“Trust service” is a mechanism to prevent impersonation or data tampering by proving the origin and integrity of data on the Internet. Examples include “Electronic Signature”, “Time Stamp”, “eSeal” and “eDelivery”.

The Digital Agency will discuss the operation of the accreditation system for “Electronic Signatures” and so on.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) administers the accreditation system related to “Time Stamp”, discusses the administrative system of “eSeal” and so on, under the initiatives by the Digital Agency.

**Service Contents**

1. **Electronic Signature**
   - Mechanism to confirm the will of a signer
   - An accreditation system is administered by the Government (Act on Electronic Signatures and Certification Business)

2. **Time Stamp**
   - Mechanism to prove the existence of data in a certain point
   - An accreditation system is administered by the Government

3. **eSeal**
   - Mechanism to confirm the origin and integrity of the documents published by the organizations
   - A technological and operational guidance exists

4. **eDelivery**
   - Mechanism to guarantee secure transmission of date
   - No administrative system

**MIC’s Policies**

- The Digital Agency has administered the “Act on Electronic Signatures and Certification Business” since its inception on September 1, 2021.
- Started an accreditation system by MIC on April 2021.
- Positioned an accredited “Time Stamp” by MIC in the administrative system of the “Book and Record Keeping” through the Tax reform on FY 2022.
- Published “Guideline for eSeal” on June 2021.
- Established ”Review Meeting for eSeal“, which discusses multiple topics including the introduction of accreditation system in Japan, on September 2023.
- Conducting surveys/studies to examine the possibility of introduction of “eDelivery” in Japan.

**Examples**

- Electronic Signature
- Time Stamp
- eSeal
- eDelivery

**Contract**

1. **Electronic Signature**
   - Mechanism to confirm the will of a signer

2. **Time Stamp**
   - Mechanism to prove the existence of data in a certain point

3. **eSeal**
   - Mechanism to confirm the origin and integrity of the documents published by the organizations

4. **eDelivery**
   - Mechanism to guarantee secure transmission of date
Act on Electronic Signatures and Certification Business
(e-signature act)

• An electronic document is presumed to be duly executed by the signatory if an e-signature which can be created only by the signatory is affixed. (Article 3)

• Under Japanese law, in principle, contracts are valid as long as the parties reach an agreement.

• Originally, under Code of Civil Procedure, a signed “physical” document is presumed to be duly executed.
Definition of e-signature

• Definition of e-signature under e-Signature Act (tentative)
  a measure taken with respect to information recorded in an electronic record which satisfies the two requirements as set out below:
  i. the e-signature is affixed on certain electronic data in order to express that the data was made by the person who has affixed such e-signature; and
  ii. it can be verified that the contents of the data have not been modified after such e-signature was affixed.
CA accreditation system

• 10 CA accredited
• 1 CAB designated (JIPDEC)
• CA accreditation is not mandatory to provide services or have legal effect

<current work>

• Establish criteria for accreditation of remote signature service provider
(Appx.) Bridge Trust Model

- e-signature Act Accredited CA
- Commercial Registration CA (CEO & Directors)
- JPKI (Japanese PKI) - National eID -
- Bridge CA (Government PKI)
- Official Status CA (Government PKI)
- LGPKI (Local Government PKI)