C·O·M·O·D·O
InstantSSL™

Automated SSL Certificate Request Method

For the InstantSSL Partner Network

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Introduction:

Comodo's automated SSL Certificate request method allows you (the Web Host) to automatically request SSL Certificates by posting the customer information collected in forms hosted by the Web Host directly to the Comodo Certification Authority. Upon receipt of the request, either the Certificate can be issued instantly, or will be validated by Comodo prior to being issued.

The automated SSL Certificate request offers the flexibility for you to replace having to manually log into your account and make a Certificate request through the InstantSSL management area. Instead, the Certificate request is made directly from the Post action of your own webforms / database interface.

This document provides guidelines on how to use the automated SSL Certificate request system.

Post Specification:

Applications must be submitted to the following URL:

https://secure.comodo.net/products/!AutoApplySSL

Along with all required variables as per the specification outlined in Appendix 1. This Appendix specifies each variable type, its purpose and parameters.

Available Product Types:

The InstantSSL product ranges are available for purchase through the automated request method:

- InstantSSL Certificate (1, 2 & 3 year)
- InstantSSL Pro Certificate (1, 2 & 3 year)
- PremiumSSL Certificate (1, 2 & 3 year)
- PremiumSSL Wildcard Certificate (1, 2 & 3 year plus 1 to 50 server licensing)

Buy Prices:

You may view your buy prices from within your management area. Please log in, select Web Host Options, and select View Buy Prices. The value of an issued Certificate will be deducted from your current account funds.

Validation Methods:

The automated request process allows Web Hosts to specify whether or not they have validated the Certificate applicant. If the Web Host has validated the customer using the validation guidelines presented in appendix 2 of this document, issuance of the Certificate can be instant. If the Web Host has chosen not to conduct the validation, Comodo will validate the application, which will increase the time taken to issue the Certificate.

For Web Hosts NOT conducting validation:

Ensure the `isCustomerValidated` flag (as per the specification in Appendix 1) is set to `N`. Comodo will validate all applications submitted with this flag set to "N".

In such cases Comodo will require corporate documentation from your customer. On receipt of the application, you will receive an automated email from Comodo containing specific instructions.

For Web Hosts conducting validation:

Ensure the `isCustomerValidated` flag (as per the specification in Appendix 1) is set to `Y`. As Comodo will NOT validate applications submitted with this flag set to `Y`, it is expected that this flag will be set to `Y` ONLY when you have sufficiently validated your customer.

As a Web Host it is your contractual responsibility to ensure the following:

1. *Your SSL customer is bona fide*
2. *Your SSL customer has the right to use the domain name contained in the SSL application (unnecessary unless you do not already host the customers website)*

You must only make applications on behalf of validated companies. Not validating your customers prior to making a Certificate application could affect the warranty provided by Comodo and is a breach of the Web Host subscriber agreement. It is vitally important to validate your customer in accordance with the validation guidelines provided in Appendix 2.

As a rough guideline, Comodo will validate a company by requesting Government issued documents such as the Articles of Incorporation, Business License, Company Number or DUNS number. For non-legally incorporated entities we require a copy of the Driving License or Passport of the applicant. This will possibly not be required if you already maintain a business relationship with the customer.

For more advice please do not hesitate to contact us, we will be happy to assist you with any validations.

Issuance of the Certificate:

Email:
You will receive an email to your Web Host admin email address containing the issued Certificate. It will reference the Order Number stated in the response given upon submission of the Certificate application data.

The Automated SSL Certificate Request Method now features functionality to facilitate real time issuance and collection for validated orders.

All current documentation on automated issuance, please visit our support repository:-

http://www.instantssl.com/ssl-certificate-support/reseller/ssl-certificate-docs.html

Appendix: Validation Guidelines for Web Hosts

In order to ensure the integrity of the trust infrastructure provided by Comodo through InstantSSL it is essential that members of the Web Host Programme operate under the following guidelines when issuing Certificates.

You must address two core areas prior to issuing a Certificate to a customer:

1. The customer has the right to use the domain name to be included in the Certificate
2. The customer exists as a responsible legal entity or individual

In most cases you will have a pre-established relationship with the applicant. This may include existing business relations established through the sale of products / services such as web hosting services or domain name registration.

In this event, the right of a customer to the domain name contained within the application will have been established – you will be hosting the domain name on behalf of the customer. It is therefore only necessary for to validate the existence of the customer as a responsible commercial entity or individual.

If you have an existing business relationship with customer, this requirement may already have been fulfilled in the guise of payments / invoices paid by the end entity.

In the event that an existing business relationship does not exist, or you are not fully confident that the customer is sufficiently known to you, it is your responsibility to sufficiently determine their organisational / individual status.

To complete this validation, we recommend you request any of the following documentation from the customer:

If the Certificate is for a commercial entity:
- *Articles of Incorporation*
- *Business License*
- *DUNS details (e.g. your Dun & Bradstreet company number)*
- *Trading License*

If the Certificate is for a non-commercial entity:
- *Copy of your drivers license or passport*

Upon receipt of the relevant documentation, you should verify the information received correctly matches the information provided during application.

If the customer and the application information is valid, you may set the `isCustomerValidated` flag to `Y`

Alternatively, Comodo will perform the necessary validation upon receipt of an application which the `isCustomerValidated` flag to `N`

Web Host Questions:

Should you have any question regarding any application or would like assistance with the validation process, please contact support@comodogroup.com