

How do I get my Symbian OS application signed?

A guide to Symbian Signed

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Introduction

This document provides a step by step guide on how to get your application Symbian Signed.

Pre-requisites

Symbian is available for native (C++) Symbian and AppForge MobileVB applications. At present, signing is offered for applications on a range of UIs.

If any of the following statements apply to you then you do not need to use Symbian Signed for your application:

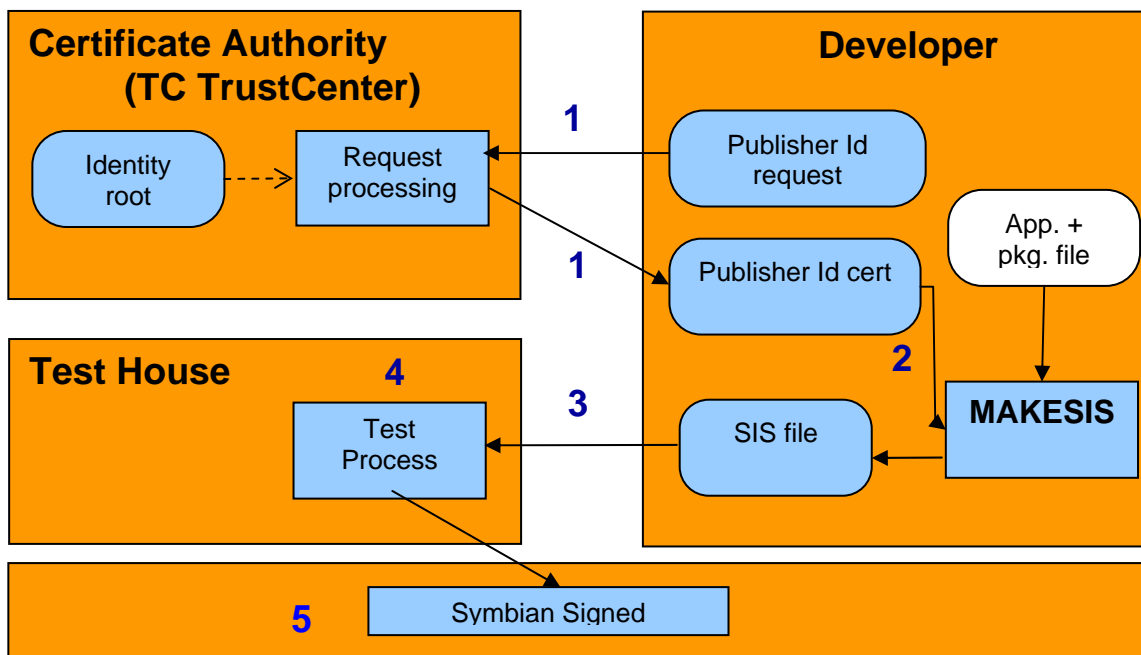
- Developers with applications for the Nokia 9200 Series Communicator should continue to work with Nokia.OK to test and sign their products.
- MIDP developers should use Sun's Java Verified Program – Symbian is working closely with this program to ensure Symbian OS phones are supported.
- Developers working with development languages other than C++ and AppForge MobileVB (e.g. OPL). We are examining how such development languages can be incorporated into the evolution of Symbian Signed.

Important! It is recommended that you read the '[Frequently Asked Questions](#)'

Process

The diagram below outlines the process that needs to be followed to get an application signed.

1. Register for a Publisher ID from TC TrustCenter.
2. Sign your .SIS file with your Publisher ID.
3. Submit your application for testing using www.symbiansigned.com.
4. Your application is tested by the TEST HOUSE against set test criteria.
5. If the application passes the tests your application will be able to download your Symbian Signed application.



Step 1 - Getting a Publisher ID from TC TrustCenter

To sign your application you will need a Publisher ID (Authenticated Content Signing Publisher ID) from TC TrustCenter. A Publisher ID (also known as a developer identity certificate), uniquely identifies you, the software provider, and allows software passing through Symbian Signed to be traced to you, its source. If you already possess a Publisher ID and your SIS file has already been signed with the Publisher ID go to [Step 3 - Submit your application for testing](#).

Note: Make sure that you store the challenge response password as this will be required later.

You can obtain a Publisher ID from TC TrustCenter [here](#) and requires you to register with TC TrustCenter. TC TrustCenter will perform appropriate company background checks and when identity is verified, issue you with a Publisher ID. There is a \$200 per annum charge for the Publisher ID, however it is valid for one year and can be used to sign an unlimited number of applications through Symbian Signed. To avoid any delay please ensure you provide all documentation required.¹

When applying for the Publisher ID you must provide a technical contact and the contact details of one other member of your organization. Both of your selected contacts will be contacted during the verifying process, and hence should be informed that they have been nominated.

You will be notified via email by TC TrustCenter as soon as they have verified your details. Accessing the URL in the email you will be shown a dialog saying "Install Certificate" to which you should select the "Yes" option. There will then be a warning dialog headed "Potential Scripting Violation" to which you should select "Yes." The Publisher Id is now installed in Internet Explorer.

Once the install process is complete check the Certificate has been loaded to your browser correctly. Go into your Internet Explorer browser menu, select *Tools, Internet Options, Content* and click *Certificates*. You should see a certificate issued by TC TrustCenter; this is your Publisher ID.

Your Publisher ID consists of a public and private key. The private key should be kept secret as it allows files to be signed with your identity. The public key allows third parties to verify that files have been signed with your valid private key.

Your public and private keys should be exported from your web browser into a .pfx file. To export your keys from Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 complete the following steps.

1. Select *Internet Options* from the Tools menu.
2. Click on the *Content* tab.
3. Click on the *Certificates* button.
4. Navigate to your Publisher ID certificate using the tabs and scrollbar.
5. Select your certificate, and click on the Export button.
6. Ensure the option to export private key is selected.
7. Select the PKCS#12 format (see below for details).
8. It is recommended you provide a password to protect your keys
9. Provide a file name (do not browse)
10. Export the file to a location to be used by the Export tool.

Step 2 - Signing your .SIS file with your Publisher ID

Before progressing further, download the **Export tool** (tcp12p8) which can be found [here](#) (ensure you are logged in to the web site). This tool is required by the Symbian Signed process to convert your private key and public certificate into a format MakeSIS can use.

The signing process is divided into two stages.

- Export of Certificate (using the tcp12p8 tool that you have just downloaded from the web site).
- Publisher ID signing your .SIS file.

Use of Export tool

The Export tool (tcp12p8) takes as input the .pfx file that you exported from your web browser, and produces a certificate file and private key file as output. The key and the certificate are output in a format that Makesis can use.

Note: that at this stage the private key file is unencrypted so keep it secure.

Installation

To install, unzip the contents of the file to the folder containing the .pfx file.

Usage

Run the tcp12p8.bat utility on the exported .pfx file from your web browser or command line. The usage is

```
Usage: tcp12p8 p12File [p12Password] [keyFile] [certFile]
  - p12File      - (mandatory) name of p12/pfx file
  - p12Password  - Password for p12File (keep empty for interactive pwd input)
  - keyFile      - name of key file to write
  - certFile     - name of certificate file to write
```

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You should now have both the private and public keys (for example) private.key and public.cer respectively.

Publisher ID signing

Copy the private key (private.key) and public certificate (public.cer) files to the same directory as your .PKG file, then add the following line to the .PKG file on the code lines above specifying files to be copied onto the device:

```
*"Private.key", "Public.cer",KEY="****"
```

where **** is the password for the private key. If the private key is not password protected you would add the line:

```
*"Private.key", "Public.cer"
```

See below for a UIQ example .PKG file, where the appropriate code lines have been added:

```
;Languages
&EN,FR

;Header and app name, KExample UID - 0xdeadbeef
#{ "Example-EN", "Example-FR"}, (0xdeadbeef), 1, 2, 3, IU, SH

;Supported Platform Definitions
(0x101F617B), 2, 0, 0, {"UIQ20ProductID", "UIQ20ProductID"}

;Signing files (and password if applicable)
*"Private.key", "Public.cer",KEY="****"

;And finally, the files to install
"\symbian\UIQ_70\epoc32\release\thumb\urel\tExample.exe"-"!:\System\tExample.exe"
"\symbian\UIQ_70\epoc32\release\thumb\urel\tExampleData.dat"-
"!:\System\tExampleData.dat"
```

Execute MakeSIS as usual to create your .SIS file and you should now have a .SIS file that is signed and ready to be submitted for testing.

Note: For more information on MakeSIS and the package file syntax for signing consult the MakeSIS documentation with your current Symbian OS SDK.

Step 3 – Submit your application for testing

Registration

Before you submit an application, you must register with Symbian Signed. When you submit applications in future (or re-submit applications) simply log in with your existing details. To register for the first time see instructions below.

1. Visit the Symbian Signed website on www.symbiansigned.com.
2. Here you will find the extensive FAQ, test criteria and information on the available Test Houses (simply select the appropriate link on the left hand side).
3. To register, click the 'Register' link.
4. Follow the on-screen prompts and supply the requested information. (Note that the provided information will be used for the Symbian [Applications Catalog](#)).
5. When fully registered, you can proceed to submitting your Publisher ID signed application.

Submitting your application

Following steps will take you through how to submit applications for testing.

1. Visit the Symbian Signed website at www.symbiansigned.com.
2. Log in using the username and password you created when registered.
3. Select 'Submit New' on the left hand side of the screen.
4. Select the Test House you require to test your application.
5. Once you have selected a Test House you will be shown your user information. You can add to/edit information for this specific submission if you wish.
6. You must now submit your application details including the application name, a description and which phone(s) it runs on. Note that some multiple phone choices are prevented (e.g. you cannot select the Sony Ericsson P800 and Nokia 6600 because they are based on different platforms and require different .SIS files)
7. Finally, you must submit the actual application itself and supporting materials. See '**Error! Reference source not found.**' for more details.

What to submit in the .ZIP file

The following files/documents are required to be in the .ZIP file you submit.

- **Your .SIS file (signed with your Publisher ID).** This will be installed, the application inside tested and, if successful, the .SIS file will be re-signed with a unique application certificate and returned to you for distribution
- **The .PKG file used to create that .SIS file.** This will be cross-referenced by the Test House to ensure correct target platform and specification.
- **A completed Readme.txt.** This should include any release notes and quick advice on how to use the application (OR a separate user guide should be included within the .ZIP file in its own right).

Note: If in any doubt compare the .ZIP you are about to submit with the **Sample.zip** file available on the Pre-Test tools section of the website.

Important to check before submitting your application

It is in your interests to ensure everything you submit is likely to pass the testing process. The aim of this process is to minimize the back-and-forth discussions between developer and Test House. Not only will this speed up your time-to-market with a correctly signed .SIS file, but it will also help keep your costs to a minimum. Therefore be sure that you have completed the following steps.

- Read the testing specification and guidelines available [here](#) and ensure your application follows the provided guidelines. Avoid submitting an application that you know will fail a test. Equally, avoid using the testing process as a way to test your application in the hope of finding any failures or defects – this is not a cost-effective method of bug fixing!
- Prior to signing the application with the Publisher ID verify that the .SIS file you are supplying does install correctly on the phone(s) you require it to be signed against. When you have signed the application with your Publisher ID the application will **not** install on the majority of handsets until Symbian Signed.
- Verify the .ZIP file you are about to submit contains **all** the required files and **completed** documentation. See '[Error! Reference source not found.](#)' for more details.

Note: Before the application is signed and it is ready to go to market, you should also make sure you have checked the following general UI/style guidelines, as any subsequent changes to your .SIS file will require a re-submission.

Symbian Signed checklist

Ensure correct spelling and grammar throughout your resource files and any user-visible text?
 Help files included in the .SIS file (if applicable).
 'About' screen with correct version information, etc.
 Consistent terminology with phone/UI and/or other industry applications.
 Ensure application operate in accordance with any supplied documentation.
 Ensure application use appropriate color schemes.
 Ensure application use the correct fonts (and point sizes) available for the target phones.

Step 4 – Test House testing

After you have submitted your application, it will be sent to the Test House you selected.

The Test House will verify the validity of the Publisher ID, and the signature of the .SIS file. If verification is successful, the Test House will examine your application and send you a quote for the cost of the test run. You will receive notification emails throughout this process. If you wish to query the quote you receive you should contact the Test House directly, additional details can be found on www.symbiansigned.com.

Note: that testing will not begin until you have accepted the quotation from the Test House.

To accept a quote using the Symbian Signed website, follow the steps outlined below.

1. Log in with the username and password you created when you registered.
2. Select 'Applications' on the left hand side of the screen.
3. You will see a list of submitted applications and their current status.
4. Select the application you wish to accept the quote for, complete application details will be displayed.
5. This page will allow you to accept the quote and arrange payment for the Test House.

Following the completed testing, an extensive test report will be emailed to you. If your application passes the tests, the Symbian Signed .SIS file will be uploaded by the Test House to your web account. You can retrieve it for distribution by visiting this same 'Applications' area.

If your application fails one or more tests you will be required to take corrective action as outlined in the report from the Test House and to re-submit your application for further testing. When you re-submit an updated .ZIP file, use the 'Applications' area at www.symbiansigned.com to upload your application. When you select your application and view its full details there will be a new 'Upload' option. This will replace the original .ZIP file with the latest file

and the testing process will be repeated. Pricing information for re-tests is available under the Test House information section. This cycle will be re-iterated until your application passes all tests.

When the application has passed the tests

Once your application has successfully passed all of the tests conducted by the Test House, the Test House will upload your application to TC TrustCenter, the Certificate Authority. TrustCenter will remove the Publisher ID, store details of the application in a revocation database², resign the application against the Symbian root certificate, and send the signed application back to the Test House. The Test House will inform you that you are able to download your Symbian Signed application from the site.

Applications catalog

The applications catalog offers a powerful mechanism for getting your application seen by distributors and network operators. The test criteria used for Symbian Signed have been defined by the industry, so distributors can be confident that Symbian Signed applications are ready for distribution. We therefore expect that Symbian Signed applications will receive preferential treatment compared to unsigned applications.

The catalog itself provides a convenient information repository for Signed applications, raising the profile of those that have successfully passed the testing. The catalog is only accessible to distributors of 3rd party applications and hides any application files. Those that use the catalog must first sign an agreement with Symbian, ensuring that your data will not be misused. Presented with correct and descriptive information about your applications, Catalog users are more likely to contact you. This can in turn lead to a larger addressable market and ultimately increased revenue.

Note: *that the catalog includes your contact details and details about your application but does not include the application itself.*

Once your application has been Symbian Signed, if you indicated that you wanted your application details included in the applications catalog (by using the default "ticked" in the application submission form), it will now appear in the catalog. You can opt in or out of the catalog at any time, though we recommend that most ISVs include their applications.

Note: *Only fully signed applications will be displayed in the catalog.*

Where to get help

If you have any questions about the Symbian Signed, the process involved or what is required of you in order to receive a properly signed application go to the Symbian Signed forum which can be found [here](#).

Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is for general information purposes only and should not be used or relied on for any other purpose whatsoever. While Symbian has taken great care in the preparation of this document, Symbian makes no warranty or guarantee about the suitability or accuracy of the information contained in this document.

² By storing the application details in a revocation database, if the application is malicious it is possible to use our infrastructure to revoke the application from the phones on which it is installed. Revocation is considered a last resort. There would be extensive discussion with the ISV before this drastic measure would be taken.