtained from the web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>. HKPost may consider Subscriber's request for resuming the validity of certificates that are suspended. However, resuming the validity of a certificate that is suspended is only at the discretion of HKPost.

4.5.2.2 The Information of all certificates that have been suspended or revoked, including the reason code identifying the reason for the certificate suspension and revocation, will be included in the Certificate Revocation List (see Section 7.2). A certificate that is resumed from a "suspended" status will not be included in the succeeding Certificate Revocation Lists.

4.5.2.3 The business hours of HKPost for processing certificate revocation requests submitted by fax, letter mail, email or in-person are as follows:

Monday - Friday	09:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday	09:00 am - 12:00 noon

In case a tropical cyclone warning signal no. 8 (or above) or a black rainstorm warning signal is hoisted, HKPost will stop processing revocation requests and will open at its usual hour if the signal is lowered at or before 6 am on that day. If the signal is lowered between 6 am and 10 am or at 10 am, HKPost will open at 2:00 pm for any weekday other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday

4.5.3 Service Pledge & Certificate Revocation List Update

- a) HKPost will exercise reasonable endeavours to ensure that within 2 working days of (1) HKPost receiving a revocation request from the Subscriber or (2) in the absence of such a request, the decision by HKPost to suspend or revoke the certificate, the suspension or revocation is posted to the Certificate Revocation List. However, a Certificate Revocation List is not immediately published in the directory for access by the public following each certificate suspension or revocation. Only when the next Certificate Revocation List is updated and published will it reflect the suspended or revoked status of the certificate. Certificate Revocation Lists are published daily and are archived for 7 years.

For the avoidance of doubt, all Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays and for all weekdays on which a tropical cyclone and rainstorm warning signal is hoisted, are not working days.

HKPost will exercise reasonable endeavours to notify relevant Subscribers either by email or updating the certificate revocation list within two working days following the suspension or revocation.

- b) Subscribers must not use a certificate in a transaction on becoming aware of any ground upon which HKPost could revoke it under the terms of the CPS and must not use it in a transaction after the Subscriber has made a revocation request or been notified by HKPost of HKPost's intention to suspend or revoke the certificate. HKPost shall be under no liability to Subscribers or Relying Parties in respect of any such transactions if, despite the foregoing of this sub-section, they do use the certificate in a transaction.
- c) Further, upon becoming so aware of any ground upon which HKPost could revoke the certificate, or upon making a revocation request or upon being notified by HKPost of its intention to revoke the certificate, Subscribers must immediately notify Relying Parties in any transaction that remains to be completed at the time, that the certificate used in that transaction is liable to be revoked (either by HKPost or at the Subscriber's request) and state in clear terms that, as this is the case, the Relying Parties should not rely upon the certificate in respect of the transaction. HKPost shall be under no liability in respect of such transactions to Subscribers who fail to notify Relying Parties, and under no liability to Relying Parties who receive such a notification from Subscribers but complete the transaction despite such notification.

HKPost shall be under no liability to Relying Parties in respect of the transactions in the period between HKPost's decision to suspend or revoke a certificate (either in response to a request or otherwise) and the appearance of the suspension or revocation status on the Certificate Revocation List, unless HKPost has failed to exercise reasonable skill and care and the Subscriber has failed to notify the Relying Party as required by these provisions. Any such liability is limited as set out elsewhere in this CPS. In no circumstances does the RA itself undertake a separate duty of care to Relying Parties (the RA is simply

discharging HKPost's duty of care), and accordingly, even if negligent, the RA itself cannot be held liable to Relying Parties.

- d) The e-Cert Certificate Revocation List (CRL) is updated and published in accordance with the schedule and format specified in **Appendix C**.
- e) HKPost's policy concerning the situation where a relying party is temporarily unable to obtain Information on suspended or revoked certificate is stipulated in Section 2.1.5 (Relying Parties Obligations) and Section 2.2.1 (Reasonable Skill and Care) of this CPS.

4.5.4 Effect of Revocation

Revocation terminates a certificate as of the time that HKPost posts the suspension/revocation status to the Certificate Revocation List. In the case of suspended or revoked e-Cert (Personal) certificate embedded in Smart ID Card, the Subscriber may leave the e-Cert on the Smart ID Card or go to one of the designated Post Offices to have his e-Cert removed from the Smart ID Card.

4.6 Computer Security Audit Procedures

4.6.1 Types of Events Recorded

Significant security events in the HKPost CA system are manually or automatically recorded to protected audit trail files. These events include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Suspicious network activity
- Repeated failed access attempts
- Events related to equipment and software installation, modification, and configuration of the CA operation
- Privileged accesses to all CA components
- Regular certificate management operations including:-
 - Certificate revocation and suspension requests
 - Actual issuance, revocation and suspension of certificates
 - Certificate renewals
 - Updates to repositories
 - CRL generation and posting
 - CA Key rollover
 - Backups
 - Emergency key recoveries

4.6.2 Frequency of Processing Log

Audit logs are processed and reviewed on a daily basis to provide audit trails of actions, transactions and processes of the HKPost CA.

4.6.3 Retention Period for Audit Logs

Archived audit log files are retained for 7 years.

4.6.4 Protection of Audit Logs

HKPost implement multi-person control on processing audit logs which are afforded adequate protection against accidental damage or deliberate modifications.

4.6.5 Audit Log Backup Procedures

Adequate backup of audit logs is performed on a daily basis under pre-defined procedures including multi-person control. The backups will be stored off-line and are afforded adequate protection against theft, destruction and media degradation. The backups will be retained for not less than one week before they are archived.

4.6.6 Audit Information Collection System

HKPost CA audit records and files are under the control of an automated audit collection system that cannot be modified by any application, program, or other system function. Any modification to the audit collection system is itself an auditable event.

4.6.7 Notification of Event-Causing Subject to HKPost

HKPost has an automated process in place to report critical audited events to the appropriate person or system.

4.6.8 Vulnerability Assessments

Vulnerability assessments are conducted as part of HKPost's CA security procedures.

4.7 Records Archival

4.7.1 Types of Records Archived

HKPost shall ensure that archived Records are detailed enough to establish the validity of a certificate and the proper operation of it in the past. The following data are archived by (or on behalf of) HKPost:

- System equipment configuration files;
- Results of assessments and/or review for accreditation of the equipment (if conducted);
- Certification Practice Statement and its modifications or updates;
- Contractual agreements to which HKPost is bound;
- All certificates and CRLs as issued or published;
- Periodic event logs; and
- Other data necessary for verifying archive contents.

4.7.2 Archive Retention Period

Key and certificate Information is securely maintained for 7 years. Audit trail files are maintained in the CA systems as deemed appropriate by HKPost.

4.7.3 Archive Protection

Archived media maintained by HKPost is protected from unauthorised access by various physical and cryptographic means. Protective measures are used to protect the archiving media from environmental threats such as temperature, humidity and magnetism.

4.7.4 Archive Backup Procedures

Backup copies of the archives will be created and maintained when necessary

4.7.5 Timestamping

Archived Information is marked with the date at which the archive item was created. HKPost utilizes controls to prevent the unauthorized manipulation of the system clocks.

4.8 Key Changeover

The lifespan of the HKPost CA and e-Cert root keys and certificates created by HKPost for the purpose of certifying certificates issued under this CPS is no more than 20 years. HKPost CA keys and certificates will be renewed at least 3 months before their certificates expire. Upon renewal of a root key, the associated root certificate will be published for public access. The original root keys will be kept for a minimum period as specified in Section 4.7.2 for verification of any signatures generated by the original root keys.

4.9 Disaster Recovery and Key Compromise Plans

4.9.1 Disaster Recovery Plan

A managed process, including daily backup of essential business information and CA system data and proper backup of CA system software, is in place for maintaining business continuity plans to protect critical business processes from the effect of major failures or disasters. Business continuity plans exist to enable the complete recovery of all HKPost services. This incorporates a tested independent disaster recovery site which is currently located at least 10km from the CA's primary site within the territory of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The business continuity plans are reviewed and exercised annually.

HKPost will promptly notify the Government Chief Information Officer and make public announcement of the switchover of operation from the production site to the disaster recovery site as a result of major failures or disasters.

During the period of time following a disaster and before a secure environment is re-established:-

- a) Sensitive material or equipment will be locked up safely in the facility;
- b) Sensitive material or equipment will be removed from the facility if it is not possible to lock them up safely in the facility or if there is a risk of damage to the material or equipment, and such material or equipment will be locked up in other temporary facilities; and
- c) Access control will be enforced at all entrances and exits of the facility to protect the facility from theft and unauthorised access.

4.9.2 Key Compromise Plan

Formal procedures of handling key compromise are included in the business continuity plans and are reviewed and exercised annually.

HKPost will promptly notify the Government Chief Information Officer and make public announcement if a HKPost Private Key for the issuance of e-Cert certificates under this CPS has been compromised. The compromise of a HKPost Private Key will result in prompt revocation of the certificates issued under that Private Key and the issuance of new and replacement certificates.

4.9.3 Key Replacement

In the event of key compromise or disaster where a HKPost Private Key for the issuance of e-Cert certificates under this CPS has been compromised or corrupted and cannot be recovered, HKPost will promptly notify the Government Chief Information Officer and make a public announcement

as to which certificates have been revoked, and how the new HKPost Public Key is provided to Subscribers, and how Subscribers are issued with new certificates.

4.10 CA Termination

In the event that HKPost ceases to operate as a CA, notification to the Government Chief Information Officer and public announcement will be made in accordance with the procedures set out in the HKPost termination plan. Upon termination of service, HKPost will properly archive the CA Records including certificates issued, root certificates, Certification Practice Statements and Certificate Revocation Lists for 7 years after the date of service termination.

4.11 RA Termination

In the event that the RA is terminated under RA agreement or under CA termination (see Section 4.10) and the RA's authority to act on behalf of HKPost is withdrawn, the e-Certs applied through the RA will remain in effect in accordance with their terms and validity.

5. PHYSICAL, PROCEDURAL, AND PERSONNEL SECURITY CONTROLS

5.1 Physical Security

5.1.1 Site Location and Construction

The HKPost CA operation is located in a site that affords commercially reasonable physical security. During construction of the site, HKPost took appropriate precautions to prepare the site for CA operations.

5.1.2 Access Controls

HKPost has implemented commercially reasonable physical security controls that limit access to the hardware and software (including the CA server, workstations, and any external cryptographic hardware modules or tokens under HKPost's control) used in connection with providing the HKPost CA services. Access to such hardware and software is limited to those personnel performing in a trusted role as described in Section 5.2.1 of this CPS. Access is controlled and manually or electronically monitored for unauthorised intrusion at all times.

5.1.3 Power and Air Conditioning

Power and air conditioning resources available to the CA facility include dedicated air-conditioning system, uninterruptible power supply (UPS) system and a back-up independent power generator to provide power in the event of the failure of the city power system.

5.1.4 Natural Disasters

The CA facility is protected to the extent reasonably possible from natural disasters.

5.1.5 Fire Prevention and Protection

HKPost has a CA facility fire prevention plan and suppression system in place.

5.1.6 Media Storage

Media storage and disposition processes have been developed and are in place.

5.1.7 Off-site Backup

Adequate backups of the HKPost CA system data will be stored off-site and are afforded adequate protection against theft, destruction and media degradation (See also 4.8.1)

5.1.8 Protection of Paper Documents

Paper documents including Subscriber Agreements and photocopies of identity confirmation documents are maintained by HKPost or its RAs in a secure fashion. Only authorised personnel are permitted access to the paper records.

5.2 Procedural Controls

5.2.1 Trusted Role

Employees, contractors, and consultants of HKPost and of RAs acting on behalf of HKPost (collectively "Personnel") that have access to or control of cryptographic or other operations that may materially affect the issuance, use, or revocation of certificates, including access to restricted operations of HKPost's CA database, are considered to be serving in a trusted role. Such

Personnel include, but are not limited to, system administration personnel, operators, engineering personnel, and executives who are assigned to oversee HKPost's CA operation.

Procedures are established, documented and implemented for all trusted roles in relation to HKPost e-Cert services. The procedural integrity is maintained by enforcing:

- different levels of physical and systems access control based on role and responsibility, and
- segregation of duties.

5.2.2 Transfer of Document and Data between HKPost and RAs

All documents and data transmitted between HKPost and RAs are delivered in a control and secure manner.

5.2.3 Annual Assessment

An annual assessment is undertaken to confirm compliance with policy and procedural controls (see Section 2.6).

5.3 Personnel Controls

5.3.1 Background and Qualifications

HKPost follows personnel and management policies that provide reasonable assurance of the trustworthiness and competence of its personnel and that of RAs acting on behalf of HKPost, including employees, contractors and consultants and of the satisfactory performance of their duties in a manner consistent with this CPS.

5.3.2 Background Investigation

HKPost conducts and/or requires RA to conduct investigations of personnel who serve in trusted roles (prior to their employment and periodically thereafter as necessary) to verify the employee's trustworthiness and competence in accordance with the requirements of this CPS and HKPost's personnel policies. Personnel who fail an initial or periodic investigation are not permitted to serve or to continue to serve in a trusted role.

5.3.3 Training Requirements

HKPost personnel and that of RA's have received the initial training needed to perform their duties. HKPost also provides ongoing training as necessary to enable its personnel to remain current in required skills.

5.3.4 Documentation Supplied To Personnel

HKPost personnel and that of RA's receive comprehensive user manuals detailing the procedures for certificate creation, issuance, updating, renewal, and revocation, and other software functionality relative to their role.

6. TECHNICAL SECURITY CONTROLS

This Section is to describe the technical measures established by HKPost to specifically protect its cryptographic keys and associated data. Control of HKPost CA keys is implemented through physical security and secure key storage. The HKPost CA keys are generated, stored, used and destructed only within a tamper-proof hardware device, which is under multi-person access control.

6.1 Key Pair Generation and Installation

6.1.1 Key Pair Generation

Key pairs for HKPost and Applicants/Subscribers are generated through a procedure such that the Private Key cannot be accessed by anyone other than the authorised user of the Private Key unless there is some compromise of the procedure by the authorised user. HKPost generates the root key pairs for issuing certificates that conform to this CPS. In case of central key generation by HKPost on behalf of the Applicants, the Applicants' Private Keys will be purged from the HKPost system upon completion of delivery of the e-Certs and Private Keys to the Applicants.

6.1.2 Subscriber Public Key Delivery

Key pairs for e-Cert (Personal), e-Cert (Organisational) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates will be generated under the central key generation by HKPost on behalf of the Applicant/Subscriber. In respect of e-Cert (Server), the Applicant's Public Key which will be generated by the Applicant must be transferred to HKPost using a method designed to ensure that :-

- The Public Key is not changed during transit; and
- The sender possesses the Private Key that corresponds to the transferred Public Key.

6.1.3 Public Key Delivery to Subscriber

The Public Key of each HKPost key pairs used for the CA's Digital Signatures is available on-line at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>. HKPost utilizes protection to prevent alteration of those keys.

6.1.4 Key Sizes

The HKPost signing key pair is 2048-bit RSA. Subscriber key pairs are 1024-bit RSA.

6.1.5 Standards for Cryptographic Module

Signing key generation, storage, and signing operations performed by HKPost are conducted within a hardware cryptographic module.

6.1.6 Key Usage Purposes

Keys used in e-Cert (Personal), e-Cert (Organisational) and e-Cert (Encipherment) certificates may be used for Digital Signatures and conducting enciphered electronic communications. Keys used in e-Cert (Server) certificates are for the purpose of conducting enciphered electronic communications. HKPost Root Key (the key used to create or issue certificates that conform to this CPS) is used only for signing (a) certificates and (b) Certificate Revocation Lists.

6.2 Private Key Protection

6.2.1 Standards for Cryptographic Module

HKPost Private Keys are created in a crypto module validated to at least FIPS 140-1 Level 3.

6.2.2 Private Key Multi-Person Control

HKPost Private Keys are stored in tamper-proof hardware cryptographic devices. HKPost implements multi-person control over the activation, usage, deactivation of HKPost Private Keys.

6.2.3 Private Key Escrow

No over-all key escrow process is planned for HKPost Private Keys and Subscribers' Private Keys in the e-Cert system used by HKPost. For backup of HKPost Private Keys, see Section 6.2.4 below.

6.2.4 Backup of HKPost Private Keys

Each HKPost Private Key is backed up by encrypting and storing it in devices which conform to FIPS 140-1 Level 2 security standard. Backup of the HKPost Private Key is performed in a manner that requires more than one person to complete. The backup Private Keys must be activated by more than one person. No other Private Keys are backed-up. All Private Keys will not be archived.

6.3 Other Aspects of Key Pair Management

HKPost CA root keys will be used for no more than 20 years (see also Section 4.8). All HKPost key generation, key destruction, key storage, and certificate revocation list signing operations are performed in a hardware cryptographic module. Archival of HKPost Public Keys is performed as specified in Section 4.7.

6.4 Computer Security Controls

HKPost implements multi-person control over the life cycle of activation data such as PINs and passwords for accessing the CA systems. Security procedures are in place to prevent and detect unauthorised access, modification, or compromise of the CA systems. Such security controls are subject to compliance assessment as specified in Section 2.6.

6.5 Life Cycle Technical Security Controls

HKPost implements controls over the procedures for the procurement and development of software and hardware for HKPost systems. Change control procedures are in place to control and monitor all revisions and enhancements to be made to the components of the HKPost systems.

6.6 Network Security Controls

The HKPost systems are protected by firewalls and other access control mechanisms configured to allow only authorised access required for the CA services set forth in this CPS.

6.7 Cryptographic Module Engineering Controls

The cryptographic devices used by HKPost are rated to at least FIPS 140-1 Level 2.



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7. CERTIFICATE AND CERTIFICATE REVOCATION LIST PROFILES

7.1 Certificate Profile

Certificates referred to in this CPS contain the Public Key used for confirming the identity of the sender of an electronic message and verifying the integrity of such messages, i.e., the Public Key used to verify a Digital Signature. All certificates referred to in this CPS are issued in the X.509 version 3 format (See **Appendix B**). A summary of the features of the e-Cert certificates is in **Appendix D**.

7.2 Certificate Revocation List Profile

The HKPost Certificate Revocation List is in the X.509 version 2 format (See **Appendix C**).

8. CPS ADMINISTRATION

All changes to this CPS must be approved and published by HKPost. The CPS changes will be effective upon publication by HKPost in the HKPost CA web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk> or in the HKPost Repository and are binding on all Applicants and Subscribers to whom certificates are issued. HKPost will notify the Government Chief Information Officer any subsequent changes to this CPS as soon as practicable. A copy of this CPS and its predecessors are available for viewing by Applicants, Subscribers and Relying Parties on the HKPost CA web site at <http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk>.

Appendix A - Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings in this CPS

“Accept”, in relation to a certificate –

- (a) in the case of a person named or identified in the certificate as the person to whom the certificate is issued, means to –
 - (i) confirm the accuracy of the information on the person as contained in the certificate;
 - (ii) authorize the publication of the certificate to any other person or in a repository;
 - (iii) use the certificate; or
 - (iv) otherwise demonstrate the approval of the certificate; or
- (b) in the case of a person to be named or identified in the certificate as the person to whom the certificate is issued, means to –
 - (i) confirm the accuracy of the information on the person that is to be contained in the certificate;
 - (ii) authorize the publication of the certificate to any other person or in a repository; or
 - (iii) otherwise demonstrate the approval of the certificate;

"Applicant" means a natural or legal person who has applied for an e-Cert.

"Asymmetric Cryptosystem" means a system capable of generating a secure key pair, consisting of a Private Key for generating a Digital Signature and a Public Key to verify the Digital Signature.

"Authorised Representative" means the duly authorised representative of a Subscriber Organisation.

"Authorised Unit" means a unit of a Subscriber Organisation whom that Subscriber Organisation has duly authorised to use the Private Key of a Hongkong Post (Encipherment) e-Cert issued to that Subscriber Organisation.

"Authorised User" means a member or employee of a Subscriber Organisation whom that Subscriber Organisation has duly authorised to use the Private Key of a Hongkong Post (Organisational) e-Cert issued to that Subscriber Organisation.

Certificate or "e-Cert" means a record which:-

- a) is issued by a Certification Authority for the purpose of supporting a Digital Signature which purports to confirm the identity or other significant characteristics of the person who holds a particular key pair;
- b) identifies the Certification Authority issuing it;
- c) names or identifies the person to whom it is issued;
- d) contains the Public Key of the person to whom it is issued; and
- e) is signed by the Certification Authority issuing it.

"Certification Authority" or "CA" means a person who issues a certificate to a person (who may be another Certification Authority).

"Certification Practice Statement" or **"CPS"** means a statement issued by a Certification Authority to specify the practices and standards that the Certification Authority employs in issuing certificates.

"Certificate Revocation List" or **"CRL"** means a data structure that enumerates public-key certificates (or other kinds of certificates) that have been invalidated by their issuer prior to the time at which they were scheduled to expire.

"Correspond", in relation to private or Public Keys, means to belong to the same key pair.

"Digital Signature", in relation to an Electronic Record, means an Electronic Signature of the signer generated by the transformation of the Electronic Record using an asymmetric cryptosystem and a hash function such that a person having the initial untransformed Electronic Record and the signer's Public Key can determine:-

- (a) whether the transformation was generated using the Private Key that corresponds to the signer's Public Key; and
- (b) whether the initial Electronic Record has been altered since the transformation was generated.

"Electronic Record" means a Record generated in digital form by an Information System, which can be

- (a) transmitted within an Information System or from one Information System to another; and
- (b) stored in an Information System or other medium.

"Electronic Signature" means any letters, characters, numbers or other symbols in digital form attached to or logically associated with an Electronic Record, and executed or adopted for the purpose of authenticating or approving the Electronic Record.

"HKID Card" means the Hong Kong Identity Card, including the Smart ID Card, issued by the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

"Information" includes data, text, images, sound, computer programmes, software and databases.

"Information System" means a system which -

- (a) processes Information;
- (b) records Information;
- (c) can be used to cause Information to be recorded, stored or otherwise processed in other Information systems (wherever situated); and
- (d) can be used to retrieve Information, whether the Information is recorded or stored in the system itself or in other Information systems (wherever situated).

"Intermediary" in relation to a particular Electronic Record, means a person who on behalf of a person, sends, receives or stores that Electronic Record or provides other incidental services with respect to that Electronic Record.

"Issue" in relation to a certificate, means to:

- (a) create the certificate, and then notify the person named or identified in the certificate as the person to whom the certificate is issued of the information on the person as contained in the certificate; or
- (b) notify the person to be named or identified in the certificate as the person to whom the certificate is issued of the information on the person that is to be contained in the certificate, and then create the certificate,

and then make the certificate available for use by the person.

"Key Pair", in an asymmetric crypto system, key pair means a Private Key and its mathematically related Public Key, where the Public Key can verify a Digital Signature that the Private Key generates.

"Ordinance" means the Electronic Transactions Ordinance (Cap. 553).

"Originator" in relation to an Electronic Record, means a person, by whom, or on whose behalf, the Electronic Record is sent or generated but does not include an Intermediary.

"Postmaster General" means the Postmaster General within the meaning of the Post Office Ordinance (Cap.98).

"Private Key" means the key of a key pair used to generate a Digital Signature.

"Public Key" means the key of a key pair used to verify a Digital Signature.

"Recognized Certificate" means

- (a) a certificate recognized under Section 22 of Electronic Transactions Ordinance;
- (b) a certificate of a type, class or description of certificate recognized under Section 22 of Electronic Transactions Ordinance; or
- (c) a certificate designated as a recognized certificate issued by the Certification Authority referred to in Section 34 of Electronic Transactions Ordinance.

"Recognized Certification Authority" means a Certification Authority recognized under Section 21 or the Certification Authority referred to in Section 34 of Electronic Transactions Ordinance.

"Record" means Information that is inscribed on, stored in or otherwise fixed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in a perceivable form.

"Registration Authority" means an organisation that has been appointed by HKPost to act on its behalf in carrying out certain of HKPost functions, and providing certain of HKPost's services.

"Reliance Limit" means the monetary limit specified for reliance on a Recognized Certificate.

"Repository" means an Information System for storing and retrieving certificates and other Information relevant to certificates.

"Responsible Officer" in relation to a Certification Authority, means a person occupying a position of responsibility in relation to the activities of the Certification Authority relevant to the Ordinance.

"Sign" and **"Signature"** include any symbol executed or adopted, or any methodology or procedure employed or adopted, by a person with the intention of authenticating or approving a record.

"Smart ID Card" means the HKID Card onto which an e-Cert may be embedded.

"Subscriber" means a person who:-

- (i) is named or identified in a certificate as the person to whom the certificate is issued;
- (ii) has accepted that certificate; and
- (iii) holds a Private Key which corresponds to a Public Key listed in that certificate.

"Subscriber Agreement" means an agreement which comprises the subscriber terms and conditions specified in the application form entered between the Subscriber and HKPost and the provisions in this CPS..

"Subscriber Organisation" means a Subscriber which is an organisation whose Authorised Representative has signed a Subscriber Agreement and to whom a Hongkong Post e-Cert has been issued in accordance with the eligibility criteria set out in this CPS.

"Trustworthy System" means computer hardware, software and procedures that-

- (a) are reasonably secure from intrusion and misuse;
- (b) are at a reasonable level in respect of availability, reliability and ensuring a correct mode of operations for a reasonable period of time;
- (c) are reasonably suitable for performing their intended function; and
- (d) adhere to generally accepted security principles.

For the purpose of the Electronic Transactions Ordinance, a Digital Signature is taken to be supported by a Certificate if the Digital Signature is verifiable with reference to the Public Key listed in a Certificate the Subscriber of which is the signer.

Appendix B - Hongkong Post e-Cert Format

1) e-Cert (Personal) Certificate Format

Field Name		Field Content	
		Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) certificates	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) certificates issued to persons under 18
Standard fields			
Version		X.509 v3	
Serial number		[Set by HKPost CA system]	
Signature algorithm ID		sha1RSA	
Issuer name		cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK	
Validity period	Not before	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]	
	Not after	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]	
Subject name		cn=[HKID name] ^(Note 1) e=[email address] ^(Note 2) ou=[SRN] ^(Note 3) o=Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) c=HK	cn=[HKID name] ^(Note 1) e=[email address] ^(Note 2) ou=[SRN] ^(Note 3) o=Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal/Minor) ^(Note 4) c=HK
Subject public key info		Algorithm ID: RSA Public Key: 1024-bit key size	
Issuer unique identifier		Not used	
Subject unique identifier		Not used	
Standard extension ^(Note 5)			
Authority key identifier	Issuer	cn=Hongkong Post Root CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK	
	Serial number	[Inherited from Issuer]	
Key usage		Non-repudiation, Digital Signature, Key Encipherment (This field will be set Critical.)	
Certificate policies		Policy Identifier = [OID] ^(Note 6) Policy QualifierID = CPS Qualifier = www.hongkongpost.gov.hk	
Subject alternative name	DNS	encrypted(HKID) ^(Note 7)	
	rfc822	[Applicant's email address] ^(Note 2)	
Issuer alternate name		Not used	
Basic constraint	Subject type	End Entity	
	Path length constraint	None	
Extended key usage		Not used	

Field Name	Field Content	
	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) certificates	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) certificates issued to persons under 18
CRL distribution points	Distribution Point Name = [URL of CRL Distribution Point] ^(Note 8)	
Netscape extension ^(Note 5)		
Netscape cert type	SSL Client, S/MIME	
Netscape SSL server name	Not used	
Netscape comment	Not used	

Note

1. Applicant name format: Surname (in capital) + Given name (e.g. CHAN Tai Man David).
2. Email address provided by Applicant (blank if null).
3. SRN: 10-digit Subscriber Reference Number
4. "e-Cert (Personal/Minor)" indicates that the Applicant is under 18 at the time the e-Cert is issued (see Section 3.1.1.2 of this CPS).
5. All standard extensions and Netscape extensions are set as "non-critical" unless otherwise specified.
6. The OID of this CPS is included in this field. Please refer to section 1.1 of this CPS for the OID of this CPS.
7. The Applicant's HKID number (**hkid_number** - including the check digit) will be stored in the certificate in the form of a hash value of the HKID number (**cert_hkid_hash**) which has been signed by the Private Key of the Applicant:-

$$\text{cert_hkid_hash} = \text{SHA-1} (\text{RSA}_{\text{privatekey, sha-1}} (\text{hkid_number}))$$

where the *SHA-1* is a hash function and *RSA* is the signing function

With Central Key Generation, hkid_number will be signed during the key generation process at HKPost premises and the CA system will create a hash of the signed HKID number - **SHA-1 (RSA_{privatekey, sha-1} (hkid_number))**. The hash value will then be put into the designated extension field of the certificate being generated.

8. URL of CRL Distribution Point is http://crl1.hongkongpost.gov.hk/crl/eCertCA1CRL1_<xxxxx>.crl, where <xxxxx> is a string of five alphanumeric characters generated by the CA system. HKPost CA publishes a number of partitioned CRLs. If a certificate is suspended or revoked, its information will be published in the partitioned CRL at the URL specified in this CRL Distribution Point field.

2) e-Cert (Organisational) Certificate Format

Field Name		Field Content
Standard fields		
Version		X.509 v3
Serial number		[Set by HKPost CA system]
Signature algorithm ID		sha1RSA
Issuer name		cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
Validity period	Not before	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
	Not after	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
Subject name		cn=[Authorised User's name] ^(Note 1) e=[email address] ^(Note 2) ou=[SRN] ^(Note 3) ou=[BRN+CI/CR+Others] ^(Note 4) ou=[Subscriber Organisation Name] ^(Note 5) ou=[Subscriber Organisation branch/dept] o=Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational) c=HK
Subject public key info		Algorithm ID: RSA Public Key: 1024-bit key size
Issuer unique identifier		Not used
Subject unique identifier		Not used
Standard extension ^(Note 6)		
Authority key identifier	Issuer	cn=Hongkong Post Root CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
	Serial number	[Inherited from Issuer]
Key usage		Non-repudiation, Digital Signature, Key Encipherment (This field will be set Critical.)
Certificate policies		Policy Identifier = [OID] ^(Note 7) Policy QualifierID = CPS Qualifier = www.hongkongpost.gov.hk
Subject alternative name	DNS	Not used
	rfc822	[email address] ^(Note 2)
Issuer alternate name		Not used
Basic constraint	Subject type	End Entity
	Path length constraint	None
Extended key usage		Not used
CRL distribution points		Distribution Point Name = [URL of CRL Distribution Point] ^(Note 8)
Netscape extension ^(Note 6)		
Netscape cert type		SSL Client, S/MIME

Field Name		Field Content
Netscape SSL server name		Not used
Netscape comment		Not used

Note

1. Authorised User name format: Surname (in capital) + Given name (e.g. CHAN Tai Man David).
2. Email address provided by Authorised User (blank if null).
3. SRN: 10-digit Subscriber Reference Number
4. Business Registration Certificate Number (BRN): a string of 16 digits/alphabets (the first 11 digits/alphabets represent the Business Registration Number) [filled with zeroes if BRN is not available], Certificate of Incorporation (CI)/ Certificate of Registration (CR): a string of 8 digits/alphabets [filled with zeroes if CI/CR is not available], Others: a string of max. 30 digits/alphabets (blank if null). For HKSAR government departments, BRN and CI/CR are filled with zeroes, department name in abbreviation (e.g. HKPO for Hongkong Post) is placed in Others.
5. For organisations who subscribe to e-Cert and are companies with company names in the Chinese language only or who have provided their company's Chinese name only, their company names will not be included in this field (see Section 3.1.1.7 of this CPS).
6. All standard extensions and Netscape extensions are set as "non-critical" unless otherwise specified.
7. The OID of this CPS is included in this field. Please refer to section 1.1 of this CPS for the OID of this CPS.
8. URL of CRL Distribution Point is <http://crl1.hongkongpost.gov.hk/crl/eCertCA1CRL2.crl>

3) e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificate Format

Field Name		Field Content
Standard fields		
Version		X.509 v3
Serial number		[Set by HKPost CA system]
Signature algorithm ID		sha1RSA
Issuer name		cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
Validity period	Not before	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
	Not after	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
Subject name		cn=[Authorised Unit name] ^(Note 1) e=[email address] ^(Note 2) ou=[SRN] ^(Note 3) ou=[BRN+CI/CR+Others] ^(Note 4) ou=[Subscriber Organisation Name] ^(Note 5) ou=[Subscriber Organisation branch/dept] o=Hongkong Post e-Cert (Encipherment) c=HK
Subject public key info		Algorithm ID: RSA Public Key: 1024-bit key size
Issuer unique identifier		Not used
Subject unique identifier		Not used
Standard extension ^(Note 6)		
Authority key identifier	Issuer	cn=Hongkong Post Root CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
	Serial number	[Inherited from Issuer]
Key usage		Digital Signature, Key Encipherment (This field will be set Critical.)
Certificate policies		Policy Identifier = [OID] ^(Note 7) Policy QualifierID = CPS Qualifier = www.hongkongpost.gov.hk
Subject alternative name	DNS	Not used
	rfc822	[email address] ^(Note 2)
Issuer alternate name		Not used
Basic constraint	Subject type	End Entity
	Path length constraint	None
Extended key usage		Not used
CRL distribution points		Distribution Point Name = [URL of CRL Distribution Point] ^(Note 8)
Netscape extension ^(Note 6)		
Netscape cert type		SSL Client, S/MIME

Field Name	Field Content
Netscape SSL server name	Not used
Netscape comment	This e-Cert is used ONLY (i) to send encrypted electronic messages to the Subscriber Organisation; (ii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to decrypt messages; and (iii) to permit the Subscriber Organisation to acknowledge receipt of the encrypted message by sending an acknowledgement with a digital signature added to it to confirm the identity of the receiving Subscriber Organisation. For terms and conditions governing the use of this e-Cert, please see the e-Cert CPS which can be viewed at http://www.hongkongpost.gov.hk .

Note

1. Name of the Authorised Unit of the Subscriber Organisation.
2. Email address provided by the Authorised Representative
3. SRN: 10-digit Subscriber Reference Number
4. Business Registration Certificate Number (BRN): a string of 16 digits/alphabets (the first 11 digits/alphabets represent the Business Registration Number) [filled with zeroes if BRN is not available], Certificate of Incorporation (CI)/ Certificate of Registration (CR) Number : a string of 8 digits/alphabets [filled with zeroes if CI/CR is not available], Others: a string of max. 30 digits/alphabets (blank if null). For HKSAR government departments, BRN and CI/CR are filled with zeroes, department name in abbreviation (e.g. HKPO for Hongkong Post) is placed in Others.
5. For organisations who subscribe to e-Cert and are companies with company names in the Chinese language only or who have provided their company's Chinese name only, their company names will not be included in this field (see Section 3.1.1.7 of this CPS).
6. All standard extensions and Netscape extensions are set as "non-critical" unless otherwise specified.
7. The OID of this CPS is included in this field. Please refer to section 1.1 of this CPS for the OID of this CPS.
8. URL of CRL Distribution Point is <http://crl1.hongkongpost.gov.hk/crl/eCertCA1CRL2.crl>

4) e-Cert (Server) Certificate Format

Field Name		Field Content
Standard fields		
Version		X.509 v3
Serial number		[Set by HKPost CA system]
Signature algorithm ID		sha1RSA
Issuer name		cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
Validity period	Not before	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
	Not after	[UTC time set by HKPost CA system]
Subject name		cn=[Server Name] ^(Note 1) ou=[SRN] ^(Note 2) ou=[BRN+CI/CR+Others] ^(Note 3) ou=[Subscriber Organisation Name] ^(Note 4) ou=[Subscriber Organisation branch/dept] o=Hongkong Post e-Cert (Server) c=HK
Subject public key info		Algorithm ID: RSA Public Key: 1024-bit key size
Issuer unique identifier		Not used
Subject unique identifier		Not used
Standard extension ^(Note 5)		
Authority key identifier	Issuer	cn=Hongkong Post Root CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK
	Serial number	[Inherited from Issuer]
Key usage		Key Encipherment (This field will be set Critical.)
Certificate policies		Policy Identifier = [OID] ^(Note 6) Policy QualifierID = CPS Qualifier = www.hongkongpost.gov.hk
Subject alternative name	DNS	Not used
	rfc822	Not used
Issuer alternate name		Not used
Basic constraint	Subject type	End Entity
	Path length constraint	None
Extended key usage		Not used
CRL distribution points		Distribution Point Name = [URL of CRL Distribution Point] ^(Note 7)
Netscape extension ^(Note 5)		
Netscape cert type		SSL Server

Field Name		Field Content
Netscape SSL server name		Not used
Netscape comment		Not used

Note

1. The server name (including the domain name of the server) owned by the Subscriber Organisation
2. SRN: 10-digit Subscriber Reference Number
3. Business Registration Certificate Number (BRN): a string of 16 digits/alphabets (the first 11 digits/alphabets represent the Business Registration Number) [filled with zeroes if BRN is not available], Certificate of Incorporation (CI)/ Certificate of Registration (CR): a string of 8 digits/alphabets [filled with zeroes if CI/CR is not available], Others: a string of max. 30 digits/alphabets (blank if null). For HKSAR government departments, BRN and CI/CR are filled with zeroes, department name in abbreviation (e.g. HKPO for Hongkong Post) is placed in Others.
4. For organisations who subscribe to e-Cert and are companies with company names in the Chinese language only or who have provided their company's Chinese name only, their company names will not be included in this field (see Section 3.1.1.7 of this CPS).
5. All standard extensions and Netscape extensions are set as "non-critical" unless otherwise specified.
6. The OID of this CPS is included in this field. Please refer to section 1.1 of this CPS for the OID of this CPS.
7. URL of CRL Distribution Point is <http://crl1.hongkongpost.gov.hk/crl/eCertCA1CRL2.crl>

Appendix C - Hongkong Post Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs)

HKPost updates and publishes the following Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs) containing information of e-Certs suspended or revoked under this CPS 3 times daily at 09:15, 14:15 and 19:00 Hong Kong Time (i.e. 01:15, 06:15 and 11:00 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT or UTC)):-

- a) **Partitioned CRLs** that contain Information of suspended or revoked certificates in groups. Each of the partitioned CRLs is available for public access at a location (URL) specified in the "CRL Distribution Points" field of each certificate issued.
- b) **Full CRL** that contains Information of all suspended or revoked certificates. The Full CRL is available at :-

<http://crl1.hongkongpost.gov.hk/crl/eCertCA1CRL1.crl>; or
 ldap://ldap1.hongkongpost.gov.hk (port 389, cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1 CRL1, o=Hongkong Post, c=HK);

Under normal circumstances, HKPost will publish the latest CRL as soon as possible after the update time. HKPost may need to change the above updating and publishing schedule of the e-Cert CRL without prior notice if such changes are considered to be necessary under unforeseeable circumstances.

Format of Partitioned and Full CRL :-

Standard Fields	Sub-fields	Field Contents of Partitioned CRL	Field Contents of Full CRL	Remarks
Version		v2		This field describes the version of encoded CRL as X.509 v2.
Signature algorithm ID		sha1RSA		This field contains the algorithm identifier for the algorithm used to sign the CRL.
Issuer name		cn=Hongkong Post e-Cert CA 1, o=Hongkong Post, c=HK		This field identifies the entity who has signed and issued the CRL.
This update		[UTC time]		"This Update" indicates the date the CRL was generated.
Next update		[UTC time]		"Next Update" contains the date by which the next CRL will be issued, but it will not be issued any later than the indicated date. Notwithstanding this, the CRL is updated and issued on a daily basis as stated in the CPS.
Revoked certificates	User certificate	[Certificate Serial Number]		Revoked certificates are listed by their serial numbers.
	Revocation date	[UTC time]		The date on which the revocation occurred is specified.
	CRL entry extensions			
	Reason code	[Revocation Reason Code]		(Note 1)
Standard extension (Note 2)				

Standard Fields	Sub-fields	Field Contents of Partitioned CRL	Field Contents of Full CRL	Remarks
Authority key identifier	Issuer	cn=Hongkong Post Root CA 1 o=Hongkong Post c=HK		This field provides a means of identifying the public key corresponding to the private key used to sign a CRL.
	Serial number	[Inherited from Issuer]		This field indicates the serial number of the issuer certificate.
CRL number		[Generated by CA system – each partitioned CRL has its own sequence]		The CRL Number is generated in sequence for each CRL issued by a CA.
Issuer distribution point		[DER Encoded CRL Distribution Point] This field will be set Critical.	Not used	This field is used for Partitioned CRLs only.

Note

- The following reason codes may be included in the field:

0 = Unspecified, 1 = Key compromise, 2 = CA compromise, 3 = Affiliation changed, 4 = Superseded, 5 = Cessation of operation, 6 = Certificate hold

The reason code “0” (i.e. unspecified) will be indicated since Applicants or Subscribers will not be required to give any particular reason of certificate revocation.

- All fields will be set “non-critical” unless otherwise specified.

Appendix D - Summary of Hongkong Post e-Cert Features

1) e-Cert (Personal) Certificate

Features	<u>e-Cert (Personal) Certificates</u>	<u>e-Cert (Personal) Certificates issued to persons under 18</u>
Subscribers	Holders of valid HKID Card who are 18 or above	Holders of valid HKID Card who are under 18
Reliance Limit	HK\$200,000	HK\$0
Recognized Certificate	Yes	
Key pair size	1024-bit RSA	
Key pair generation	By Hongkong Post on behalf of the Subscriber through the central key generation service.	
Identity verification	Authentication of the Applicant's identity;	
Usage of certificate	Digital Signature and Encryption	
Subscriber's information included in the certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ English name as appeared on the HKID Card; ▪ HKID number encrypted as a hash value; ▪ Email address; and ▪ Subscriber Reference Number (SRN) generated by the HKPost system 	
Subscription Fees (see also Section 2.4 of this CPS)	\$50 per certificate (both new and renewal application) per year	
Certificate Validity	Three Years ^(Note 1)	

Note

1. Certificates issued under the certificate renewal process may have a validity period of more than 3 years, but no more than 3 years and 1 month (see Sections 1.2.4 and 3.2 of this CPS).

2) e-Cert (Organisational), e-Cert (Encipherment) and e-Cert (Server) Certificate

<u>Features</u>	<u>e-Cert (Organisational) Certificates</u>	<u>e-Cert (Encipherment) Certificates</u>	<u>e-Cert (Server) Certificates</u>
Subscribers	Organisations that hold a valid business registration certificate issued by the Government of the Hong Kong SAR, statutory bodies of Hong Kong whose existence is recognized by the laws of Hong Kong and bureaux, departments or agencies of Government of HKSAR		
Certificate Holders	Authorised Users who are members or employees of the Organisation as the Subscriber	Authorised Units of the Organisation as the Subscriber	Same as Subscriber
Reliance Limit	HK\$200,000		
Recognized Certificate	Yes		
Key pair size	1024-bit RSA		
Key pair generation	By Hongkong Post on behalf of the Subscriber through the central key generation service.		Key generation by Subscriber
Identity verification	Authentication of the identity of the organisation and its Authorised Representative		Authentication of the identity of the domain name, the organisation, and its Authorised Representative
Usage of certificate	Digital Signature and Encryption	Encryption only	SSL encryption
Subscriber's information included in the certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subscriber Organisation's name ▪ Authorised User's name and email address; ▪ Subscriber Reference Number (SRN) generated by the HKPost system ▪ Subscriber Organisation's company/business registration information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subscriber Organisation's name ▪ Authorised Unit's name and email address; ▪ Subscriber Reference Number (SRN) generated by the HKPost system ▪ Subscriber Organisation's company/business registration information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subscriber Organisation's name ▪ Subscriber Organisation's server name; ▪ Subscriber Reference Number (SRN) generated by the HKPost system ▪ Subscriber Organisation's company/business registration information
Subscription Fees and Administration Fees	(see Section 2.4 of this CPS)		
Certificate Validity	One year or two years (see Sections 1.2.4 and 3.3.1 of this CPS)		

Appendix E - List of Registration Authorities for the Hongkong Post e-Cert

Name of Registration Authorities / Web Site	Name of Certificate(s)	Certificate Validity	Availability to Minors	Business Hours	Remarks
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd http://www.bochk.com	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational)	1 year or 2 years	No	Monday - Friday : 09:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday : 09:00 am - 1:00 pm Sunday & Public Holidays : Closed	Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd will collect and forward applications for Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational) certificates submitted by its account holders, and verify the identity of the Applicant's Authorised Representative named in the application form.
Nanyang Commercial Bank Ltd http://www.ncb.com.hk	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational)	1 year or 2 years	No	Monday - Friday : 09:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday : 09:00 am - 1:00 pm Sunday & Public Holidays : Closed	Nanyang Commercial Bank Ltd will collect and forward applications for Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational) certificates submitted by its account holders, and verify the identity of the Applicant's Authorised Representative named in the application form.
Chiyu Banking Corp. Ltd http://www.chiyubank.com	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational)	1 year or 2 years	No	Monday - Friday : 09:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday : 09:00 am - 1:00 pm Sunday & Public Holidays : Closed	Chiyu Banking Corp. Ltd. will collect and forward applications for Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational) certificates submitted by its account holders, and verify the identity of the Applicant's Authorised Representative named in the application form.
Bank of America (Asia) Ltd. http://www.bankofamerica.com.hk	Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) Hongkong Post e-Cert (Organisational)	3 years 1 year or 2 years	No No	Monday - Friday : 09:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday : 09:00 am - 1:00 pm Sunday & Public Holidays : Closed	Bank of America (Asia) Ltd. will collect and forward applications for Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) / e-Cert (Organisational) certificates submitted by its account holders, and verify the identity of the Applicant / Applicant's Authorised Representative named in the application form.