

TeleTrust EBCA
European Bridge Certificate Authority



Brief outline of the TeleTrust European Bridge CA

TeleTrust's European Bridge CA (EBCA) enables secure and authenticated communication for enterprises and public authorities. It connects Public Key Infrastructures of each participating organization. Thus, existing certificates can be used beyond local "identity islands".

The EBCA is a TeleTrust project and a successful model for public-private partnership. More than 700,000 e-mail certificates are available from staff at member organizations. European Bridge CA stands for the trustworthiness of its member organizations. Its uniform security standards are binding for all members. By joining the EBCA, new members can communicate on a trustworthy basis with other members without any need for n-fold bilateral contracts. European Bridge's root certification authority is audited. The EBCA provides added values and favorable conditions for members.

EBCA works as a connector in-between organizations and offers extensive services to integrate new members. Individual organizations are relieved from the time-consuming task of setting up agreements with each of their partners. A single contract with EBCA suffices to realize secure business processes with every partner. This service allows for the establishment of federal business relations while avoiding media disruptions, which would occur with the use of classic, paper-based forms. EBCA helps reduce costs and optimize business processes.

Joining EBCA is deliberately made easy to foster acceptance for the underlying technology and associated benefits. A neutral board decides about the link-up of existing PKIs to the EBCA. Both hardware- and software-based certificates are permissible to ensure vertical interoperability. Shortly after signing up, the joining organization has access to all EBCA services, such as directory service or validation service. Further tedious negotiations with the other enterprises are not necessary. EBCA enables comprehensive PKI solutions, such as the exchange of authenticated and encrypted emails. EBCA is an ideal platform to exchange know-how. Participants who run their own PKI can trade operating experience. Organizations, which have yet to set up their own PKI find support with their endeavor.

The European Bridge CA establishes symbolic 'bridges' between existing public key infra-structures of companies and authorities. It offers scalable solutions to the following questions:

- How does one gain trust in digital certificates and external partners?
- How can certificates be distributed in a manner that is safe, secure and trustworthy?
- How can certificates and signed data be reliably authenticated?

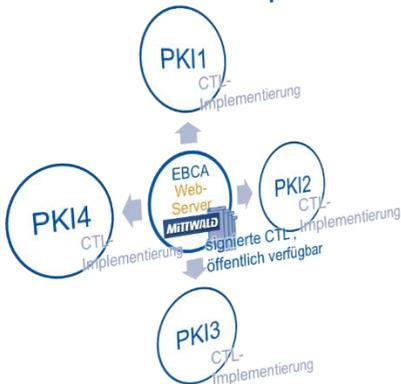
TeleTrust EBCA services provided

The European Bridge CA provides a reliable framework for networked business processes. This allows members to create federated identities, for instance, and to realize secure single signing-on both within the organizations and elsewhere.

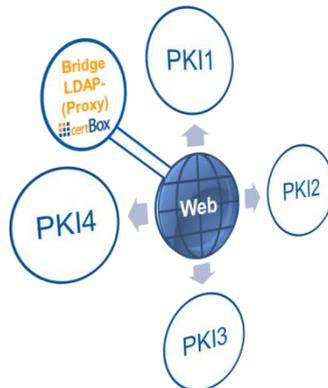
The European Bridge CA offers members the following services:

1. Trust list based on ETSI TS 102 231
With its signature, the European Bridge CA confirms the origin of members' certificates in the form of a trust list. Its confirmation creates the basis for a relationship of trust between the various members.
2. Directory service
The directory service of European Bridge CA provides the certificates submitted voluntarily by its members, thereby making them available for conducting fully qualified queries. Over 700.000 certificates can now be accessed.

ad 1: Certificate Trust List - Basis for relationship of trust



ad 2: Bridge LDAP directory service - Provides submitted certificates



Contact

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TeleTrust European Bridge CA Board

The Board of the EBCA represents its members' and users' interests pragmatically. The Board is elected from among the members. The Board is responsible for strategic control functions and is planning, in co-operation with the project coordinator, the extension of services offered.

TeleTrust European Bridge CA Participants and Partners

- antispameurope
- Applied Security
- Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications
- Cassidian Cybersecurity
- Federal Office for Information Security (BSI)
- Deutsche Bank
- Deutsche Bundesbank
- E.ON Business Services
- Net at Work
- SIEMENS
- Secardeo
- Unify
- Zertificon Solutions

At present, there are dialogues with further companies, too.

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" (provision of public key certificates for secure e-mail communication), 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 member of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI). The association is headquartered in Berlin, Germany.