

United Kingdom Legalisation Office

13th International Forum on the electronic Apostille programme (e-APP) October 2024

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Introduction & Key Stats

 The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office is the only designated Competent Authority authorised to issue apostilles in the United Kingdom

Four service streams delivered from one central office

586'160 total apostilles issued in 2023

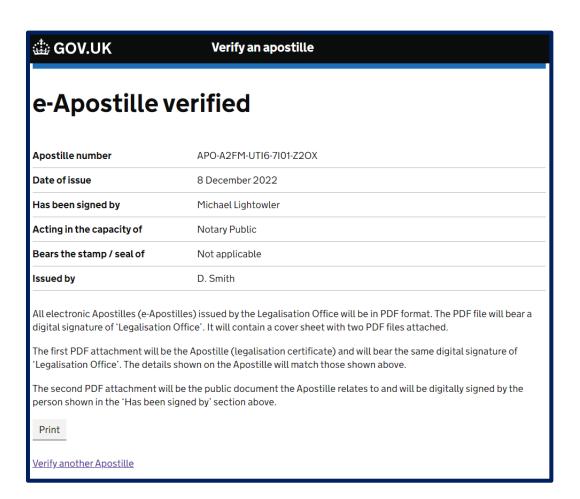


e-APP – Our experience so far

e-Register component live since 2014

 e-Apostille launched to public in September 2022

Continued growth and increasing acceptance





e-APP – Our experience so far

Understanding of digital signature technology is lacking

Doubts still exist with users who want the familiarity of a hard copy document

Acceptance levels can vary, even within the same country



e-APP – Our experience so far

- Working closely with key stakeholders has been pivotal to increasing uptake
- Seeking feedback from customers and monitoring where guidance could be improved
- Celebrating successes and building confidence
- Signposting and supporting customers



e-APP – The future

Continue to promote ourselves as a flagship digital service across UK government

 Supporting other interested Competent Authorities with their own development journey

Refine guidance to improve customer journey



Application Process



Placeholder – Video demo of e-Apostille application process



Processing



e-APP - Processing

- System extracts the digital certificate and looks for any matches on our database
- If match found, processing officer will approve match and pass to a second officer for quality assurance
- If no match found, signatory is contacted and asked to provide a sample signed document whose certificate can be matched against
- Signatures must be Advanced/Qualified following eIDAS regulation



The e-Apostille pdf



Placeholder – Video demo of e-Apostille file



e-APP – Legalised Document

Coversheet is digitally signed and has 2 attachments

 Customers document is attached, with digital signature intact

 e-Apostille certificate is attached, digitally signed and confirms the name of the signatory



This document has been digitally signed.

By: Legalisation Office (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Legalisation Office United Kingdom (UK)

08 December 2022

e-Apostille cover sheet

This file has been electronically signed by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) Legalisation Office in the UK.

View attachments in Adobe Reader

This file contains PDF attachments and electronic signatures that are only accessible in Adobe Reader (free software)

- Open this file in Adobe Reader
- 2. Double-click the Paperclip icon (only visible in Adobe) for each file:
 - Occument the Apostille certificate relates to (public_document.pdf)
 - e-Apostille certificate, reference: APO-A2FM-UTI6-7I01-Z2OX (apostille.pdf)

You can also select the Paperclip icon in the menu bar to view the attachments.

Verifying an Apostille Certificate

Overseas authorities and others who have requested an Apostille can verify the certificate at: www.verifyapostille.service.gov.uk

About UK document legalisation

Find out more at: www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised



e-APP - Successes

Authorities in Italy/Spain now requesting e-Apostille by default

Over 200 different digital signatories have registered a sample with us

Have been able to complete the legalisation chain within a few hours



Any Questions?

Please feel free to contact us at: LegalisationEApostille@FCDO.gov.uk