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Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Policy and security requirements for Registered Electronic Mail Service Providers

Táto norma obsahuje anglickú verziu európskej normy.  
This standard includes the English version of the European Standard.

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# ETSI EN 319 531 V1.1.1 (2019-01)



## **Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Policy and security requirements for Registered Electronic Mail Service Providers**

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**ETSI**

650 Route des Lucioles  
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis Cedex - FRANCE

Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16

Siret N° 348 623 562 00017 - NAF 742 C  
Association à but non lucratif enregistrée à la  
Sous-Préfecture de Grasse (06) N° 7803/88

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# Foreword

This European Standard (EN) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI).

National transposition dates	
Date of adoption of this EN:	28 January 2019
Date of latest announcement of this EN (doa):	30 April 2019
Date of latest publication of new National Standard or endorsement of this EN (dop/e):	31 October 2019
Date of withdrawal of any conflicting National Standard (dow):	31 October 2019

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# Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**shall**", "**shall not**", "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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## Introduction

Business and administrative relationships among companies, public administrations and private citizens are more and more implemented electronically. Trust is essential for their success and continued development of electronic services. It is therefore important that any entity using electronic services have suitable security controls and mechanisms in place to protect their transactions and to ensure trust and confidence with their partners.

Electronic signatures are commonly used worldwide to ensure authenticity and integrity of electronic documents, making it possible to transform traditional paper-based processes into electronic ones providing a comparable or even higher level of assurance. As communication is becoming predominantly internet-based, secure and provable exchange of documents is essential to the full digital transformation.

An electronic registered delivery service (ERDS hereinafter) provides secure and reliable delivery of electronic messages between parties, producing evidence of the delivery process for legal accountability. Evidence can be seen as a declaration by a trusted party that a specific event related to the delivery process (submission of a message, relay of a message, delivery of a message, refusal of a message, etc.) happened at a certain time. Evidence can be immediately delivered to the interested party (together with the message or separately) or can be kept in a repository for later access. It is common practice to implement evidence as digitally signed data. Registered electronic mail (REM hereinafter) is a specific type of electronic registered delivery, which builds on the formats, protocols and mechanisms used in ordinary e-mail messaging.

In a number of national, regional or sector-specific communities electronic registered delivery and registered electronic mail services are already in place, and even more are being developed. Without the definition of common standards there will be no consistency in the services provided, making it difficult for users to compare them. Under these circumstances, users might be prevented from easily changing to alternative providers, damaging free competition. Lack of standardization might also adversely affect interoperability between implementations which are based on different models.

The documents covering ERDS contain the general concepts and requirements which apply to all kinds of electronic registered delivery services. Since REM is a specific type of electronic registered delivery, the documents covering REM service build on the corresponding documents covering ERDS by referencing the necessary provisions, and define the interpretation and specific requirements which apply only to registered electronic mail.

Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC [i.1] (Regulation (EU) No 910/2014, or Regulation hereinafter) provides a legal framework to facilitate cross-border recognition between existing national legal systems related to electronic registered delivery services. That framework aims to open new market opportunities for European Union trust service providers to offer new pan-European electronic registered delivery services. The Regulation defines the so-called qualified electronic registered delivery service (QERDS hereinafter), which is a special type of ERDS, where both the service and its provider need to meet a number of additional requirements that the regular ERDSs and their providers do not need to meet.

The framework of ERDS standards aims to cover the common and worldwide-recognized requirements to address electronic registered delivery in a secure and reliable way, independent of the applicable legislative framework. The documents contain generic requirements which can be applied in any geographic region. At the same time, the framework of ERDS standards aims to support demonstrating compliance to the Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 [i.1] (and related secondary legislation), both for non-qualified and qualified electronic registered delivery services. Specific clauses are included defining requirements applicable only to qualified electronic registered delivery services, especially in the documents covering policy and security requirements. However, the legal effects are outside the scope of the present document.

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# 1 Scope

The present document specifies generally applicable policy and security requirements for Registered Electronic Mail Service Provider (REMSP), including the services they provide.

The present document is applicable to:

- The policy and security requirements of REMS and EU qualified REMS providers.
- The general and security requirements of REMS and EU qualified REMS.

The present document does not specify interconnection requirements.

The present document aims to cover the common and worldwide-recognized requirements to address electronic registered delivery in a secure and reliable way. Particular attention is paid to the Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 [1.1]. However, the legal effects of services implemented according to the present document are outside the scope of the present document.

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## 2 References

### 2.1 Normative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication, ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are necessary for the application of the present document.

- [1] ETSI EN 319 401: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); General Policy Requirements for Trust Service Providers".
- [2] ETSI EN 319 521: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Policy and security requirements for Electronic Registered Delivery Service Providers".
- [3] ETSI EN 319 532-3: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Registered Electronic Mail (REM) Services; Part 3: Formats".
- [4] IETF RFC 2045: "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part One: Format of Internet Message Bodies".
- [5] IETF RFC 5322: "Internet Message Format".

### 2.2 Informative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

- [i.1] Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC.
- [i.2] ETSI EN 319 532-1: "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Registered Electronic Mail (REM) Services; Part 1: Framework and Architecture".

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