[DE] New Electronic Signature Decree Adopted

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On 24 October, the Federal Government adopted a new Verordnung zur elektronischen Signatur (Electronic Signature Decree), which replaces the Decree in force since 1997.

The new Decree deals in more detail with the provisions of the Signaturgesetz (Electronic Signature Act), which entered into force on 22 May 2001. It deals in particular with the obligation for certification service providers to report on their activities and the need for voluntary accreditation of such bodies. It also regulates the content, standards and duration of validity of such certificates, the precautions taken by certification service providers and procedures to ensure that foreign signatures and products are equally secure. The Decree transposes Directive 1999/93/EC of the European Parliament and Council on a Community framework for electronic signatures of 30 November 1999.

Verordnung zur elektronischen Signatur vom 24. Oktober 2001

Electronic Signature Decree of 24 October 2001

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