TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

SPÉCIFICATION TECHNIQUE

TECHNISCHE SPEZIFIKATION

CEN/TS 18170

May 2025

ICS 01.140.20; 35.240.30; 37.080

English Version

Functional requirements for the electronic archiving services

Exigences fonctionnelles pour les services d'archivage électronique

Richtlinien und funktionale Anforderungen an den elektronischen Archivierungsdienst

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 13 May 2025 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this CEN/TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the CEN/TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the CEN/TS into an EN is reached.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

Ref. No. CEN/TS 18170:2025 E

Contents

Page

European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 18170:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 468 “Preservation of digital information”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

This document specifies provisions (requirements, recommendations, permissions, possibilities and capabilities) for an Electronic Archiving Trust Service (EATS).

The structure of this document follows “CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 3:2022 (E), Principles and rules for the structure and drafting of CEN and CENELEC documents”.

The Regulation (EU) 2024/1183 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 (eIDAS 2) amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 (eIDAS) as regards establishing the European Digital Identity Framework establishes a legal framework of requirements for electronic signatures and trust services. This regulation introduces the (qualified) electronic archiving service. It requires standards for services, processes, systems and products related to trust services as well as guidance for conformity assessment of such services, processes, systems and products.

The main objective of this document is to define requirements and recommendations for an electronic archiving trust service which may use procedures and technologies capable of ensuring the durability and legibility of electronic data and electronic documents beyond the technological validity period and at least throughout the legal or contractual preservation period, while maintaining their integrity and the accuracy of their origin.

It is assumed that the Electronic Archiving Trust Service Provider (EATSP) which provides electronic archiving trust services operates the trustworthy system in an environment with a security policy which incorporates general physical, procedural and documentation security requirements for TSP providing electronic archiving trust services.

As explained further, this document follows ETSI EN 319 401 for General Policy Requirements for Trust Service Providers to ensure that the general Trust Service Providers requirements above are met.

NOTE The European Directive (EU) 2022/2555 (NIS2) is also a reference text for technical and methodological requirements of cybersecurity risk-management measures and further specification of the cases in which an incident is considered to be significant for trust service providers.

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements for implementing electronic archiving trust services with specific regard to:

— Functional requirements for electronic archiving to ensure the receipt, storage, retrieval and deletion of electronic data and electronic documents in order to ensure their durability and legibility as well as to preserve their integrity, confidentiality and proof of origin throughout the preservation period.

— Requirements for qualified electronic archiving trust services, aiming to fulfil the provisions outlined in Article 45j of the eIDAS Regulation

— Procedures and technologies capable of ensuring the durability and legibility of electronic data and electronic documents beyond the technological validity period and at least throughout the legal or contractual preservation period, while maintaining their integrity and the accuracy of their origin.

— Procedures and technologies to ensure that those electronic data and those electronic documents are preserved in such a way that they are safeguarded against loss and alteration, except for changes concerning their medium or electronic format.

— Procedures and technologies that allow authorized relying parties to receive a report in an automated manner that confirms that electronic data and electronic documents retrieved from a QEATS qualified electronic archive trust service enjoy the presumption of integrity of the data from the beginning of the preservation period to the moment of retrieval.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ETSI EN 319 401, *Electronic Signatures and Trust Infrastructures (ESI); General Policy Requirements for Trust Service Providers*

ETSI EN 319-421, *Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Policy and Security Requirements for Trust Service Providers issuing Time-Stamps*

ETSI TS 119 312, *Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Cryptographic Suites*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp/

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1 Terms related to electronic trust service

3.1.1
electronic archiving trust service
service ensuring the receipt, storage, retrieval and deletion of electronic data and electronic documents in order to ensure their durability and legibility as well as to preserve their integrity, confidentiality, and proof of origin throughout the preservation period