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## DigiCert Client Certificates: Prove Identity & Encrypt Communications

#### Passwords No Longer Cut It

Your information is as essential as any of your business assets. Adding extra layers of security to your critical systems and data is no longer just an option—it's a necessity. In fact, one of your biggest threats lie within the walls of your own company. Internal employees account for 43% of data loss, according to a Ponemon Institute study.



Passwords are part of the problem when it comes to lost data, not the solution. According to LastPass, the average 250-employee company has roughly 47,750 passwords used across their organization. These passwords represent 47,750 entry points into your systems. But, what if you didn't have to rely on the strength of passwords?

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#### The Solution: Client Certificates

Client certificates are used to require multi-factor authentication. Unlike weak passwords, client certificates prove the identity of the user attempting to connect to a specific application, website, interface, or other system by using a digital signature.

#### How Client Certificates Work

#### **Client Authentication Certificates**

Generally, Client Certificates (authentication certificates) are used for two-factor authentication. Once a server is configured for client certificate authentication, it will only grant user access to it if the client presents the correct client certificate. When using a web browser to connect to the server, without the correct client certificate, the client cannot even access the credentials page.



#### **Email Client Certificates**

Email client certificates have a public/private key pair. Your private key stays with you and is used to sign outgoing emails and decrypt incoming emails encrypted with your public key. Your public key is used to verify your signature and encrypt emails sent to you.



#### Use Case: VPN

Company A has employees across the world connecting to its Virtual Private Network (VPN). To do so, an employee must simply provide a username and password. Since a password can be compromised in a matter of seconds or a few days (depending on the number of characters used), a malicious attacker accesses Company A's VPN and leaks some of its sensitive data. Company B requires a unique client certificate for each employee connecting to its VPN. In this case, an attacker compromises the employee's password, but can't use it to access the VPN without physical possession over the employee's device. Due to this added layer of security, the attacker is unable to cause any damage.

#### Benefits of DigiCert Client Certificates

#### Prevent tampering

Add an extra layer of protection with multi-factor authentication. Even if valid user credentials get into the wrong hands, your organization will be safe because access will still be denied.

#### Sign & encrypt email

Allow senders and recipients of e-mail to verify that the content they're sharing is legitimate. Encrypt communications using S/MIME, the most trusted e-mail encryption technology.

#### Automate management

Make managing client certificates easy in account panel, which provides insight and control for all certificate functions.

	S/MIME Client Ceritificate Basic	S/MIME Client Ceritificate Premium
Term Length	1-3 Yr	1-3 Yr
Installation service	Free	Free
Recommended For	Individual	Organization / Business
Validation	Email address	Email address & Organization
Certificate Display	mail@example.com	Email + Company info
<b>Client Authentication</b>	~	~
Email Encryption	~	~
Email Signing	~	~
Document Signing	~	~

Features	Secure Email Certificates	
Digitally signed and encrypted emails	Yes	
Secure large file transfer	Yes	
Support for desktop, mobile phones, and tablets	Yes	
Automated certificate renewal	Yes	
FDA policy compliance	Yes	
Separate encryption and signing profiles	Yes	
Multiple platform support	Microsoft Windows, Mac OS X, iOS, and Android	
Document Signing	PDF, MS Office documents, etc.	
Real-time monitoring	Utilize to easy-to-use management platform to monitor and avoid expired S/MIME certificates.	

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### Why BestCert?



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