



# Microsoft

Microsoft PKI Services Third Party

Certification Practice Statement (CPS)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 OVERVIEW

This document is the Certification Practice Statement (CPS) that defines the procedural and operational requirements governing the lifecycle management of Microsoft PKI Services' Certification Authority (CA) solutions and services for affiliated entities, Applicants, Applicant Representatives, Subscribers, and Relying Parties. Microsoft PKI Services requires entities to adhere to this CPS when issuing and managing digital certificates within Microsoft PKI Services PKI hierarchy. This may include services managed by Microsoft PKI Services as well as other groups within Microsoft responsible for managing trusted and untrusted CAs. Each PKI service is required to have an associated Certification Practice Statement (CPS) that adheres to the presiding CP.

Microsoft PKI Services has three CPS documents to differentiate its internal First Party (not publicly trusted) from its external First Party (publicly trusted) CA operations and its Third Party issued Code signing certificates, as they are regulated by separate compliance authorities and/or levels. This CPS is for Third Party CA operations for publicly trusted Code signing.

Other important documents that accompany this CPS include the CP and associated Subscriber and Relying Party Agreements. Microsoft may publish additional Certificate Policies or Certification Practice Statements, as necessary, to describe other products or service offerings.

This CPS conforms to the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) RFC 3647 standards for the creation of Certificate Policy (CP) and Certification Practices Statement (CPS) documents and complies with the current Baseline Requirements for the Issuance and Management of Publicly-Trusted Certificates ("Baseline Requirements"), and the Baseline Requirements for the Issuance and Management of Publicly-Trusted Code Signing Certificates ("Code Signing Baseline Requirements") from the Certificate Authority and Browser Forum (CAB Forum) at <http://www.cabforum.org>.

In the event of an inconsistency between this document and the governing industry requirements, those requirements take precedence.

This CPS specifically governs the following Root and Subordinate CAs:

Root CAs	Root CA Serial Numbers	Issue Date	Expiration Date	SHA2 Thumbprint
Microsoft Identity Verification Root Certificate Authority 2020	5498d2d1d45b1995481379c811c08799	4/16/2020	4/16/2045	53 67 f2 0c 7a de 0e 2b ca 79 09 15 05 6d 08 6b 72 0c 33 c1 fa 2a 26 61 ac f7 87 e3 29 2e 12 70
Issuing and Intermediate CAs	Issuing and Intermediate CAs Serial Numbers	Issue Date	Expiration Date	SHA2 Thumbprint
Microsoft Public RSA Timestamping CA 2020	3300000005E5CF0FFF662EC987000000000005	11/19/2020	11/19/2035	36 e7 31 cf a9 bf d6 9d af b6 43 80 9f 6d ec 50 09 02 f7 19 7d ae aa d8 6e a0 15 9a 22 68 a2b 8

Microsoft ID Verified Code Signing PCA 2021	330000000787A334A37BA58E1C00000 0000007	4/1/2021	4/1/2036	3d 29 79 8c c5 d3 f0 64 4a 7e 0d c9 cb 1c ad e5 23 ea 5e c8 3b 33 51 09 b6 05 bf ea a7 d5 f5 c1
Microsoft ID Verified CS AOC CA 01	3300000007378C5BA1D95B8CD400000 0000007	4/13/2021	4/13/2026	7e e1 f7 18 ca e6 b4 d2 5d 10 11 5a 36 7d 84 b7 70 4e 06 bd 6f 8b 49 88 25 fd 42 c8 52 57 4b e9
Microsoft ID Verified CS AOC CA 02	330000000496504BD2DBEECB8800000 0000004	4/13/2021	4/13/2026	e8 2d 27 59 6c 5d df 9f 11 e8 b6 98 1f 5d 01 82 11 bf 25 80 f0 61 9e 59 54 ba d4 00 17 5f 38 d0
Microsoft ID Verified CS EOC CA 01	33000000064A1AFACF05616A7400000 0000006	4/13/2021	4/13/2026	2f aa 1c 92 22 8d 5a 05 e0 7b ae cf aa 36 5f 90 a9 b2 f2 dd 84 6b 01 4a e9 58 80 ba c3 a9 76 bb

## 1.2 DOCUMENT NAME AND IDENTIFICATION

This document is formally referred to as the Microsoft PKI Services “Third Party Certification Practice Statement” (“CPS”). CAs SHALL issue certificates in accordance with the policy and practice requirements of this document. The Object Identifier (OID) for the CPS is:  
1.3.6.1.4.1.311.76.509.1.5.

The following Object Identifier is assigned for use by Microsoft CAs as a means of asserting compliance with CAB Forum’s Baseline Requirements and CAB Forum’s Code Signing Baseline Requirements:

Digitally Signed Object	Object Identifier (OID)
Minimum Requirements for Code Signing	2.23.140.1.4.1
Minimum Requirements for Timestamp Authority	2.23.140.1.4.2

### 1.2.1 Revisions

Change Control Log

Revision Date	Revision Reason	Revision Explanation	New Revision	Supersedes
2/10/21	New	Established	1.0	N/A
2/15/22	Revised	Minor clarifying updates	1.0.1	1.0.0

### 1.2.2 Relevant Dates

The CAB Forum’s Baseline Requirements document should be referenced for relevant dates on industry practice or policy changes.

## 1.3 PKI PARTICIPANTS

### 1.3.1 Certification Authorities

The term Certification Authority (CA) collectively refers to an entity or organization that is responsible for the authorization, issuance, revocation, and life cycle management of a certificate. The term equally applies to Root CAs and Subordinate CAs.

Microsoft PKI Services operates as the Root CA and administers all CA functions within its PKI hierarchy.

The two main categories of CAs that exist within the Microsoft PKI Services' PKI hierarchy are the Root CAs and Subordinate CAs. An up-to-date list of these CA's is maintained by Microsoft PKI Services.

Obligations of CAs operating within the Microsoft PKI Services' PKI hierarchy include:

- Generating, issuing and distributing Public Key certificates, in accordance with this CPS.
- Distributing CA certificates
- Generating and publishing certificate status information (such as CRLs)
- Maintaining the security, availability, and continuity of the certificate issuance and CRL signing functions
- Providing a means for Subscribers to request revocations
- Ensuring that changes in certificate status are reflected in their own repositories and those of authorized certificate validation authorities within the times specified in Section 4 of this CPS.
- Demonstrating internal or external audited compliance, in accordance with this CPS, the CP, and/or CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and CAB Forum Baseline Requirements for Publicly Trusted Code Signing Certificates.

### 1.3.2 Registration Authorities

No RA functions are delegated to third parties by Microsoft PKI Services.

Obligations of the Registration Authority (RAs) within Microsoft include:

- Obtaining a public key from the Subscriber or Applicant Representative
- Providing suitable training to personnel performing RA functions

For the Microsoft PKI Services Root CAs the Subscribers are Subordinate CAs that are under the control of Microsoft. Accordingly, the RA function for these CAs is performed by authorized Microsoft PKI Services personnel.

For the Microsoft PKI Services Issuing CAs, the RA function is performed by Microsoft using a combination of automated and manual processes.

### **1.3.3 Subscribers**

A Subscriber, as defined in Section 1.6, is the end entity whose name or identifier appears as the subject in a certificate, and who uses its key and certificate in accordance with this CPS. Subscribers within the CA's hierarchy MAY be issued certificates for assignment to devices, groups, organizational roles or applications, provided the responsibility and accountability are attributable to the organization.

Obligations of Subscribers within the CA's hierarchy include:

- Reading and accepting the terms and conditions of the Subscriber Agreement
- Being responsible for the generation of the key pair for their certificate
- Submitting Public Keys and credentials for registration
- Providing information to the RA that is accurate and complete to the best of the Subscribers' knowledge and belief regarding information in their certificates and identification and authentication information
- Taking appropriate measures to protect their Private Keys from compromise
- Promptly reporting loss or compromise of Private Key(s) and inaccuracy of certificate information
- Using its key pair(s) in compliance with this CPS

### **1.3.4 Relying Parties**

A Relying Party is an individual or entity that may rely upon a Microsoft certificate for purposes of determining the organizational or individual identity of an entity providing a web site, data encryption, digital signature verification, and/or user authentication.

Obligations of Relying Parties within Microsoft PKI Services include:

- Confirming the validity of Subscriber public-key certificates
- Verifying that Subscriber possesses the private key corresponding to the public key certificate (e.g., through digital signature verification)
- Using the public key in the Subscriber's certificate in compliance with this CPS (and/or appropriate Relying Party Agreement)

### **1.3.5 Other Participants**

Other participants include entities or groups that have participated in the development of this CPS and presiding CP, and any authorities that have contributed to the requirements and guidelines governing the issuance and management of publicly-trusted certificates.

## **1.4 CERTIFICATE USAGE**

### **1.4.1 Appropriate Certificate Uses**

The CA has established policy and technical constraints to define appropriate uses for issued certificates and provides reasonable controls to ensure the certificates are used for their intended purpose.

Certificates issued by the CA are used in accordance with the key usage extensions and extended key usage of the respective Certificates and adhere to the terms and conditions of this CPS, the accompanying CP, any agreements with subscribers, and applicable laws.

Relying Parties SHALL evaluate the application environment and associated risks before deciding on whether to use certificates issued under this CPS.

### **1.4.2 Prohibited Certificate Uses**

Use of certificates in violation of this CPS, applicable laws, and/or key usage constraints, is unauthorized and prohibited. The CA reserves the right to revoke certificates that violate their designated usage.

## **1.5 POLICY ADMINISTRATION**

### **1.5.1 Organization Administering the Document**

The Microsoft PKI Policy Authority is responsible for the maintenance of this CPS.

### **1.5.2 Contact Person**

Contact information is listed below:

PKI Service Manager  
Microsoft Corporation  
One Microsoft Way  
Redmond, WA 98052-6399  
Email: [CentralPKI@microsoft.com](mailto:CentralPKI@microsoft.com)

To request certificate revocation or to report security issues such as suspected key compromise, certificate misuse, fraud or other matters, contact [CentralPKI@microsoft.com](mailto:CentralPKI@microsoft.com).

### **1.5.3 Person Determining CPS Suitability for the Policy**

Microsoft PKI Policy Authority determines suitability and applicability of the CPS, in accordance with the CP.

### **1.5.4 CPS Approval Procedures**

The Microsoft PKI Policy Authority reviews and approves any changes to this CPS, in

compliance with the CP. Updates to CP or CPS documents SHALL be made available by publishing new versions at <https://www.microsoft.com/pkiops/docs/repository.htm>.

## 1.6 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Capitalized terms and acronyms, not specified herein, are defined in the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements (BR) and if not specified in the BR, are defined in the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements .

### 1.6.1 Definitions

- **Affiliate** – A corporation, partnership, joint venture or other entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with another entity, or an agency, department, political subdivision, or any entity operating under the direct control of a Government Entity.
- **Anti-Malware Organization** - An entity that maintains information about Suspect Code and/or develops software use to prevent, detect, or remove malware.
- **Applicant** – a natural person or Legal Entity that applies for (or seeks renewal of) a Certificate by a CA.
- **Applicant Representative** – A natural person or human sponsor who is either the Applicant, employed by the Applicant, or an authorized agent who has express authority to represent the Applicant: (i) who signs and submits, or approves a certificate request on behalf of the Applicant, and/or (ii) who signs and submits a Subscriber Agreement on behalf of the Applicant, and/or (iii) who acknowledges the Terms of Use on behalf of the Applicant when the Applicant is an Affiliate of the CA or is the CA.
- **Application Software Supplier** – A supplier of software or other relying-party application software that displays or uses Certificates, incorporates Root Certificates and adopts these Requirements as all or part of its requirements for participation in a root store program.
- **Attestation Letter**: A letter attesting that Subject Information is correct written by an accountant, lawyer, government official, or other reliable third party customarily relied upon for such information.
- **Audit Report** – A report from a Qualified Auditor stating the Qualified Auditor's opinion on whether an entity's processes and controls comply with the mandatory provisions of these Requirements.
- **Authorization Domain Name** – The Domain Name used to obtain authorization for certificate issuance for a given FQDN. The CA may use the FQDN returned from a DNS CNAME lookup as the FQDN for the purposes of domain validation. If the FQDN contains a wildcard character, then the CA MUST remove all wildcard labels from the left most portion of requested FQDN. The CA may prune zero or more labels from left to right until encountering a Base Domain Name and may use any one of the intermediate values for the purpose of domain validation.
- **Authorized Port** – One of the following ports: 80 (http), 443 (https), 25 (smtp), 22 (ssh).

- **Baseline Requirements (BR)** – An integrated set of technologies, protocols, identity-proofing, lifecycle management, and auditing requirements issued by the CA/Browser Forum and available at [cabforum.org](http://cabforum.org).
- **CA/Browser Forum (CAB Forum)** – A consortium of certification authorities, vendors of Internet browser software, operating systems, and other PKI-enabled applications that promulgates industry guidelines governing the issuance and management of digital certificates. Details are available at: [cabforum.org](http://cabforum.org).
- **Certificate** - digital record that contains information such as the Subscriber's distinguished name and public key, and the signer's signature and data.
- **Certificate Application** – a request from a Certificate Applicant (or authorized agent of the Certificate Applicant) to a CA for the issuance of a Certificate.
- **Certificate Beneficiaries** – any one of the following: all Application Software Suppliers with whom the CA or its Root CA has entered into a contract for distribution of its Root Certificate in software distributed by such Application Software Suppliers, or; all Relying Parties who reasonably rely on such a Certificate while a Code Signature associated with the Certificate is valid.
- **Certificate Request** – an application for a new Certificate or a renewal of a Certificate.
- **Certificate Requester** – A natural person who is the Applicant, employed by the Applicant, an authorized agent who has express authority to represent the Applicant, or the employee or agent of a third party (such as a software publisher) who completes and submits a Certificate Request on behalf of the Applicant.
- **Certificate Revocation List (CRL)** – periodically published listing of all certificates that have been revoked for use by Relying Parties.
- **Certificate Signing Request (CSR)** – a message sent to the certification authority containing the information required to issue a digital certificate
- **Certification Authority (CA)** – an entity or organization that is responsible for the authorization, issuance, revocation, and management of a certificate. The term equally applies to Roots CAs and Subordinate CAs.
- **Certificate Policy (CP)** – A set of rules that indicates the applicability of a named Certificate to a particular community and/or PKI implementation with common security requirements.
- **Certification Practice Statement (CPS)** – One of several documents forming the governance framework in which Certificates are created, issued, managed, and used.
- **Code** – A contiguous set of bits that has been or can be digitally signed with a Private Key that corresponds to a Code Signing Certificate.
- **Code Signature** – A Signature logically associated with a signed Code.
- **Code Signing Certificate** – A digital certificate issued by a CA that contains a code Signing EKU, contains the any ExtendedKeyUsage EKU, or omits the EKU extension and is trusted

in an Application Software Provider's root store to sign software objects. (NOTE: Appendix B (of the Code Signing Baseline Requirements), subsection (3) of Appendix B requires the presence of the codeSigning EKU and prohibits use of the anyExtendedKeyUsage EKU.)

- **CSPRNG** – A random number generator intended for use in cryptographic system.
- **Declaration of Identity** – A written document that consists of the following: 1) the identity of the person performing the verification, 2) a signature of the Applicant, 3) a unique identifying number from an identification document of the Applicant, 4) the date of the verification, and 5) a signature of the Verifying Person.
- **Distinguished Name (DN)** – a globally unique identifier representing a Subject that is used on Certificates and in the Repository
- **Extended Key Usage** – An extension in an X.509 certificate to indicate the allowed purpose(s) for the use of the public key. Also referenced or known as “Enhanced Key Usage”.
- **Fully-Qualified Domain Name (FQDN)** – A Domain Name that includes the labels of all superior nodes in the Internet Domain Name System.
- **Government Entity** – A government-operated legal entity, agency, department, ministry, branch, or similar element of the government of a country, or political subdivision within such country (such as a state, province, city, county, etc.).
- **High Risk Region of Concern (HRRC)** – As set forth in Appendix D (of the Code Signing Baseline Requirements), a geographic location where the detected number of Code Signing Certificates associated with signed Suspect Code exceeds 5% of the total number of detected Code Signing Certificates originating or associated with the same geographic area.
- **Individual Applicant** – An Applicant who is a natural person and requests a Certificate that will list the Applicant's legal name as the Certificate's Subject.
- **Issuing CA** – The first digital certificate issuing authority who issues certificates signed by the root certificate authority (CA).
- **Legal Entity** – An association, corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, or government entity that has legal standing in a country's legal system.
- **Lifetime Signing OID** – An optional extended key usage OID (1.3.6.1.4.1.311.10.3.13) used by Microsoft Authenticode to limit the lifetime of the code signature to the expiration of the code signing certificate.
- **Microsoft PKI Policy Authority** – Combination of Microsoft's Steering and Oversight Committees.
- **Online CA (OCA)** - a certification authority system which signs end-entity Subscriber Certificates that are operated and maintained in an online state so as to provide continually available certificate signing services. Online CAs reside in segmented, secured, and functionally dedicated networks.

- **Organizational Applicant** – An Applicant that request a Certificate with a name in the Subject field that is for an organization and not the name of an individual. Organizational Applicants include private and public corporations, LLCs, partnerships, government entities, non-profit organizations, trade associations, and other legal entities.
- **Platform** – the computing environment in which an Application Software Supplier uses Code Signing Certificates, incorporates Root Certificates, and adopts these Requirements.
- **Private Key** – The key of a key pair that is kept secret by the holder of the key pair, and that is used to create digital signatures and/or to decrypt electronic records or files that were encrypted with the corresponding Public Key.
- **Public Key** – The key of a key pair that may be publicly disclosed by the holder of the corresponding Private Key and that is used by a Relying Party to verify digital signatures created with the holder corresponding Private Key and/or to encrypt messages so that they can be decrypted only with the holder’s corresponding Private Key.
- **Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)** – A set of hardware, software, people, procedures, rules, policies, and obligations used to facilitate the trustworthy creation, issuance, management, and use of Certificates and keys based on Public Key Cryptography.
- **Random Value** – A value specified by a CA to the Applicant that exhibits at least 112 bits of entropy.
- **Registration Authority (RA)** – Any Legal Entity that is responsible for identification and authentication of Subjects of Certificates, but is not a CA, and hence does not sign or issue Certificates. An RA MAY assist in the Certificate application process or revocation process or both. When “RA” is used as an adjective to describe a role or function, it does not necessarily imply a separate body, but can be part of the CA.
- **Registration Identifier** – the unique code assigned to an Applicant by the Incorporating or Registration Agency in such entity’s Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Registration.
- **Reliable Data Source** – An identification document or source of data used to verify Subject Identity Information that is generally recognized among commercial enterprises and governments as reliable, and which was created by a third party for a purpose other than the Applicant obtaining a Certificate.
- **Relying Party** – a Relying Party is an individual or entity that acts in reliance on a Certificate or digital signature associated with a Certificate.
- **Relying Party Agreement** – an agreement which specifies the stipulations under which a person or organization acts as a Relying Party
- **Repository** – an online database containing publicly-disclosed PKI governance documents (such as Certificate Policies and Certification Practice Statements) and Certificate status information, either in the form of a CRL or an OCSP response.
- **Request Token** – A value derived in a method specified by the CA which binds this demonstration of control to the certificate request.

The Request Token SHALL incorporate the key used in the certificate request.

A Request Token MAY include a timestamp to indicate when it was created.

A Request Token MAY include other information to ensure its uniqueness.

A Request Token that includes a timestamp SHALL remain valid for no more than 30 days from the time of creation.

A Request Token that includes a timestamp SHALL be treated as invalid if its timestamp is in the future.

A Request Token that does not include a timestamp is valid for a single use and the CA SHALL NOT re-use it for a subsequent validation.

The binding SHALL use a digital signature algorithm or a cryptographic hash algorithm at least as strong as that to be used in signing the certificate request.

- **Required Website Content** – Either a Random Value or a Request Token, together with additional information that uniquely identifies the Subscriber, as specified by the CA.
- **Root CA** – The top-level CA whose root certificate is distributed by Application Software Suppliers and that issues Subordinate CA Certificates.
- **Signature** – An encrypted electronic data file which is attached to or logically associated with other electronic data and which (i) identifies and is uniquely linked to the signatory of the electronic data, (ii) is created using means that the signatory can maintain under its sole control, and (iii) is linked in a way so as to make any subsequent changes that have been made to the electronic data detectable.
- **Signing Service** – an organization that signs an Object on behalf of a Subscriber using a Private Key associated with a Code Signing Certificate.
- **Subject** – The Subject of a Code Signing Certificate is the entity responsible for distributing the software but does not necessarily hold the copyright to the Code.
- **Subject Identity Information** – Information that identifies the Certificate Subject. Subject Identity Information does not include a domain name listed in the subjectAltName extension or the Subject commonName field.
- **Subscriber** – A natural person or Legal Entity to whom a Code Signing Certificate is issued and who is legally bound by a Subscriber Agreement or Terms of Use.
- **Subscriber Agreement** – an agreement containing the terms and conditions that the authorized Subscriber consented to for the use of their issued certificate, containing the private key and corresponding public key.
- **Suspect Code** - code that contains malicious functionality or serious vulnerabilities, including spyware, malware and other code that installs without the user's consent and/or resists its own removal, and code that can be exploited in ways not intended by its designers to compromise the trustworthiness of the Platforms on which it executes.

- **Takeover Attack** - an attack where a Signing Service or Private Key associated with the Code Signing Certificate has been compromised by means of fraud, theft, intentional malicious act of the Subject's agent, or other illegal conduct.
- **Technically Constrained Subordinate CA Certificate** -- a Subordinate CA certificate which uses a combination of Extended Key Usage settings and Name Constraint settings to limit the scope within which the Subordinate CA Certificate MAY issue Subscriber or additional Subordinate CA Certificates.
- **Terms of Use** – Provisions regarding the safekeeping and acceptable uses of a Certificate issued in accordance with these Requirements when the Applicant/Subscriber is an Affiliate of the CA or is the CA.
- **Timestamp Authority** – a service operated by the CA or a delegated third party for its own code signing certificate users that timestamps data using a certificate chained to a public root, thereby asserting that the data (or the data from which the data were derived via secure hashing algorithm) existed at the specific time. If the Timestamp Authority is delegated to a third party, the CA is responsible that the delegated authority complies with the CAB Code Signing Requirements.
- **Timestamp Certificate** – A certificate issued to a Timestamp Authority to use to timestamp data.
- **Trusted Platform Module** – A microcontroller that stores keys, passwords and digital certificates, usually affixed to the motherboard of a computer, which due to its physical nature makes the information stored there more secure against external software attack or physical theft.
- **Trusted Role** – An employee or contractor of a CA or Delegated Third Party who has authorized access to or control over CA Operations.
- **Verifying Person** – A notary, attorney, Latin notary, accountant, individual designated by a government agency as authorized to verify identities, or agent of the CA, who attests to the identity of an individual.

## 1.6.2 Acronyms

Term	Definition
CA	Certification Authority
CP	Certificate Policy
CPS	Certification Practice Statement

<b>CRL</b>	Certificate Revocation List
<b>DBA</b>	Doing Business As
<b>DN</b>	Distinguished Name
<b>FIPS</b>	(US Government) Federal Information Processing Standard
<b>HSM</b>	Hardware Security Module
<b>IANA</b>	Internet Assigned Numbers Authority
<b>IETF</b>	Internet Engineering Task Force
<b>ISO</b>	International Organization for Standardization
<b>NIST</b>	(US Government) National Institute of Standards and Technology
<b>OCSP</b>	Online Certificate Status Protocol
<b>OID</b>	Object Identifier
<b>PKI</b>	Public Key Infrastructure
<b>RA</b>	Registration Authority
<b>TTL</b>	Time to Live

### 1.6.3 References

CA/Browser Forum Baseline Requirements Certificate Policy for the Issuance and Management of Publicly-Trusted Certificates (“Baseline Requirements”)

CA/Browser Forum Baseline Requirements for the Issuance and Management of Publicly-Trusted Code Signing Certificates (“Code Signing Baseline Requirements”)

Digital Signature Standard, FIPS 186-4 (<http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/pubsfips.html>).

FIPS 140-2, Federal Information Processing Standards Publication - Security Requirements For Cryptographic Modules, Information Technology Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology, May 25, 2001.

RFC2119, Request for Comments: 2119, Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels, Bradner, March 1997.

RFC3647, Request for Comments: 3647, Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure: Certificate Policy and Certification Practices Framework, Chokhani, et al, November 2003.

RFC5019, Request for Comments: 5019, The Lightweight Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) Profile for High-Volume Environments, A. Deacon, et al, September 2007.

RFC5280, Request for Comments: 5280, Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure: Certificate and Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile, Cooper et al, May 2008.

RFC6960, Request for Comments: 6960, X.509 Internet Public Key Infrastructure Online Certificate Status Protocol - OCSP. Santesson, Myers, Ankney, Malpani, Galperin, Adams, June 2013.

X.509, Recommendation ITU-T X.509 (10/2012) | ISO/IEC 9594-8:2014 (E), Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Public-key and attribute certificate frameworks.

#### **1.6.4 Conventions**

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in these Requirements SHALL be interpreted in accordance with RFC 2119.

## **2. PUBLICATION AND REPOSITORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **2.1 REPOSITORIES**

A public Repository of CA information and associated policy documents is located at <https://www.microsoft.com/pkiops/docs/repository.htm>.

### **2.2 PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION**

A web-based repository is available to all Relying Parties who wish to access to this CPS and other information from Microsoft PKI Services. The repository SHALL contain the current versions of this CPS and accompanying CP, a fingerprint of the established Root CAs, current CRLs, qualified Auditor Reports, Subscriber and Relying Party Agreements, a Privacy Statement, and other Terms of Use information.

### **2.3 TIME OR FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION**

The CA SHALL annually review their CP and CPS and compare it with the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and Code Signing Baseline Requirements for any modifications.

Updates SHALL be published annually, in accordance with Section 1.5, and the document version number SHALL be incremented to account for the annual review and potential content revisions.

New versions of this CPS and respective CP documents will become effective immediately for all participants listed in Section 1.3.

The CA offers CRLs showing the revocation of Microsoft PKI Services Certificates and

offers status checking through the online repository. CRLs will be published in accordance with Section 4.9.6 and Section 4.9.7.

## **2.4 ACCESS CONTROLS ON REPOSITORIES**

CAs SHALL not limit access to this CP, their CPS, Certificates, CRLs and Certificate status information. CAs SHALL however implement controls to prevent unauthorized adding, modifying or deleting of repository entries.

# **3. IDENTIFICATION AND AUTHENTICATION**

## **3.1 NAMING**

### **3.1.1 Type of Names**

Certificates SHALL be issued in accordance with the X.509 standard. CA Certificates SHALL generate and sign certificates containing a compliant distinguished name (DN) in the Issuer and Subject name fields; the DN MAY contain domain component elements. Naming values for Code Signing certificates that have been individual and/or domain-validated and/or organization-validated Certificates conform with the governing CA/Browser Forum Guidelines published at [www.cabforum.org](http://www.cabforum.org). The certificate profiles for specifying names SHALL conform with requirements in Section 7.

### **3.1.2 Need for Names to be Meaningful**

Distinguished names SHALL identify both the entity (i.e. person, organization, device, or object) that is the subject of the Certificate and the entity that is the issuer of the Certificate.

### **3.1.3 Anonymity or Pseudonymity of Subscribers**

No Stipulation

### **3.1.4 Rules for Interpreting Various Name Forms**

No Stipulation

### **3.1.5 Uniqueness of Names**

No Stipulation

### **3.1.6 Recognition, Authentication, and Role of Trademarks**

Certificate Applicants SHALL NOT use names in their Certificate Application or Certificate Request that infringes upon the intellectual property rights of entities outside of their authority.

## **3.2 INITIAL IDENTITY VALIDATION**

For Code Signing Certificate Subscribers, Microsoft verifies the following:

- The individual identity of the individual named in the certificate application using the methods in 3.2.3.
- The organization name represents an organization validated using the methods described in 3.2.2.

- The individual representing the certificate is authorized to do so by the organization name in the certificate using the methods described in 3.2.5.

### **3.2.1 Method to Prove Possession of Private Key**

The Registration and/or Issuance process SHALL involve procedures in which the Applicant, or their Representative, demonstrates possession of the Private Key by using a self-signed PKCS#10 request, an equivalent cryptographic mechanism, or a different method approved by the CA.

### **3.2.2 Authentication of Organization and Domain Identity**

The CA SHALL verify the identity of an organization and the Applicant's authority to request Certificates on behalf of the organization, in accordance with procedures set forth in this CPS, the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

Code Signing Certificates SHALL NOT include a Domain Name and therefore no authentication for Domain Identity is specified.

#### **3.2.2.1 Identity**

If the Subject Identity Information is to include the name or address of an organization, the CA SHALL verify the identity and address of the organization and that the address is the Applicant's address of existence or operation. The CA SHALL verify the identity and address of the Applicant using documentation provided by, or through communication with at least one of the following:

1. A government agency in the jurisdiction of the Applicant's legal creation, existence, or recognition;
2. A third-party database that is periodically updated and considered a Reliable Data Source;
3. A site visit by the CA or a third party who is acting as an agent for the CA; or
4. An Attestation Letter.

The CA MAY use the same documentation or communication described in 1 through 4 above to verify both the Applicant's identity and address.

Alternatively, the CA MAY verify the address of the Applicant (but not the identity of the Applicant) using a utility bill, bank statement, credit card statement, government-issued tax document, or other form of identification that the CA determines to be reliable.

#### **3.2.2.2 DBA/Tradename**

If the Subject Identity information includes a DBA or tradename, the CA SHALL use the same verification procedures and criteria as in Section 3.2.2.1 to verify the Applicant's right to use the DBA/tradename.

#### **3.2.2.3 Verification of Country**

If the subject:countryName field is present, then the CA SHALL verify the country associated with the Subject using any method in Section 3.2.2.1.

#### **3.2.2.4 Validation of Domain Authorization or Control**

Code Signing Certificates SHALL NOT include a Domain Name.

#### **3.2.2.5 Authentication for an IP Address**

Microsoft PKI Services does not issue to IP Addresses from CAs governed by this CPS.

#### **3.2.2.6 Wildcard Domain Validation**

Code Signing Certificates SHALL NOT include a Domain Name.

#### **3.2.2.7 Data Source Accuracy**

Prior to using any data source as a Reliable Data Source, the CA SHALL evaluate the source for its reliability, accuracy, and resistance to alteration or falsification.

The criteria for this evaluation SHOULD include:

1. The age of the information provided
2. The frequency of updates to the information source
3. The data provider and purpose of the data collection
4. The public accessibility of the data availability, and
5. The relative difficulty in falsifying or altering the data.

Databases maintained by the CA, its owner, or its affiliated companies do not qualify as a Reliable Data Source if the primary purpose of the database is to collect information for the purpose of fulfilling the validation requirements under this Section 3.2.2.

#### **3.2.2.8 CAA Records**

Code Signing Certificates SHALL NOT include a Domain Name.

### **3.2.3 Authentication of Individual Identity**

For Individual Subscribers, Microsoft verifies the following:

- The identity of the individual named in the certificate application using the following methods:
  - Microsoft verifies the Applicant's name using a legible copy, which discernibly shows the Applicant's face, of at least one currently valid government-issued photo ID (passport, drivers license, military ID, national ID or equivalent document type).
  - Microsoft verifies the Applicant's address using a form of identification that the CA determines to be reliable, such as a government ID, utility bill, or bank or credit card statement.

- Microsoft verifies the certificate request with the Applicant using a Reliable Method of Communication.

### **3.2.4 Non-Verified Subscriber Information**

Microsoft PKI Services does not verify the following subscriber information:

- Any other information not designated as verified.

### **3.2.5 Validation of Authority**

Microsoft PKI Services shall verify authority for all certificate requests using a Reliable Method of Communication as described in the Baseline Requirements. For Domain Validated or Organization Validated requests, Microsoft PKI Services shall verify this authority utilizing one or more methods as described in the Baseline Requirements.

Microsoft will allow an Applicant to limit authority to a list of authorized individuals.

### **3.2.6 Criteria for Interoperation**

The CA SHALL disclose, in our public repository, all Cross Certificates that identify a Microsoft PKI Services CA as the Subject, provided that the CA arranged for or accepted the establishment of the trust relationship (i.e. the Cross Certificate at issue).

## **3.3 IDENTIFICATION AND AUTHENTICATION FOR RE-KEY REQUESTS**

### **3.3.1 Identification and Authentication for Routine Re-Key**

CAs SHALL treat certificate re-key requests identical to applications for new certificates and perform the same identity-proofing processes as described in Section 3.2.2. Routine re-key of the CA Certificates SHALL be performed in accordance with the established Key Generation process in Section 6.1 of this CPS.

### **3.3.2 Identification and Authentication for Re-Key After Revocation**

Revoked or Expired Certificates SHALL require a new enrollment. Applicants MUST submit a new Certificate Request and be subject to the same Identification and Authentication requirements as first-time Applicants, as specified in Section 3.2.2 of this CPS.

## **3.4 IDENTIFICATION AND AUTHENTICATION FOR REVOCATION REQUEST**

A Certificate Revocation Request that is submitted electronically MAY be authenticated and approved, providing the request comes from the subscriber or an approved authority. The identity of the person or end-entity submitting a revocation request in any other manner SHALL be authenticated per Section 3.2.2.

## **4. CERTIFICATE LIFE-CYCLE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **4.1 CERTIFICATE APPLICATION**

#### **4.1.1 Who Can Submit a Certificate Application**

No individual or entity listed on a government denied list, list of prohibited persons or other list that prohibits doing business with such organization or person under the laws of the United States may submit an application for a Certificate.

Applicants or authorized Certificate Requestors who are not included in any of the previous lists MAY submit a Certificate Application provided the Certificate Request meets the requirements set forth in the CP, this CPS, and the CA/Browser Forum's Baseline Requirements and CA/Browser Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements published at [www.cabforum.org](http://www.cabforum.org).

In accordance with Section 5.5.2, the CA SHALL maintain an internal database of all previously revoked Certificates and previously rejected certificate requests due to suspected phishing or other fraudulent usage or concerns. The CA SHALL use this information to identify subsequent suspicious certificate requests.

#### **4.1.2 Enrollment Process and Responsibilities**

Prior to the issuance of a Certificate, the CA SHALL obtain a request for a certificate in a form prescribed by the CA. The Applicant Representative SHALL undergo an enrollment process which, at minimum, includes:

1. Completing and submitting a digitally signed Certificate Request;
2. Consenting to a Subscriber Agreement, which MAY be an electronic acknowledgement;
3. Paying any applicable fees.

Certificate Applicants, or their Representative, are required to fully comply with the requirements for the requested products prior to Certificate issuance. One enrollment process MAY suffice for multiple certificates to be issued to the same Applicant, subject to the aging and updating requirements in Section 4.2.1, provided that each Certificate is supported by a valid, current request signed by the appropriate Applicant Representative on behalf of the Applicant. The request may be made, submitted and/or signed electronically.

## **4.2 CERTIFICATE APPLICATION PROCESSING**

### **4.2.1 Performing Identification and Authentication Functions**

Certificate Applications are reviewed and processed, per the Identification and Authentication requirements in Section 3.2.2.

Certificate requests MAY be subject to additional verification activities, as outlined in documented procedures, prior to approving the request.

Microsoft will only use documents and data to verify certificate information that is in accordance with the maximum time permitted for reuse as per the Baseline Requirements (BR) and the Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

#### **4.2.2 Approval or Rejection of Certificate Applications**

Submitted Certificate applications MUST be reviewed and approved by the CA, or appointed RA, prior to issuance. Certificate Applications MAY be approved if the requirements of Section 3.2.2 and CAB Forum Requirements and Guidelines are met.

The Certificate Application MAY be rejected for any of, but not limited to, the following reasons:

- Applicant or Subscriber information is unable to be verified, per Section 3.2.2;
- The CA deems the certificate issuance MAY negatively impact the CA's business or reputation;
- Failure to consent to the Subscriber Agreement;
- Failure to provide Payment;
- Requests for Code Signing Certificates contain entity information that are on a deny list;

The CA reserves the right to not disclose reasons for refusal.

#### **4.2.3 Time to Process Certificate Applications**

Certification applications SHALL be processed within a commercially reasonable time frame. The CA SHALL not be responsible for processing delays initiated by the Applicant or from events outside of the CA's control.

#### **4.2.4 Verification of CAA Records**

Code Signing Certificates SHALL NOT include a Domain Name.

### **4.3 CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE**

#### **4.3.1 CA Actions During Certificate Issuance**

The source of the Certificate Request SHALL be verified before issuance. Certificates are generated, issued and distributed only after the CA or RA performs the required identification and authentication steps in accordance with Section 3. Certificates SHALL be checked to ensure that all fields and extensions are properly populated. Exceptions to defined Certificate Policies MUST be approved by the Microsoft PKI Policy Authority.

#### **4.3.2 Notification of Certificate Issuance**

Upon issuance, the Subscriber/Applicant, or Applicant Representative, will be notified via an email or another agreed upon method, with information about the issued Certificate.

The Applicant Representative will ensure that the Applicant is aware of the existence of all the Applicant/Subscribers certificates that they manage on their behalf and make all valid certificates available for Code Signing.

## **4.4 CERTIFICATE ACCEPTANCE**

### **4.4.1 Conduct Constituting Certificate Acceptance**

The Subscriber's/Applicant's, or Applicant Representative's, receipt of a Certificate and subsequent use of the Certificate and its key pair constitutes Certificate acceptance. It is the sole responsibility of the Subscriber/Applicant, or Applicant Representative, to install the issued Certificate on their designated system.

### **4.4.2 Publication of the Certificate by the CA**

Root Certificate and Issuing CAs SHALL be published in the Repository.

### **4.4.3 Notification of Certificate Issuance by the CA to Other Entities**

No Stipulation

## **4.5 KEY PAIR AND CERTIFICATE USAGE**

### **4.5.1 Subscriber Private Key and Certificate Usage**

Use of the Private Key corresponding to the Public Key in the Certificate SHALL only be permitted once the Subscriber, or Applicant Representative, has agreed to the Subscriber agreement and accepted the Certificate.

Subscribers, or Applicant Representatives, and CAs SHALL use their Private Keys for the purposes as constrained by the extensions (such as key usage, extended key usage, certificate policies, etc.) in the Certificates issued to them.

Subscribers, or Applicant Representatives, SHALL protect their Private Keys from unauthorized use and discontinue use of the Private Key following expiration or revocation of the Certificate.

Subscribers, or Applicant Representatives, SHALL contact the issuing entity if the Private Key is compromised.

### **4.5.2 Relying Party Public Key and Certificate Usage**

Relying parties SHALL use Public Key certificates and associated Public Keys for the sole purposes as constrained by the CP or this CPS and Certificate extensions (such as key usage, extended key usage, certificate policies, etc.) in the Certificates. Relying Parties are subject to the terms of the Relying Party Agreement on the public repository and responsibly verify the validity of the Certificate, including revocation status, prior to trusting any Certificate.

## **4.6 CERTIFICATE RENEWAL**

### **4.6.1 Circumstance for Certificate Renewal**

Subscribers, or Applicant Representatives, are responsible for the renewal of Certificates to maintain service continuity.

#### **4.6.2 Who May Request Renewal**

Certificate Renewals MAY be requested by the Subscriber or an authorized agent, providing the Renewal Request meets the requirements set forth in this CPS, the governing CP, and the CA/Browser Forum's Baseline Requirements and CA/Browser Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements published at [www.cabforum.org](http://www.cabforum.org).

#### **4.6.3 Processing Certificate Renewal Requests**

Renewal requests follow the same validation and authentication procedures as a new Certificate Request and MAY re-use the information provided with the original Certificate Request, for means of verification. If for any reason re-verification fails, the certificate SHALL not be renewed and be subject to new key generation, in accordance with Section 6.1.1.

#### **4.6.4 Notification of New Certificate Issuance to Subscriber**

Certificate Renewals SHALL follow the same notification method as a new certificate, in accordance with Section 4.3.2.

#### **4.6.5 Conduct Constituting Acceptance of Renewal Certificate**

Certificate Renewals SHALL follow the same acceptance method as a new certificate, in accordance with Section 4.4.1.

#### **4.6.6 Publication of the Renewal Certificate by the CA**

Certificate Renewals SHALL follow the same publication method as a new certificate, in accordance with Section 4.4.2.

#### **4.6.7 Notification of Certificate Issuance by the CA to Other Entities**

Certificate notifications to other entities SHALL follow the same entity notification method as a new certificate, in accordance with Section 4.4.3.

### **4.7 CERTIFICATE RE-KEY**

CAs SHALL treat certificate re-key requests identical to applications for new certificates and perform the same identity-proofing processes, as described in Section 3.2.2, and the same acceptance methods, as described in Section 4.4. Routine re-key of the CA certificates SHALL be performed in accordance with the established key generation process of Section 6.1 in this CPS.

#### **4.7.1 Circumstance for Certificate Re-Key**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.2 Who May Request Certification of a New Public Key**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.3 Processing Certificate Re-Key Requests**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.4 Notification of New Certificate Issuance to Subscriber**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.5 Conduct Constituting Acceptance of a Re-keyed Certificate**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.6 Publication of the Re-keyed Certificate by the CA**

No Stipulation

#### **4.7.7 Notification of Certificate Issuance by the CA to Other Entities**

No Stipulation

### **4.8 CERTIFICATE MODIFICATION**

Modification to an issued Certificate's details is not permitted. The certificate MUST first be revoked, core subscriber information must remain the same (domain name, DUNS/SSN, etc.), and only inconsequential information must have changed (email address, phone number, etc), before modifications to the Subscriber information are allowed. The replacement certificate doesn't require the same identity and authentication procedures as a new Applicant (as in Section 4.2.1) and SHALL be issued with new validity dates.

#### **4.8.1 Circumstance for Certificate Modification**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.2 Who May Request Certificate Modification**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.3 Processing Certificate Modification Requests**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.4 Notification of New Certificate Issuance to Subscriber**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.5 Conduct Constituting Acceptance of Modified Certificate**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.6 Publication of the Modified Certificate by the CA**

No stipulation

#### **4.8.7 Notification of Certificate Issuance by the CA to Other Entities**

No stipulation

## 4.9 CERTIFICATE REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION

### 4.9.1 Circumstances for Revocation

Microsoft PKI Services SHALL revoke Subscriber Certificates if one or more of the following circumstances occur:

1. Certificate revocation is requested in writing and in accordance with Section 4.9.3;
2. Microsoft acquires evidence that the Certificate or key pairs were compromised or misused.
3. The Subscriber can be shown to have violated obligations under the Subscriber Agreement;
4. Microsoft PKI Services is notified that the original Certificate request was not authorized and does not grant retroactive authorization;
5. The Natural Person Subscriber has been terminated or the organization goes out of business;
6. The Issuing CA ceases operation for any reason and has not arranged for another CA to provide revocation support for the Certificate;
7. The Issuing CA's right to issue Certificates has expired, is revoked or terminated, unless the CA arranged to continue maintaining the CRL and if necessary, the OCSP Repository;
8. Any information in the certificate is inaccurate, not legally permitted, or presents an unacceptable risk to Microsoft, Relying Parties, or Application Software Suppliers;
9. Revocation is required per guidelines in this CPS;
10. The Certificate was not issued in accordance with this CPS, CP, corresponding CAB Guidelines, or other arising factors per applicable laws or regulations.

#### 4.9.1.1 Reasons for Revoking a Subscriber Certificate

A Subscriber Certificate SHALL be revoked within the timeframes below if any of the circumstances in Section 4.9.1 or additional items specified in the CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements occur.

For Subscriber Certificates:

1. Microsoft PKI Services will revoke a Code Signing Certificate based on a Subscriber's Request within one (1) business day if the Subscriber requests in writing that the CA revoke the Certificate or notifies the CA that the original certificate request was not authorized and does not retroactively grant authorization.
2. Microsoft PKI Services will meet the following Timeframes based on an Application Software Supplier request to revoke a Subscriber's Code Signing Certificate.

- a. Within two (2) business days of receipt of the request, Microsoft PKI Services MUST either revoke the certificate or inform the Application Software Supplier that is conducting an investigation.
- b. If investigating, the Application Software Supplier will be informed within an additional two (2) business days whether Microsoft PKI Services will revoke the Certificate.
- c. If Microsoft PKI Services decides that the revocation will have an unreasonable impact on its customer, then Microsoft PKI Services must propose an alternative course of action to the Application Software Supplier based on the investigation.

3. For all incidents involving Malware, Microsoft PKI Services SHALL revoke the Subscriber's Code Signing Certificate in accordance with and within the following maximum timeframes. Nothing herein prohibits Microsoft PKI Services from revoking a Code Signing Certificate prior to these timeframes:

- a. Microsoft must contact the software publisher within one (1) business day after we are made aware of the incident.
- b. Microsoft must determine the volume of relying parties that are impacted (e.g. based on OCSP logs) within 72 hours after being made aware of the incident.
- c. Microsoft must request the software publisher send an acknowledgment within 72 hours of the receipt of this request.
  - i. If the software publisher responds within 72 hours, Microsoft and the software publisher must determine a "reasonable date" to revoke the certificate based on discussions with Microsoft.
  - ii. If Microsoft does not receive a response within 72 hours, Microsoft must notify the software publisher that Microsoft will revoke in seven (7) days if no further response is received.
    - 1. If the software publisher responds within 7 days, Microsoft and the software publisher will determine a "reasonable date" to revoke the certificate based on discussions with Microsoft.
    - 2. If no response is received after seven (7) days, Microsoft must revoke the certificate except if Microsoft has documented proof (e.g. OCSP logs) that this will cause significant impact to the general public.

#### **4.9.1.2 Reasons for Revoking a Subordinate CA Certificate**

A Subordinate CA Certificate SHALL be revoked within seven (7) days if one or more of the circumstances in Section 4.9.1 or additional items specified in the CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements occur.

#### **4.9.2 Who Can Request Revocation**

Certificate revocations MAY be requested from the authorized Subscribers (or their Representative), RAs, or the CA. Third parties MAY also submit Certificate Problem

Reports to the Issuing CA, if one or more of the circumstances in 4.9.1 occur that suggests reasonable cause to revoke the certificate.

#### **4.9.3 Procedure for Revocation Request**

The CA MAY process revocation requests using at least the following steps:

1. CA SHALL log the identity of the entity submitting the request or Certificate Problem Report and the reason for requesting revocation; to include, CA's reasons for revocation;
2. CA MAY request authorization of the revocation request from the Subscriber or designated contact;
3. CA SHALL authenticate the entity making the request, per Section 4.9.2;
4. If a request is received from a third party, CA personnel SHALL initiate an investigation within 24 hours of receipt of the request to determine if a revocation is applicable, based the criteria in Section 4.9.5;
5. CA SHALL verify the requested revocation reason aligns with those in Section 4.9.1.1 or 4.9.1.2;
6. If CA determines that revocation is appropriate; CA personnel MAY revoke the certificate and update the CRL.

CA SHALL maintain a 24x7 availability to internally respond to any high priority revocation requests. If appropriate, CA MAY forward complaints to law enforcement.

Instructions for requesting a revocation is provided in the Microsoft PKI Services Repository.

#### **4.9.4 Revocation Request Grace Period**

Subscribers, or their Representative, are required to request revocation within a commercially reasonable amount of time after detecting the loss or compromise of the Private Key (within 24 hours is recommended).

A certificate's status is reflected on a CRL and if necessary, in an OCSP response published at intervals specified below. Revoked certificates are listed in the CRL and if necessary, in OCSP responses until the certificate expires, except for Code Signing and Timestamp certificates which are retained on the CRL and if necessary, in OCSP responses for ten (10) years after the latter of certificate revocation or expiration.

#### **4.9.5 Time Within Which CA Must Process the Revocation Request**

Revocation requests SHALL initiate an investigation within 24 business hours of receiving the request and provide a preliminary report on its findings to both the Subscriber and the entity(-ies) who filed the problem report.

After reviewing the facts and circumstances Microsoft will work with the Subscriber and any entity(-ies) reporting the problem (or other revocation related notice) to establish whether or not the certificate will be revoked, and if so, a date which Microsoft will revoke the certificate. The period from receipt of the problem report (or other revocation related notice) to published revocation MUST

NOT exceed the time frames set forth in Section 4.9.1.1, for Subscriber Certificates, or Section 4.9.1.2, for CA Certificates.

Microsoft PKI Services SHALL consider whether revocation or other actions are warranted and the date selected for revocation based on at least following criteria:

1. The entity submitting the complaint;
2. The nature of the alleged problem;
3. The consequences of revocation (direct and collateral impacts to Subscribers and Relying Parties);
4. The number of reports received about a certain Certificate or Subscriber problem; or
5. Relevant legislation.

#### **4.9.6 Revocation Checking Requirement for Relying Parties**

Relying Parties SHALL verify a Certificate's validity and revocation status prior to relying on the Certificate.

#### **4.9.7 CRL Issuance Frequency**

The CA SHALL post new CRL entries, as soon as a revocation request is fulfilled.

Subscriber Code Signing Certificate CRLs SHALL be updated and reissued at least once every seven (7) days and record the date and time of the transaction in the CRL's *ThisUpdate* field. The CRL's *NextUpdate* field value identifies the point in time when the CRL expires and MUST NOT be more than ten (10) days after the value of the *ThisUpdate* field.

CRLs for Subordinate CA and Timestamp Certificates SHALL be updated and reissued at least once every twelve (12) months, within 24 hours after revoking a Subordinate CA Certificate, and the CRL's *NextUpdate* field value MUST NOT be more than twelve (12) months after the value of the *ThisUpdate* field.

Upon expiration of certain CAs a final CRL MAY be published that has a *NextUpdate* value that exceeds the time parameters noted elsewhere in this section.

#### **4.9.8 Maximum Latency for CRLs**

CRLs are posted to the repository within a commercially reasonable amount of time after generation.

#### **4.9.9 On-Line Revocation/Status Checking Availability**

In accordance with RFC6960 and/or RFC5019, CAs MUST ensure that OCSP responses are signed by one of the following:

1. The Issuing CA of the Certificate whose revocation status is being checked, or
2. An OCSP Responder whose Certificate is signed by the Issuing CA of the Certificate whose revocation status is being checked.

- a. In this instance, the OCSP signing Certificate MUST contain an extension type of id-pkix-ocsp-nocheck, as defined by RFC6960.

#### **4.9.10 On-Line Revocation Checking Requirements**

The CA MAY support an OCSP capability using the GET method for certificates issued in accordance with RFC 6960, CA/Browser Forum Baseline Requirements, and CA/Browser Forum Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

For the status of Code Signing Subscriber Certificates: The CA SHALL update information via OCSP at least every four (4) days and the responses from this service MUST have a maximum expiration time of ten (10) days.

For the status of Subordinate CA and Timestamp Certificates: the CA SHALL update information via OCSP at least (i) every twelve (12) months and (ii) within twenty-four (24) hours after revoking a Subordinate CA Certificate.

An OCSP responder that receives a request for status of a certificate which has not been issued, SHOULD NOT respond with a “good” status. The CA SHOULD monitor the responder for such requests as part of its security response procedures.

OCSP responders for CAs that are not Technically Constrained, per Section 7.1.5, MUST NOT respond with a “good” status for such certificates.

#### **4.9.11 Other Forms of Revocation Advertisements Available**

No Stipulation

#### **4.9.12 Special Requirements Related to Key Compromise**

See Section 4.9.1

#### **4.9.13 Circumstances for Suspension**

Not applicable.

#### **4.9.14 Who Can Request Suspension**

Not applicable.

#### **4.9.15 Procedure for Suspension Request**

Not applicable.

#### **4.9.16 Limits on Suspension Period**

Not applicable.

### **4.10 CERTIFICATE STATUS SERVICES**

#### **4.10.1 Operational Characteristics**

No Stipulation

#### **4.10.2 Service Availability**

The CA SHALL operate and maintain its CRL and if necessary, OCSP capability with resources sufficient to provide a response time of ten (10) seconds or less under normal operating conditions.

The CA SHALL maintain an online 24x7 Repository that software applications can use to automatically check the current status of all unexpired Certificates issued by the CA. For expired Code Sign and Timestamp Certificates, the status information will be available for ten (10) years after the latter of certificate revocation or expiration. For a Code Signing Certificate with the Lifetime Signing OID we will cease maintaining the status after the Code Signing Certificate expires.

The CA SHALL maintain an uninterrupted 24x7 capability to internally respond to a high-priority Certificate Problem Report, forward the reported complaint to law enforcement authorities, and/or revoke a Certificate that is the subject of such a complaint.

#### **4.10.3 Optional Features**

No Stipulation

### **4.11 END OF SUBSCRIPTION**

Certificate Subscriptions end when the certificate has either been revoked or expires.

### **4.12 KEY ESCROW AND RECOVERY**

#### **4.12.1 Key Escrow and Recovery Policy and Practices**

Not applicable.

#### **4.12.2 Session Key Encapsulation and Recovery Policy and Practices**

Not applicable.

## **5. MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONAL, AND PHYSICAL CONTROLS**

The CA SHALL develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive security program which includes an annual Risk Assessment that:

1. Identifies foreseeable internal and external threats that could result in unauthorized access, disclosure, misuse, alteration, or destruction of any Certificate Data or Certificate Management Processes;
2. Assesses the likelihood and potential damage of these threats, taking into consideration the sensitivity of the Certificate Data and Certificate Management Processes; and
3. Evaluates the proficiency of the policies, procedures, information systems, technology, and other arrangements that the CA has in place to counter such threats.

Based on the outcome of the Risk Assessment, the CA SHALL develop, implement, and maintain a security plan consisting of security procedures, measures, and products designed to

achieve the objectives set forth above and to manage and control the risks identified during the Risk Assessment, commensurate with the sensitivity of the Certificate Data and Certificate Management Processes. The security plan MUST include administrative, organizational, technical, and physical safeguards appropriate to the sensitivity of the Certificate Data and Certificate Management Processes. The security plan MUST also take into account then-available technology and cost of implementing the specific measures and SHALL implement a reasonable level of security appropriate to the harm that might result from a breach of security and the nature of the data to be protected.

## **5.1 PHYSICAL SECURITY CONTROLS**

### **5.1.1 Site Location and Construction**

CA and RA operations are conducted within physically protected environments designed to detect and prevent unauthorized use or disclosure of, or access to sensitive information and systems. The CA maintains multiple business resumption facilities for CA and RA operations. Business resumption facilities are protected with comparable physical and logical security controls. Business resumption facilities are at geographically disparate locations, so that operations MAY continue if one or more locations are disabled.

### **5.1.2 Physical Access**

CA facilities are protected from unauthorized access, through the required use of multi-factor authentication solutions. Facility security systems electronically log ingress and egress of authorized personnel.

Physical access to cryptographic systems, hardware, and activation materials are restricted by multiple access control mechanisms, which are logged, monitored, and video recorded on a 24x7 basis.

### **5.1.3 Power and Air Conditioning**

CA facilities are equipped with redundant power and climate control systems to ensure continuous and uninterrupted operation of CA systems.

### **5.1.4 Water Exposures**

Commercially reasonable safeguards and recovery measures have been taken to minimize the risk of damage from water exposure.

### **5.1.5 Fire Prevention and Protection**

Commercially reasonable fire prevention and protection measures are in place to detect and extinguish fires and prevent damage from exposure to flames or smoke.

### **5.1.6 Media Storage**

Media containing production software, data, audit, and archival backup information SHALL be securely stored within facilities with appropriate physical and logical access controls, consistent with Sections 5.1.2 – 5.1.5, that prevent unauthorized access and provide protection

from environmental hazards.

### **5.1.7 Waste Disposal**

Sensitive waste material or PKI information SHALL be shredded and destroyed by an approved service. Removable media containing sensitive information SHALL be rendered unreadable before secure disposal. Cryptographic devices, smart cards, and other devices that may contain Private Keys or keying material SHALL be physically destroyed or zeroized in accordance with the manufacturers' waste disposal guidelines.

### **5.1.8 Off-Site Backup**

Alternate facilities have been established for the storage and retention of PKI systems/data backups. The facilities are accessible by authorized personnel on a 24x7 basis with physical security and environmental controls comparable to those of the primary CA facility.

## **5.2 PROCEDURAL CONTROLS**

### **5.2.1 Trusted Roles**

Trusted Roles consist of vetted and approved employees, contractors, or consultants that require access to or control over the CA's PKI operations. Trusted Role positions are subject to a clearly defined set of responsibilities that maintain a strict "separation of duties"; such that, no single person is able to perform both validation duties and certificate issuance fulfillment without a secondary review by another "trusted" team member. The personnel considered for Trusted Role positions MUST successfully pass the screening and training requirements of CPS Section 5.3. Trusted Role positions MAY include, but are not limited to, system administrators, operators, engineers, and certain executives who are designated to oversee CA operations.

Personnel responsible for CA key management, certificate issuance, and management of CA system functions are considered to serve in "Trusted Roles".

### **5.2.2 Number of Individuals Required per Task**

The CA Private Key SHALL be backed up, stored, and recovered only by at least two persons in Trusted Roles using at least dual control (mechanisms) in a physically secured environment.

### **5.2.3 Identification and Authentication for Trusted Roles**

Individuals in a Trusted Role position SHALL be authorized by management to perform CA duties and MUST satisfy the Personnel Controls requirements specified in Section 5.3.

### **5.2.4 Roles Requiring Separation of Duties**

To ensure a separation of duties, as described in Section 5.2.1, PKI responsibilities relating to access, operations, and audit MUST be performed by separate Trusted Roles.

## **5.3 PERSONNEL CONTROLS**

### **5.3.1 Qualifications, Experience, and Clearance Requirements**

The CA verifies the identity and trustworthiness of all personnel, whether as an employee, agent, or an independent contractor, prior to the engagement of such person(s).

Any personnel occupying a Trusted Role, as defined in 5.2.1, must possess suitable experience and be deemed qualified. Personnel in Trusted Roles shall undergo training prior to performing any duties as part of that role.

### **5.3.2 Background Check Procedures**

Prior to assignment in a Trusted Role position, the prospective CA personnel SHALL undergo and clear the necessary background checks or security screenings requirements, per CA hiring policies, CAB Guidelines, and local laws.

### **5.3.3 Training Requirements and Procedures**

All CA personnel performing information verification duties SHALL receive skills-training and pass an examination prior to commencing their job role that includes:

1. Basic Public Key Infrastructure knowledge,
2. Authentication and vetting policies and procedures (including the CA's CP and CPS),
3. Common threats to the information verification process (including phishing and other social engineering tactics),
4. CA/Browser Forum Guidelines,
5. Applicable functions of the CA's PKI system relative to their assigned Trusted Role

The CA SHALL document records of such training and ensure that personnel entrusted with Validation Specialist duties maintain a skill level that enables them to perform such duties satisfactorily.

### **5.3.4 Retraining Frequency and Requirements**

Trusted Role personnel SHALL receive periodic training to maintain competency with the CA's PKI-related operations and regulatory changes.

The CA SHALL maintain records of all training taken by Trusted Role personnel.

### **5.3.5 Job Rotation Frequency and Sequence**

No stipulation

### **5.3.6 Sanctions for Unauthorized Actions**

In accordance with the CA's HR policies, appropriate disciplinary actions SHALL be taken for unauthorized actions or other violations of PKI policies and procedures.

### **5.3.7 Independent Contractor Controls**

The CA MAY employ contractors, as necessary. Contractors SHALL adhere to background

checks, training, skills assessment, and audit requirements, as appropriate for their role.

### **5.3.8 Documentation Supplied to Personnel**

CA PKI personnel are required to read this CPS and CP. They are also provided with PKI policies, procedures, and other documentation relevant to their job functions.

## **5.4 AUDIT LOGGING PROCEDURES**

### **5.4.1 Types of Events Recorded**

The CA and each Delegated Third Party SHALL record details of the actions taken to process a certificate request and to issue a certificate, including all information generated and documentation received in connection with the certificate request; the time and date; and the personnel involved. The CA SHALL make these records available to its Qualified Auditor as proof of the CA's compliance with these Requirements.

The CA SHALL record at least the following events:

1. CA certificate and key lifecycle management events, including:
  - a. Key generation, backup, storage, recovery, archival, and destruction;
  - b. Certificate requests, renewal, and re-key requests, and revocation;
  - c. Approval and rejection of certificate requests;
  - d. Cryptographic device lifecycle management events;
  - e. Generation of Certificate Revocation Lists and OCSP entries;
  - f. Introduction of new Certificate Profiles and retirement of existing Certificate Profiles
2. CA and Subscriber lifecycle management events, including:
  - a. Certificate requests, renewals, re-key requests, and revocation;
  - b. All verification activities stipulated in these Requirements and the CA's Certification Practice Statement (CPS);
  - c. Acceptance and rejection of certificate requests;
  - d. Issuance of Certificates; and
  - e. Generation of Certificate Revocation Lists and OCSP entries.
3. Security events, including:
  - a. Successful and unsuccessful PKI system access attempts;
  - b. PKI and security system actions performed;
  - c. Security profile changes;
  - d. System crashes, hardware failures, and other anomalies;

- e. Firewall and router activities; and
- f. Entries to and exits from the CA facility.

Log entries MUST include the following elements:

1. Date and time of entry;
2. Identity of the person making the journal entry; and
3. Description of the entry.

The Timestamp Authority MUST log the following information and make these records available to its Qualified Auditor as proof of the Timestamp Authority's compliance with these Requirements:

1. Physical or remote access to a timestamp server, including the time of the access and the identity of the individual accessing the server,
2. History of the timestamp server(s) configuration,
3. Any attempt to delete or modify timestamp logs,
4. Security events, to include a. Successful and unsuccessful Timestamp Authority system access attempts; b. Timestamp Authority and security system actions performed; c. Security profile changes; d. System crashes and other anomalies; e. Firewall and router activities;
5. Revocation of a timestamp certificate,
6. Major changes to the timestamp server's time, and
7. System startup and shutdown

#### **5.4.2 Frequency for Processing and Archiving Audit Logs**

Audit logs are reviewed on an as-needed basis.

#### **5.4.3 Retention Period for Audit Logs**

The CA, Delegated Third Parties, and Timestamp Authority MUST retain, for at least two years:

1. CA certificate and key lifecycle management event records (as set forth in Section 15.1 (1)) after the later occurrence of:
  - a. the destruction of the CA Private Key; or
  - b. the revocation or expiration of the final CA Certificate in that set of Certificates that have an X.509v3 basicConstraints extension with the CA field set to true and which share a common Public Key corresponding to the CA Private Key;
2. Subscriber Certificate lifecycle management event records (as set forth in Section 15.1 (2)) after the revocation or expiration of the Subscriber Certificate;
3. Timestamp Authority data records (as set forth in Section 15.2) after the revocation or renewal of the Timestamp Certificate private key (as set forth in Section 9.4);
4. Any security event records (as set forth in Section 15.1 (3) and for Timestamp Authority security event records set forth in Section 15.2(3)) after the event occurred.

#### **5.4.4 Protection of Audit Log**

Audit logs are protected from unauthorized viewing, modification, deletion, or other tampering using a combination of physical and logical security access controls.

#### **5.4.5 Audit Log Backup Procedures**

Audit logs are backed up and archived in accordance with business practices.

#### **5.4.6 Audit Log Accumulation System (Internal vs. External)**

No Stipulation

#### **5.4.7 Notification to Event-Causing Subject**

No Stipulation

#### **5.4.8 Vulnerability Assessments**

The CA MUST maintain detection and prevention security controls to safeguard Certificate Systems against potential threats or vulnerabilities.

Vulnerability assessments and penetration testing on the CA environment SHALL at least be performed in accordance with the CAB Forum Baseline Requirements, the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements, and Section 4 of the Network Security Requirements.

### **5.5 RECORDS ARCHIVAL**

#### **5.5.1 Types of Records Archived**

The CA SHALL maintain archived backups of application and system data. Archived information MAY include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Audit data, as specified in Section 5.4
- Data related to Certificate requests, verifications, issuances, and revocations
- CA policies, procedures, entity agreements, compliance records,
- Cryptographic device and key life cycle information
- Systems management and change control activities

#### **5.5.2 Retention Period for Archive**

CA SHALL retain all documentation relating to a Certificate's activities for a period of at least two (2) years after the Certificate ceases to be valid.

#### **5.5.3 Protection of Archive**

Archives of relevant records are secured using a combination of physical and logical access controls at both the primary and backup locations. Access is restricted to authorized personnel and SHALL be maintained for the period of time specified in Section 5.5.2.

#### **5.5.4 Archive Backup Procedures**

Adequate backup procedures SHALL be in place so that in the event of the loss or destruction of the primary archives, a complete set of backup copies will be readily available within a feasible period of time.

#### **5.5.5 Requirements for Time-Stamping of Records**

Certificates, CRLs, and other database entries shall contain time and date information.

#### **5.5.6 Archive Collection System (Internal or External)**

The CA SHALL employ appropriate systems for the collection and maintenance of archived records.

#### **5.5.7 Procedures to Obtain and Verify Archive Information**

Only authorized CA personnel SHALL have access to primary and backup archives. The CA MAY, at its own discretion, release specific archived information, following a formal request from a Subscriber, a Relying Party, or an authorized agent thereof.

### **5.6 KEY CHANGEOVER**

No Stipulation

### **5.7 COMPROMISE AND DISASTER RECOVERY**

#### **5.7.1 Incident and Compromise Handling Procedures**

All CA organizations SHALL have formal Incident Response, Disaster Recovery, and/or Business Continuity Plans that contain documented procedures to notify and reasonably protect Application Software Suppliers, Subscribers, and Relying Parties in the event of a disaster, security compromise, or business failure. Business Continuity and Security Plans do not have to be publicly disclosed, but the CA SHALL make them available to auditors upon request and annually test, review, and update the procedures.

The Business Continuity Plan SHALL align with the requirements of the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and EV Guidelines.

#### **5.7.2 Recovery Procedures if Computing Resources, Software, and/or Data Are Corrupted**

See Section 5.7.4.

#### **5.7.3 Recovery Procedures After Key Compromise**

The CA's business continuity plan contains the procedures to address incidents in which a CA Private Key is suspected to be or has been compromised. Upon thorough investigation, appropriate actions will be taken to revoke and generate new key pairs, notify affected Subscribers, and coordinate revoking and reissuing the affected certificates.

#### **5.7.4 Business Continuity Capabilities After a Disaster**

In the event of a disaster, the CA has established and maintains business continuity capabilities to address the recovery of PKI services in the event of critical interruptions or outages with CA operations. The recovery procedures align with those identified in Section 5.7.1.

#### **5.8 CA OR RA TERMINATION**

In the event that it is necessary to terminate the operation of a CA, CA management will plan and coordinate the termination process with its Subscribers and Relying Parties, such that the impact of the termination is minimized. The CA will make a commercially reasonable effort to provide prior notice to Subscribers and Relying Parties and preserve relevant records for a period of time deemed fit for functional and legal purposes.

### **6. TECHNICAL SECURITY CONTROLS**

#### **6.1 KEY PAIR GENERATION AND INSTALLATION**

##### **6.1.1 Key Pair Generation**

###### **6.1.1.1 CA Key Pair Generation**

The CA SHALL have effective practices and controls in place to reasonably assure that the generation of Root and Subordinate CA key pairs are performed in a physically secured environment, using cryptographic modules that meet the requirements of Section 6.2, by multiple Trusted Role personnel, following a pre-generated script, and either witnessed in-person or validated from a recorded video of the ceremony by a Qualified Auditor.

###### **6.1.1.2 RA Key Pair Generation**

No Stipulation

###### **6.1.1.3 Subscriber Key Pair Generation**

No Stipulation

##### **6.1.2 Private Key Delivery to Subscriber**

If a Subscriber generates their own key pairs, Private Key delivery is not performed. In the event the CA is authorized to generate a Private Key on behalf of a Subscriber, the Private Key will be encrypted prior to transporting to the Subscriber.

##### **6.1.3 Public Key Delivery to Certificate Issuer**

No Stipulation

##### **6.1.4 CA Public Key Delivery to Relying Parties**

No Stipulation

##### **6.1.5 Key Sizes**

Certificates issued under this CA hierarchy SHALL meet the following minimum requirements:

## **Root CA and Subordinate CA**

<b>Key Algorithm</b>	<b>Values</b>
Digest Algorithm	SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
Minimum RSA Modulus Size (bits)	4096
ECC Curve	NIST P-256, P-384

## **Subscriber Certificates**

<b>Key Algorithm</b>	<b>Values</b>
Digest Algorithm	SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
Minimum RSA Modulus Size (bits)	3072
ECC Curve	NIST P-256, P-384

Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) key lengths (L and N) are described in the Digital Signature Standard, FIPS 186-4 (<http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/pubsfips.html>).

Certificate Key configurations SHALL conform with this CPS, the respective CP, and the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

### **6.1.6 Public Key Parameter Generation and Quality Checking**

The CA SHALL generate Private Keys using secure algorithms and parameters based on current research and industry standards.

Quality checks for both RSA and ECC algorithms are performed on generated CA keys.

### **6.1.7 Key Usage Purposes**

Root Certificate Private Keys MUST NOT be used to sign Certificates, except in the following cases:

1. Self-signed Certificates to represent the Root CA;
2. Certificates for Subordinate CAs and Cross Certificates;
3. Certificates for infrastructure purposes (administrative role certificates, internal CA operational device certificates); and
4. Certificates for OCSP Response verification.

## **6.2 PRIVATE KEY PROTECTION AND CRYPTOGRAPHIC MODULE ENGINEERING CONTROLS**

The CA SHALL implement physical and logical security controls to prevent the unauthorized issuance of a certificate. The CA Private Key MUST be protected outside of the validated system or device specified above, using physical security, encryption, or a combination of both, and be implemented in a manner that prevents its disclosure. The CA SHALL encrypt the Private Key with an algorithm and key-length that are capable of withstanding cryptanalytic attacks for the residual life of the encrypted key or key part.

### **6.2.1 Cryptographic Module Standards and Controls**

CA key pairs are generated and protected by validated FIPS 140-2 level 3 hardware cryptographic modules that meet industry standards for random and prime number generation.

The Timestamp Authority protects its signing key using a process that is at least to FIPS 140-2 Level 3, Common Criteria EAL4+ (ALC, FLR2), or higher.

### **6.2.2 Private Key (m out of n) Multi-Person Control**

The participation of multiple individuals in Trusted Role positions are required to perform sensitive CA Private Key operations (e.g., hardware security module (HSM) activation, signing operations, CA key backup, CA key recovery, etc.).

### **6.2.3 Private Key Escrow**

No Stipulation

### **6.2.4 Private Key Backup**

Backup copies of CA Private Keys SHALL be backed up by multiple persons in Trusted Role positions and only be stored in encrypted form on cryptographic modules that meet the requirements specified in Section 6.2.1.

### **6.2.5 Private Key Archival**

No Stipulation

### **6.2.6 Private Key Transfer into or from a Cryptographic Module**

No Stipulation

### **6.2.7 Private Key Storage on Cryptographic Module**

See Section 6.2.1

### **6.2.8 Activating Private Keys**

Cryptographic modules used for CA Private Key protection utilize a smart card based activation mechanism by multiple Trusted Role personnel using multi-factor authentication.

### **6.2.9 Deactivating Private Keys**

No Stipulation

### **6.2.10 Destroying Private Keys**

CA Private Keys SHALL be destroyed when they are no longer needed or when the Certificates, to which they correspond, expire or are revoked. The destruction process shall be performed by multiple Trust Role personnel and documented using verifiable methods.

### **6.2.11 Cryptographic Module Capabilities**

See Section 6.2.1.

## 6.3 OTHER ASPECTS OF KEY PAIR MANAGEMENT

### 6.3.1 Public Key Archival

Copies of CA and Subscriber certificates and Public Keys SHALL be archived in accordance with Section 5.5.

### 6.3.2 Certificate Operational Periods and Key Pair Usage Periods

For Certificates issued after the publication of this CPS, the following key and certificate operational periods SHALL be deployed.

Entity Type	Maximum Certificate Validity Period
Root CA	25 Years
Subordinate CAs	20 Years
Subscribers	15 Months

## 6.4 ACTIVATION DATA

### 6.4.1 Activation Data Generation and Installation

CA shall protect activation data from compromise or disclosure. Appropriate cryptographic and physical access controls shall be implemented to prevent unauthorized use of any CA Private Key activation data.

### 6.4.2 Activation Data Protection

No Stipulation

### 6.4.3 Other Aspects of Activation Data

No Stipulation

## 6.5 COMPUTER SECURITY CONTROLS

### 6.5.1 Specific Computer Security Technical Requirements

CA systems SHALL be secured from unauthorized access using multi-factor authentication security controls.

### 6.5.2 Computer Security Rating

No Stipulation

## 6.6 LIFE CYCLE TECHNICAL CONTROLS

### 6.6.1 System Development Controls

No Stipulation

## **6.6.2 Security Management Controls**

No Stipulation

## **6.6.3 Life Cycle Security Controls**

No Stipulation

## **6.7 NETWORK SECURITY CONTROLS**

CA systems SHALL reside in highly segmented networks constrained from both the Internet and corporate networks via multiple levels of firewalls. Interaction with outside entities shall only be performed with servers located in a demilitarized zone (DMZ). All networks associated with CA operations SHALL be monitored by a network intrusion detection system. All systems associated with CA activities shall be hardened with services restricted to only those necessary for CA operations. Changes SHALL be documented and approved via a change management system. Logical and physical access to CA systems and facilities requires two trusted and qualified Microsoft employees.

## **6.8 TIME-STAMPING**

Certificates, CRLs, and other revocation database entries SHALL contain time and date information.

Microsoft MUST operate an RFC-3161 compliant Timestamp Authority that is available for use by customers of its Codes Signing Certificates. Microsoft MUST recommend to Subscribers, or their Representative, that they use the CA's Timestamp Authority to timestamp signed code.

The Timestamp Authority MUST ensure that the clock synchronization is maintained when a leap second occurs. A Timestamp Authority MUST synchronize its timestamp server at least every twenty-four (24) hours with a UTC(k) time source. The timestamp server MUST automatically detect and report on clock drifts or jumps out of synchronization with UTC. Clock adjustments of one second or greater Must be accountable events.

# **7. CERTIFICATE, CRL, AND OCSP PROFILES**

## **7.1 CERTIFICATE PROFILE**

CA certificates SHALL be X.509 Version 3 format, conform to RFC5280: Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and CRL profile, and adhere to the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

### **7.1.1 Version Number(s)**

CAs SHALL issue certificates that are compliant with X.509 Version 3.

## **7.1.2 Certificate Content and Extensions; Application of RFC 5280**

The extensions defined for the CA's X.509 v3 certificates provide methods for associating additional attributes with users or Public Keys and for managing the certification hierarchy. Each extension in a certificate is designated as either critical or non-critical.

Certificate extensions, their criticality, and cryptographic algorithm object identifiers, are provisioned according to the IETF RFC 5280 standards and/or comply with CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and EV Guidelines.

### **7.1.2.1 Root CA Certificate**

Root CAs SHALL ensure that the content of the Certificate Issuer Distinguished Name field matches the Subject DN of the Issuing CA to support Name chaining, as specified in RFC 5280.

### **7.1.2.2 Subordinate CA Certificate**

Subordinate CA Certificates MAY include extensions and values that are pertinent for their intended use, in accordance with this CPS and RFC 5280, and the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

### **7.1.2.3 Subscriber Certificate**

Subscriber Certificates MAY include extensions and values that are pertinent for their intended use, in accordance with this CPS, RFC 5280, and the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

### **7.1.2.4 All Certificates**

All other provisions MUST be set in accordance with RFC 5280 and/or CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and CAB Forum Code Signing Baseline Requirements, as appropriate.

### **7.1.2.5 Application of RFC 5280**

The applicability of RFC 5280 SHALL be governed by the respective Requirements and Guidelines of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the CA/Browser Forum (CAB Forum).

## **7.1.3 Algorithm Object Identifiers**

No Stipulation

## **7.1.4 Name Forms**

Microsoft PKI Services represents the following as it relates to name forms.

- As of the issuance date, all Subject information is accurate, and all attributes present in the Subject field of a certificate have been verified;
- Codesign Certificates MUST NOT contain metadata such as '.', '–', and ' ' characters or any indication that a value or field is absent, incomplete, or not applicable;

- Codesign Certificates MUST NOT contain underscore characters (“\_”) in dNSName entries;
- OU fields are restricted to Subscriber information that has been verified in accordance with section 3 of this CPS;
- CA certificates contain a commonName attribute that uniquely identifies and distinguishes it from other CAs; and
- Certificates SHALL be issued with name forms in accordance with RFC 5280 and Section 3 of this CPS.

#### **7.1.4.1. Issuer Information**

No Stipulation

#### **7.1.4.2. Subject Information – Subscriber Certificates**

No Stipulation

##### **7.1.4.2.1. Subject Alternative Name Extension**

No Stipulation

##### **7.1.4.2.2. Subject Distinguished Name Fields**

No Stipulation

#### **7.1.4.3. Subject Information – Root Certificates and Subordinate CA Certificates**

By issuing a Subordinate CA Certificate, the CA represents that it followed the procedure set forth in this CPS to verify that, as of the Certificate’s issuance date, all of the Subject Information was accurate.

##### **7.1.4.3.1. Subject Distinguished Name Fields**

No Stipulation

#### **7.1.5 Name Constraints**

CAs reserve the right to issue Certificates with Name Constraints and mark them as critical, where necessary. Unless otherwise documented in this CPS the use of Name Constraints SHALL conform with the X.509 V3 standard (RFC 5280) and the CAB Forum’s Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum’s Code Signing Baseline Requirements.

#### **7.1.6 Certificate Policy Object Identifier**

CAs SHALL issue Certificates with policy identifiers set forth in Section 1.2 herein, and comply with the provisions of this CPS and the CAB Forum Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum’s Code Signing Baseline Requirements .

##### **7.1.6.1 Reserved Certificate Policy Object Identifiers**

No Stipulation

### **7.1.6.2 Root CA Certificates**

No Stipulation

### **7.1.6.3 Subordinate CA Certificates**

No Stipulation

### **7.1.6.4 Subscriber Certificates**

No Stipulation

## **7.1.7 Usage of Policy Constraints Extension**

No Stipulation

## **7.1.8 Policy Qualifiers Syntax and Semantics**

No Stipulation

## **7.1.9 Processing Semantics for the Critical Certificate Policies Extension**

No Stipulation

## **7.2 CRL PROFILE**

CRL Profiles comply with X.509 V3 standards.

### **7.2.1 Version Number(s)**

No Stipulation

### **7.2.2 CRL and CRL Entry Extensions**

No Stipulation

## **7.3 OCSP PROFILE**

The profile for OCSP responses, if used, are issued under this PKI System conforms to RFC 5019 and RFC 6960 standards.

### **7.3.1 Version Number(s)**

No Stipulation

### **7.3.2 OCSP Extensions**

No Stipulation

## **8. COMPLIANCE AUDIT AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS**

The CA SHALL at all times:

1. Be licensed as a CA in each jurisdiction of operation, where required, for the issuance of Certificates;

2. Operate its PKI and issue Certificates in accordance with all applicable laws and guidelines in every jurisdiction of operation;
3. Comply with the audit requirements set forth in this Section 8.
4. Comply with these requirements

## **8.1 FREQUENCY OR CIRCUMSTANCES OF ASSESSMENT**

The CA must have an independent auditor annually assess the CA's compliance to the stated requirements and practices of this CPS, the CP, and/or the CAB Forum's Baseline Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements. The results of the audit SHALL be provided in an Audit Report indicating compliance status with the applicable standards under the audit scheme herein.

Any changes to the CA business practices are subject to and SHALL require Self Audits, as described in Section 8.7. Any audit deficiencies SHALL be addressed and remedied, in accordance with Section 8.5. The annual audit SHALL include items mentioned in Section 8.4.

## **8.2 IDENTITY/QUALIFICATIONS OF ASSESSOR**

The CA SHALL have an annual audit conducted by an independent licensed Auditor that demonstrates proficiency in the criteria specified in Section 8.4 and maintains a Professional Liability/Errors, & Omissions insurance policy with a minimum coverage of one million US dollars.

## **8.3 ASSESSOR'S RELATIONSHIP TO ASSESSED ENTITY**

The entity that performs the annual audit SHALL be completely independent of the CA.

## **8.4 TOPICS COVERED BY ASSESSMENT**

Annual audits SHALL be performed by an independent certified Auditor that assesses the CA's PKI operations in accordance with the stipulations documented in their CPS, the CP, applicable Auditors' Principles and Criteria for Certification Authorities, and the CA/Browser Forum's Baseline Requirements *and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements*.

## **8.5 ACTIONS TAKEN AS A RESULT OF DEFICIENCY**

Deficiencies identified by the auditor during the compliance audit will determine the actions to be taken. The PKI Policy Authority is responsible for ensuring that remediation plans are promptly developed, documented, and corrective actions are taken within an adequate timeframe corresponding to the significance of identified matters.

## **8.6 COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS**

Audit results are provided to the PKI Policy Authority, who will distribute to the necessary parties, as required. General audit findings that do not impact the overall audit opinion are not required to be publicized. The CA SHALL make the annual Audit Reports publicly available in the PKI repository referenced in Section 2.1.

## **8.7 SELF-AUDITS**

The CA SHALL perform quarterly self-audits of its PKI business practices, in accordance with its CPS, the Microsoft PKI Services CP, and the respective CAB Forum Requirements and the CAB Forum's Code Signing Baseline Requirements .

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS AND LEGAL MATTERS**

### **9.1 FEES**

#### **9.1.1 Certificate Issuance or Renewal Fees**

Microsoft PKI Services reserves the right to charge Subscribers fees for Certificate issuance and renewals.

#### **9.1.2 Certificate Access Fees**

Microsoft PKI Services reserves the right to charge a fee for making a Certificate available in a repository or otherwise.

#### **9.1.3 Revocation or Status Information Access Fees**

Microsoft PKI Services does not charge a fee to Relying Parties for access to revocation or status information in accordance with Section 2.s. Microsoft PKI Services reserves the right to charge a fee for providing customized CRLs or other value-added revocation and status information services.

#### **9.1.4 Fees for Other Services**

Microsoft PKI Services does not charge a fee for accessing this CPS. However, any use of the CPS for purposes other than viewing the document, including reproduction, redistribution, modification, or creation of derivative works, may be subject to a license agreement with the entity holding the copyright to the document.

#### **9.1.5 Refund Policy**

Not Applicable

## **9.2 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Subscribers and Relying Parties shall be responsible for the financial consequences to such Subscribers, Relying Parties, and to any other persons, entities, or organizations for any transactions in which such Subscribers or Relying Parties participate and which use Microsoft PKI Services Certificates, or any services provided in respect to such Certificates. Microsoft PKI Services makes no representations and gives no warranties or conditions regarding the financial efficacy of any transaction completed utilizing a Certificate provided by Microsoft PKI Services or any services provided in respect to such Certificates and neither Microsoft nor any of its subcontractors, distributors, agents, suppliers, employees, or directors shall have any liability except as explicitly set forth herein in respect to the use of or reliance on any such Certificate or any service provided in respect to such a Certificate.

### **9.2.1 Insurance Coverage**

Microsoft maintains insurance or self-insures in accordance with Section 9.2.1 of the CP.

### **9.2.2 Other Assets**

Customers shall have access to sufficient financial resources to support operations and perform duties in accordance with the Microsoft PKI Services CP and shall be able to bear the risk of liability to Subscribers and Relying Parties.

### **9.2.3 Insurance or Warranty Coverage for End-Entities**

No Stipulation

## **9.3 CONFIDENTIALITY OF BUSINESS INFORMATION**

### **9.3.1 Scope of Confidential Information**

Sensitive Microsoft PKI Services information shall remain confidential to Microsoft PKI Services. The following information is considered confidential to Microsoft PKI Services and may not be disclosed:

- Microsoft PKI Services policies, procedures and technical documentation supporting this CPS;
- Subscriber registration records, including: Certificate applications, whether approved or rejected, proof of identification documentation and details;
- Certificate information collected as part of the registration records, beyond that which is required to be included in Subscriber Certificates;
- Audit trail records;
- Any Private Key within the Microsoft PKI Services CA hierarchy; and
- Compliance audit results except for WebTrust for CAs audit reports which may be published at the discretion of Microsoft PKI Policy Authority.

### **9.3.2 Information Not Within the Scope of Confidential Information**

This CPS, Certificates and CRLs issued by Microsoft PKI Services and any information that the CA has explicitly authorized to disclose are not considered confidential.

Microsoft may disclose Subscriber information on an aggregate basis, and the Subscriber hereby grants to Microsoft a license to do so, including the right to modify the aggregated Subscriber information and to permit third parties to perform such functions on its behalf.

This Section 9.3.2 is subject to applicable privacy laws.

### **9.3.3 Responsibility to Protect Confidential Information**

Microsoft PKI Services PKI participants receiving private information shall secure it from compromise and disclosure to third parties.

## **9.4 PRIVACY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION**

### **9.4.1 Privacy Plan**

Microsoft follows the governing principles established by the Microsoft privacy statement located at <http://privacy.microsoft.com/en-us/default.aspx> when handling personal information.

### **9.4.2 Information Treated as Private**

Information about Subscribers that is not publicly available through the content of the issued Certificate and CRLs is treated as private.

### **9.4.3 Information Not Deemed Private**

See Section 9.3.2.

### **9.4.4 Responsibility to Protect Private Information**

See Section 9.3.3.

### **9.4.5 Notice and Consent to Use Private Information**

Unless where otherwise stated in this CPS, the applicable Privacy Policy, or by agreement, private information will not be used without the consent of the party to whom that information applies. This Section 9.4.5 is subject to applicable privacy laws.

### **9.4.6 Disclosure Pursuant to Judicial or Administrative Process**

Microsoft PKI Services shall be entitled to disclose Confidential/Private Information if, in good faith, Microsoft PKI Services believes that:

- Disclosure is necessary in response to subpoenas and search warrants; or
- Disclosure is necessary in response to judicial, administrative, or other legal process during the discovery process in a civil or administrative action, such as subpoenas, interrogatories, requests for admission, and requests for production of documents.

### **9.4.7 Other Information Disclosure Circumstances**

No Stipulation

## **9.5 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

The following are the property of Microsoft:

- This CPS;
- Policies and procedures supporting the operation of Microsoft PKI Services;
- Certificates and CRLs issued by Microsoft PKI Services managed CAs;
- Distinguished Names (DNs) used to represent entities within the Microsoft PKI Services CA hierarchy; and
- CA infrastructure and Subscriber key pairs.

Microsoft PKI Services PKI participants acknowledge that Microsoft PKI Services retains all Intellectual Property Rights in and to this CPS.

## **9.6 REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

Microsoft PKI Services warrants and promises to provide certification authority services substantially in compliance with this CPS and the relevant Microsoft Certificate Policies. Microsoft PKI Services makes no, and expressly excludes all, other warranties or promises and has no further obligations to Subscribers or Relying Parties, except as may be expressly set forth under this CPS.

### **9.6.1 CA Representations and Warranties**

See Section 9.6

### **9.6.2 RA Representations and Warranties**

See Section 9.6

### **9.6.3 Subscriber Representations and Warranties**

See Section 9.6

### **9.6.4 Relying Party Representations and Warranties**

See Section 9.6

### **9.6.5 Representations and Warranties of Other Participants**

See Section 9.6

## **9.7 DISCLAIMERS OF WARRANTIES**

Except for express warranties stated in this CPS, Microsoft PKI Services disclaims all other warranties, promises and other obligations (express, implied, statutory, or otherwise). In addition and without limiting the foregoing, Microsoft PKI Services is not liable for any loss:

- To CA or RA services due to war, natural disasters or other uncontrollable forces;
- Incurred between the time a Certificate is revoked and the next scheduled issuance of a CRL;
- Due to unauthorized use of Certificates issued by Microsoft PKI Services, or use of Certificates beyond the prescribed use defined by this CPS;
- Arising from the negligent or fraudulent use of Certificates or CRLs issued by the Microsoft PKI Services; and
- Due to disclosure of personal information contained within Certificates, CRLs or OCSP responses.

## **9.8 LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY**

WE AND OUR AFFILIATES OR LICENSORS WILL NOT BE LIABLE TO YOU FOR ANY INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES (INCLUDING DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF PROFITS, GOODWILL, USE, OR DATA), EVEN IF A PARTY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. FURTHER, NEITHER WE NOR ANY OF OUR AFFILIATES OR LICENSORS WILL BE

RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY COMPENSATION, REIMBURSEMENT, OR DAMAGES ARISING IN CONNECTION WITH: (A) YOUR INABILITY TO USE A CERTIFICATE, INCLUDING AS A RESULT OF (I) ANY TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF THIS AGREEMENT OR THE CPS OR REVOCATION OF A CERTIFICATE, (II) OUR DISCONTINUATION OF ANY OR ALL SERVICE OFFERINGS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT, OR, (III) ANY DOWNTIME OF ALL OR A PORTION OF CERTIFICATE SERVICES FOR ANY REASON, INCLUDING AS A RESULT OF POWER OUTAGES, SYSTEM FAILURES OR OTHER INTERRUPTIONS; (B) THE COST OF PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; (C) ANY INVESTMENTS, EXPENDITURES, OR COMMITMENTS BY YOU IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT OR YOUR USE OF OR ACCESS TO MICROSOFT'S CERTIFICATE SERVICES; OR (D) ANY UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO, ALTERATION OF, OR THE DELETION, DESTRUCTION, DAMAGE, LOSS OR FAILURE TO STORE ANY OF YOUR CONTENT OR OTHER DATA. IN ANY CASE, MICROSOFT AND ITS AFFILIATES' AND LICENSORS' AGGREGATE LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT AND ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED HEREUNDER IS LIMITED TO DIRECT DAMAGES INCURRED UNDER REASONABLE RELIANCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT PAID BY YOU FOR THE CERTIFICATE(S) AT ISSUE OR THE AMOUNTS PAID FOR THE CERTIFICATE SERVICES FOR THE CERTIFICATE(S) AT ISSUE IN THE LAST TWELVE (12) MONTHS BEFORE THE CLAIM AROSE (UNLESS THE FOREGOING AMOUNT IS ZERO, IN WHICH CASE SUCH DIRECT DAMAGES LIMIT WILL BE DEEMED TO BE FIVE U.S. DOLLARS).

## **9.9 INDEMNITIES**

### **9.9.1 Indemnification by CAs**

See Section 9.9

### **9.9.2 Indemnification by Subscribers**

To the extent permitted by law, Subscriber indemnifies Microsoft, Microsoft's partners, and any cross-signed entities, and their respective employees, directors, agents, and representatives from, and will defend these indemnified parties against, any and all third party claims, including by Relying Parties, to the extent arising from or related to: (a) Subscriber's failure to perform any of Subscriber's warranties, representations, and obligations under this Agreement; (b) any omissions, falsehoods or misrepresentations of fact, regardless of whether the misrepresentation or omission was intentional or unintentional, Subscriber makes on the Certificate or in connection with this Agreement; (c) any infringement of an intellectual property right of any person or entity in information or content provided by Subscriber; (d) Subscriber's misuse of a Certificate or private key; or (e) failure to protect the private key, credentials, or use a trustworthy system, or to take the precautions necessary to prevent the compromise, loss, disclosure, modification, or unauthorized use of the private key under the terms of this Agreement. The CA and its RAs are not the agents, fiduciaries, trustees, or other representatives of Subscribers or Relying Parties.

### **9.9.3 Indemnification by Relying Parties**

**To the extent permitted by law, Relying Party indemnifies Microsoft, Microsoft's partners, and any cross-signed entities, and their respective employees, directors, agents, and representatives, and any third-party Certificate Authority or RA providing services to Microsoft or any of its affiliates in relation to any Certificate, and will defend these indemnified parties against, any loss, damage, or expense, including reasonable attorney's fees, related to the Relying Party's (i) breach of any service terms applicable to the services provided by Microsoft or its affiliates and used by the Relying Party, the Relying Party Agreement, this CPS, or applicable law; (ii) unreasonable reliance on a certificate or any constituent elements of it; or (iii) failure to check the certificate's status prior to use.**

## **9.10 TERM AND TERMINATION**

### **9.10.1 Term**

This CPS becomes effective upon publication in the Repository.

This CPS, as amended from time to time, shall remain in force until it is replaced by a new version. Amendments to this CPS become effective upon publication in the Repository.

### **9.10.2 Termination**

This CPS and any amendments remain in effect until replaced by a newer version.

### **9.10.3 Effect of Termination and Survival**

Upon termination of this CPS, participants are nevertheless bound by its terms for all Certificates issued for the remainder of the validity periods of such Certificates.

## **9.11 INDIVIDUAL NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARTICIPANTS**

Any notice, demand, or request pertaining to this CPS shall be communicated either using digitally signed messages consistent with this CPS, or in writing. Microsoft accepts notices related to this CPS at the locations specified in Section 2.2. Notices are deemed effective after the sender receives a valid and digitally signed acknowledgment of receipt from Microsoft. If an acknowledgement of receipt is not received within five days, the sender must resend the notice in paper form to the street address specified in Section 2.2 using either a courier service that confirms delivery or via certified or registered mail with postage prepaid and return receipt requested. Microsoft may allow other forms of notice in its Subscriber Agreements.

## **9.12 AMENDMENTS**

### **9.12.1 Procedure for Amendment**

Amendments to this CPS may be made by Microsoft PKI Services Service Manager and shall be approved by the Microsoft PKI Policy Management Authority as per Section 1.5.4.

### **9.12.2 Notification Mechanism and Period**

No Stipulation

### **9.12.3 Circumstances under which OID must be changed**

No Stipulation

## **9.13 DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROVISIONS**

In the event of any dispute involving the services or provisions covered by this CPS, the aggrieved party shall notify a member of Microsoft PKI Policy Authority regarding the dispute. Microsoft PKI Policy Authority will involve the appropriate Microsoft personnel to resolve the dispute.

## **9.14 GOVERNING LAW**

The laws of Washington State govern the interpretation, construction, and enforcement of this CPS, including tort claims, without regard to any conflicts of law principles. The state or federal courts located in King County, Washington have nonexclusive venue and jurisdiction over any proceedings related to the CPS. Microsoft may seek injunctive or other relief in any state, federal, or national court of competent jurisdiction for any actual or alleged infringement of our, our affiliates, or any third party's intellectual property or other proprietary rights. The United Nations Convention for the International Sale of Goods does not apply to this CPS.

## **9.15 COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW**

This CPS is subject to all applicable laws and regulations, including United States restrictions on the export of software and cryptography products.

## **9.16 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **9.16.1 Entire Agreement**

Microsoft contractually obligates each RA to comply with this CPS and applicable industry guidelines. Microsoft also requires each party using its products and services to enter into an agreement that delineates the terms associated with the product or service. If an agreement has provisions that differ from this CPS, then the agreement with that party controls, but solely with respect to that party. Third parties may not rely on or bring action to enforce such agreement.

### **9.16.2 Assignment**

Any entities operating under this CPS may not assign their rights or obligations without the prior written consent of Microsoft. Unless specified otherwise in a contract with a party, Microsoft does not provide notice of assignment. This CPS shall be binding on all successors of the parties.

### **9.16.3 Severability**

If any provision of this CPS is held invalid or unenforceable by a competent court or tribunal, the remainder of the CPS will remain valid and enforceable. It is expressly agreed that every provision of this CPS that provides for a limitation of liability or exclusion of damages, disclaimer or limitation of any warranties, promises or other obligations, is intended to be severable and independent of any other provision and is to be enforced as such.

#### **9.16.4 Enforcement (attorneys' fees and waiver of rights)**

Microsoft may seek indemnification and attorneys' fees from a party for damages, losses, and expenses related to that party's conduct. Microsoft's failure to enforce a provision of this CPS does not waive Microsoft's right to enforce the same provision later or right to enforce any other provision of this CPS. To be effective, waivers must be in writing and signed by Microsoft.

#### **9.16.5 Force Majeure**

Microsoft is not liable for any delay or failure to perform an obligation under this CPS to the extent that the delay or failure is caused by an occurrence beyond Microsoft's reasonable control. The operation of the Internet is beyond Microsoft's reasonable control.

### **9.17 OTHER PROVISIONS**

This CPS shall be interpreted consistently with what is commercially reasonable in good faith under the circumstances and considering its international scope and uniform application.