# eSignature

eSignature is a CEF Building Block that helps public administrations and businesses to accelerate the creation and verification of electronic signatures. The deployment of solutions based on this Building Block in EU and EEA countries associated to the programme facilitates the mutual recognition and cross-border interoperability of esignatures. This means that public administrations and businesses can trust and use e-signatures that are valid and structured in EU-interoperable formats. In addition, it also supports the provision of many online services which require the exchange of documents whose signature can be recognised across border. For example, a Greek entrepreneur can sign a permit application in Helsinki and expect it to be recognized by public authorities in Dublin.

The Core Service Platform comprises several services managed by the European Commission:

1. The **Digital Signature Services (DSS)** open-source library for the creation and validation of e-signatures,

2. The Trusted List Manager, which helps the Member States' Trusted List Scheme Operators (TLSOs) create and edit a Trusted List in a standard, machine-readable format,

3. Technical specifications and associated standards (maintained by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), which outline the requirements laid out by the **<u>eIDAS Regulation</u>** in regard to esignatures and e-seals,

4. DSS Conformance Testing (maintained by ETSI), to help service providers and public administrations test interoperability and conformity of their e-signature solution.

A complete overview of CEF eSignature's services can be found <u>here</u>.

Generic Services Projects help organisations deploying eSignature solutions by enabling attributes, mandates and authorities to be associated with electronic identities that allow cross-border use through the eIDAS-Nodes.

The Regulation (EU) N°910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market (better known as the eIDAS Regulation) has applied directly to the EU Member States since 1 July 2016, when it came into full effect and the eSignature Directive of 1999 was repealed. The new legal framework ensures legal certainty for cross-border use of e-signatures, e-seals, time-stamps, eDelivery service and website authentication certificates.

Qualified Trust Service Providers (QTSPs) are natural or legal persons who provide one or more trust services (TS), including the validation of e-signatures. According to Regulation (EU) N°910/2014, QTSPs are required to abide by the strict guidelines outlined under the eIDAS Regulation.

### LEARN MORE

## Highlights



### **Generic Services Projects**

### €24.77 million

72 projects in 23 Member States + Iceland, Norway and United Kingdom (including CEF eID)

More info on the Generic Services:



## Indicators





#### Trusted list (TL) trainings & webinars DSS Libraries

**TL Scheme Operators trainings** Attendance: **32** people from **19** countries 2021 Goal: set-up their TL and keep it errorfree.

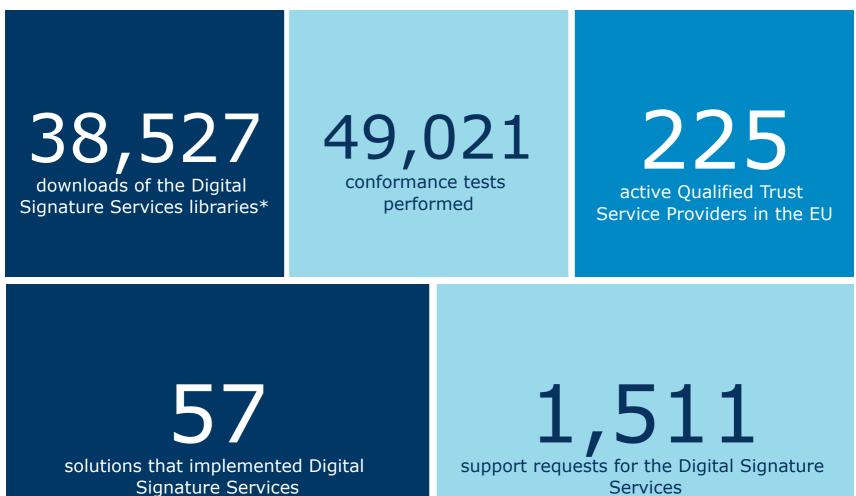
#### **TL Manager webinars**

Goal: help Member States manage their national trusted lists established by the eIDAS Regulation.

38,527 downloads between 2016-

As the CEF funding of the Core Service platform came to an end in Q3 2021, this is the cut off date for the last monitoring activities linked to this work strand. The monitoring of the Generic Services projects presents the state of play by Q4 2022. 4 Generic Services projects are still under implementation and are foreseen to be completed by 2023.

### Uptake



### **Service Availability**

93% Average uptime of the List of Trusted Lists

## **Financial Monitoring**

€ 20,748,916 **CEF Core Service Platform funding** 

€ 24,771,361

**CEF** funding through Generic Services Projects (including CEF eID)

### **Reuse of eSignature**

eSignature is being reused by EESSI, EU e-Justice, eProcurement, EU

### Student e-Card and Wifi4EU

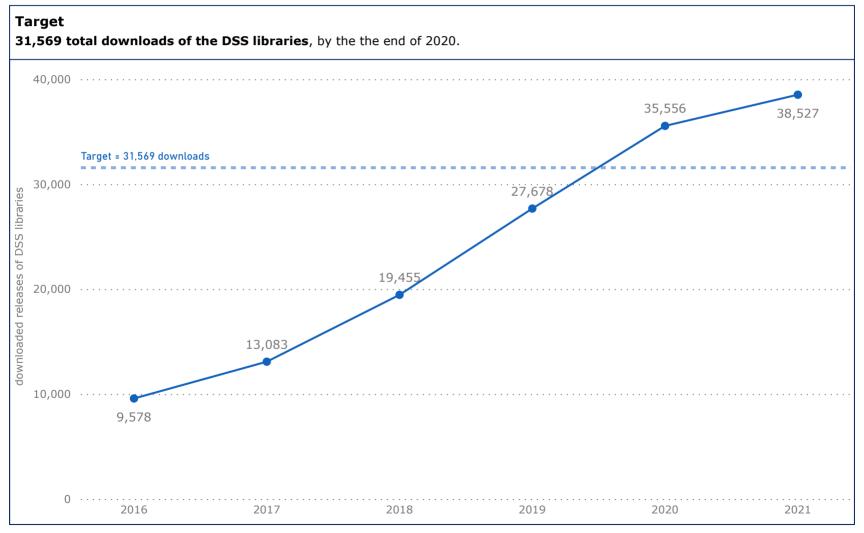
For more information, click <u>here</u>

\* The latest number of downloads of the Digital Signature Services libraries refers to Q1 2021.

## Indicators



This indicator measures the number of **unique downloads of releases of Digital Signature Services (DSS) libraries on** <u>CEF</u> <u>**Digital**</u> website. The baseline for this number is the first data collection in Q2 2016 (686 unique downloads).

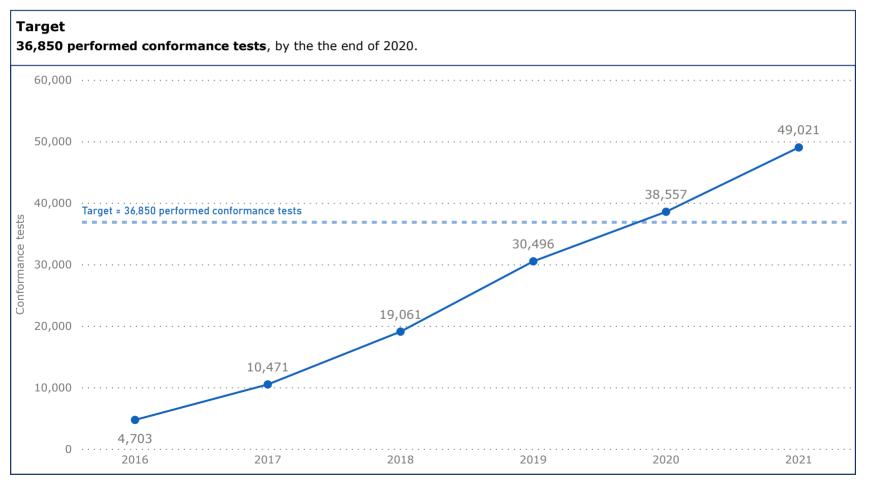


\* The latest number of downloads of the Digital Signature Services libraries refers to Q1 2021.

### eSignature > Uptake > Conformance tests

This indicator measures the number of **performed conformance tests using the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) Signature Conformance Checker**. The baseline for this number is the operational launch of the ETSI Signature Conformance Checker service in Q1 2016 (499 conformance tests).

The <u>ETSI Signature Conformance Checker</u> is a free online tool used to perform numerous checks and verify the conformity of advanced electronic signatures against the ETSI standards.

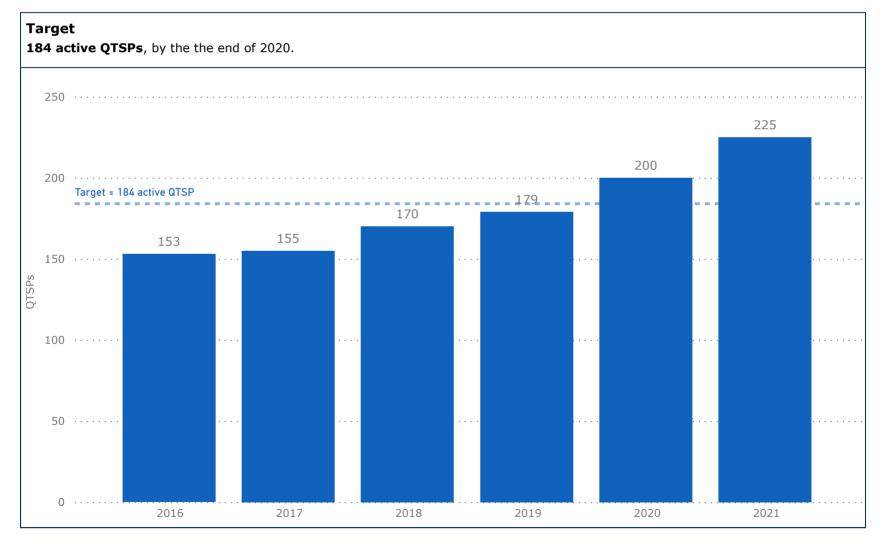


### eSignature > Uptake > Downloads of the DSS libraries

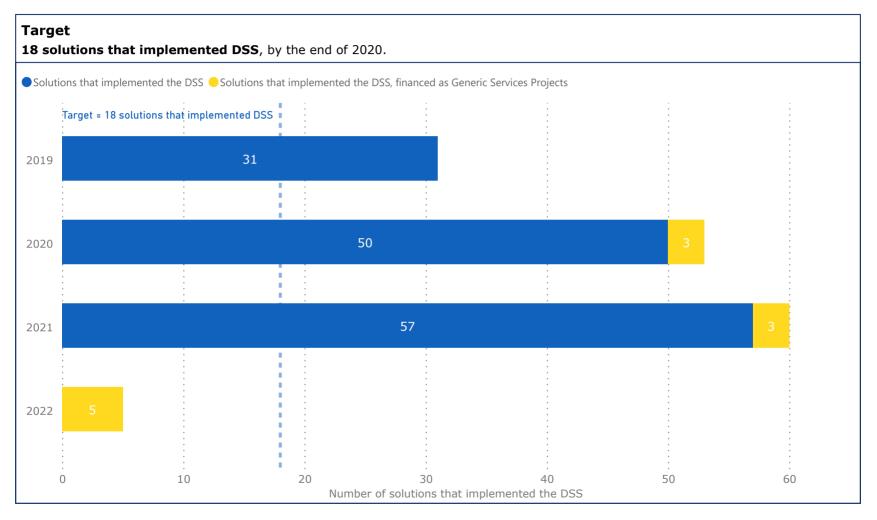
This indicator measures the number of **Active Qualified Trust Service Providers (QTSPs) in EU and EEA countries** associated to the programme at the time of yearly data collection.

A QTSP is a natural or legal person who provides one or more trust services (TS), including the validation of e-signatures. According to <u>Regulation No 910/2014</u>, QTSPs are required to abide by the strict guidelines outlined under the eIDAS Regulation.

An active QTSP is a QTSP which provides at least one qualified trust service, or equivalently, which is listed in a Trusted List referenced by the List of Trusted Lists (LOTL) with at least one trust service entry whose status is "granted" and whose service information extensions do not indicate that it has been "taken over by" another QTSP.

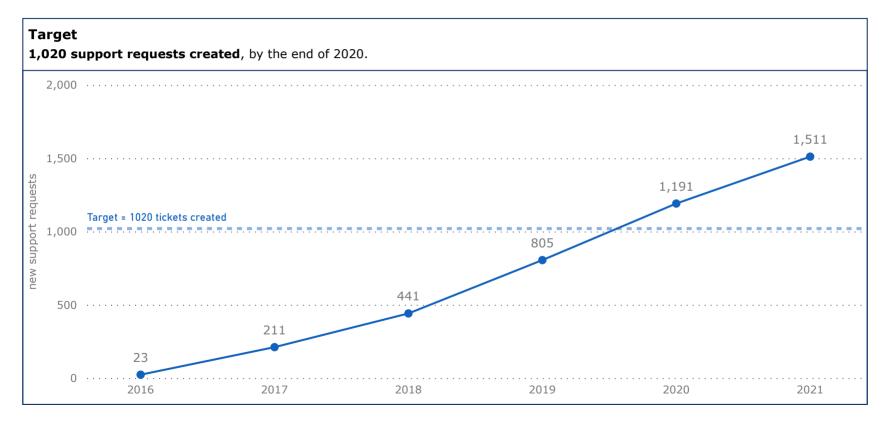


This indicator measures the number of **solutions that implemented the Digital Signature Services (DSS)** at the time of yearly data collection.



### eSignature > Uptake > Support requests for the DSS

This indicator measures the number of **new support requests** on the <u>eSignature DSS Service Desk</u>. The baseline is the number of support requests in 2016 (23 support requests).



## **eSignature Milestones**

All the **eSignature** milestones defined within the CEF Monitoring framework were successfully achieved. A detailed overview of the milestones can be found in the table below.

Milestone title	Start date ▲	End date	% complete	Status
DSS 5.5	01 January 2019	01 October 2019	100	Completed
Trusted List Browser 1.5	01 February 2019	01 June 2019	100	Completed
Trusted List Manager 5.6	01 February 2019	01 June 2019	100	Completed
eSig Validation test 1.1	01 May 2019	01 June 2019	100	Completed
TL KPIs 1.0	01 May 2019	01 October 2019	100	Completed