

What is Business User Certificate?

Key concern within organizations is security of data interchange between employees and business partners. The Etisalat Business User Certificate obtained by organizations and distributed to employees and/or business partners, helps facilitate trust and security between the interacting parties. The Business User Certificate vouches for the identity of individuals over the Internet, provides the capability to digitally sign e-mails and enables others to send encrypted e-mails and information to the certificate holder. If both sender and recipient have Etisalat Business User Certificates, they can then exchange digitally signed and encrypted messages / information thereby ensuring authenticity, privacy and integrity of information or transactions exchanged.

Encryption alone is not enough, as it provides no proof of the identity of the sender of an encrypted message. Etisalat Business User certificates combine the ease of use of password based access control with the sophistication and security of Public Key Cryptography making them one of the most reliable methods to authenticate users on the Internet or any public access network.

A public key cryptography system uses two different keys to lock and unlock (encrypt and decrypt) messages and files. The two keys are mathematically linked together. An individual's public key is distributed to other users and is used by them to encrypt messages being sent to the individual. The individual keeps the private key secret and uses it to decrypt messages sent with public key. In addition to the name and e-mail address of the user, the Business User Certificate also reflects the name of the organization and organizational unit that the individual works for.

Who can apply?

Etisalat Business User Certificates are sold to organizations to be used by their employees or partners. An organization is expected to buy a band of 20, 50, 100, 200 or more certificates. The validity of each certificate is one year. However, certificates in a band can be utilized anytime during the year. Once an agreement to subscribe to Business User Certificates is signed by the organization, a customer ID is assigned to the organization by Etisalat. A nominated employee can use this Customer ID and enroll for the certificate. The certificate is communicated to the individual electronically.

What can the Business User Certificate be used for?

By obtaining a Etisalat Business User certificate an individual will be able to send digitally signed messages and enable others to send encrypted e-mails to the certificate holder. In addition, Etisalat Business User certificates will allow individuals to authenticate themselves to web servers enabling them to securely browse the Internet. Etisalat digital certificates can also be used to create secure communications between business partners, across an enterprise or in an extranet environment.