



## New Developments in Digital Signature in Argentina

On June 8, 2006, the Argentine government passed decree N° 724, modifying law N° 25.506 which governs the use of digital signatures. The changes in the law facilitate the use of digital signature to verify legal documents, make the Government a Certifying Entity and extend the use to government entities. This modification takes Digital Signatures one step closer to becoming a reality in Argentina in the near future. The Government is expected to complete the entire regulatory framework as soon as the final implementation procedures are drawn up and published.

Argentine law has accepted digital signatures since early 2004, with the requirement that they are verified by a certified licensor. The recent changes in the law allow entities of the National Government to act as license certifiers and issue certificates for government officials or private individuals, and establish conditions for use of digital signatures between public organizations and the community.

This decree also eliminates the requirement that each entity with the authority to certify digital signatures be backed by liability insurance. Given this deregulation of certifying entities, the law now also allows each actor in digitally verified transactions to request the use of a specific certifying entity by the digital assignees involved.

Digital signature technology refers to a collection of data that serves to guarantee the identity of the assignee and integrity of the document. The digital signature technology uses standardized information and formatting allowing each signature to be legally verified and connected to back-up records held for each assignee.

The changes in the law, passed in early July of 2006, will facilitate the expansion of the digital signatures as the norm for legally recognized activity in the public and private sphere.

### For More Information

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