

PRESS RELEASE

Against external monitoring: TeleTrust - IT Security Association Germany, recommends the use of existing protection technology 'made in Germany' to German institutions

Secure communication through public-key encryption and digital certificates / European Bridge CA as protective framework

Berlin, 02.07.2013 – From recent disclosures about communication surveillance by external services, it is apparent that German private persons and enterprises are particularly affected by data acquisition and analysis. This includes both e-mails as well as data that are exchanged via cloud services. The protection of this data needs be given highest priority. This can be achieved through public-key encryption and digital certificates, which were issued by the company PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) CA (Certification Authority).

The European Bridge CA (EBCA), established in 2001, is a PKI network of trust. Amongst others, its members include Deutsche Bank, Deutsche Bundesbank, E.ON, Siemens, Siemens Enterprise Communications, Federal Administration PKI-1 (represented by the BSI) and RTR Austria. The EBCA enables more secure and trustworthy inter-organizational communication. It is based on three pillars: organizational trust through a common policy, technical trust through trust list (Certificate Trust List, CTL) and external central access through a directory service. The CTL contains CA certificates from participants and can easily be imported or distributed automatically.

EBCA-CTL is not a product of a US based software manufacturer, whose CTLs only attained a CA with high financial investments but rather the result of trust agreements in compliance with EBCA policy. The directory service enables secure access to the certificates of EBCA participants. This service will be operated from a German manufacturer's "certBox" in a German data centre. This allows every internet user to send encrypted emails ad-hoc to EBCA subscribers. With an integrated end-to-end encryption from device to device, eavesdropping operations on the internal network will be blocked.

With this easy to use mechanism, the EBCA creates a communication security level which means wiretapping by powerful attackers is highly unlikely. TeleTrust calls on the German economy, more strongly than ever, to engage in such national IT security structures.

Further information www.ebca.de/en/.

TeleTrust – IT Security Association Germany

TeleTrust is a widespread competence network for IT security comprising members from industry, administration, research as well as national and international partner organizations with similar objectives. TeleTrust provides interdisciplinary fora for IT security experts and facilitates information exchange between vendors, users and authorities. TeleTrust comments on technical, political and legal issues related to IT security and is organizer of events and conferences. TeleTrust is a non-profit association, whose objective is to promote information security professionalism, raising awareness and best practices in all domains of information security. TeleTrust is carrier of the "European Bridge CA" (EBCA; PKI network of trust), the quality seal "IT Security made in Germany" and runs the IT expert certification program "TeleTrust Information Security Professional (T.I.S.P.)". TeleTrust is a member of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI). The association is headquartered in Berlin, Germany.