

11.6 Verification of Applicant's Domain Name

11.6.1 Verification Requirements

The CA MUST confirm that the Applicant:

- (A) Is the registered holder of the Domain Name, or
- (B) Has been granted the exclusive right to use the Domain Name by the registered holder of the Domain Name;

To verify the Applicant's registration, or exclusive control, of the Domain Name(s) to be listed in the EV Certificate, the CA MUST verify that each such Domain Name is registered with an Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)-approved registrar or a registry listed by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA). For Government Entity Applicants, the CA MAY rely on the Domain Name listed for that entity in the records of the QGIS in the Applicant's Jurisdiction.

The CA MUST compare any registration information that is publicly available from the WHOIS database with the verified Subject organization information and MUST confirm that it is neither misleading nor inconsistent.

The CA MUST further confirm that the Applicant is aware of its registration or exclusive control of the Domain Name.

11.6.2 Acceptable Methods of Verification

- (1) **Applicant as Registered Holder:** Acceptable methods by which the CA MAY verify that the Applicant is the registered holder of the Domain Name include the following:

- (A) Performing a WHOIS inquiry on the Internet for the Domain Name supplied by the Applicant, and obtaining a response indicating that the Applicant or a Parent/Subsidiary Company is the entity to which the Domain Name is registered; or
- (B) Communicating with the contact listed on the WHOIS record to confirm that the Applicant is the registered holder of the Domain Name. Confirmation that the registered owner of the Domain Name is a Parent/Subsidiary Company of the Applicant, or a registered trading name of the Applicant is sufficient to establish that the Applicant is the registered owner of the Domain Name; or
- (C) In cases where domain registration information is private, and the domain registrar offers services to forward communication to the registered domain holder, the CA MAY communicate with the Applicant and confirm Applicant as the registered holder of the Domain Name using the forwarding services.

- (2) **Applicant's Exclusive Right to Use:** In cases where the Applicant is not the registered holder of the Domain Name, the CA MUST verify the Applicant's exclusive right to use the Domain Name(s). If the Top-Level Domain is a generic top-level domain (gTLD) such as .com, .net, or .org in accordance with RFC 1591, the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation of the right to use from the second-level domain registration holder. For example, if the requested FQDN is www1.www.example.com, the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation from the domain holder of example.com.

If the Top-Level Domain is a 2 letter Country Code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD), the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation from the domain holder at the appropriate domain level, based on the rules of the ccTLD. For example, if the requested FQDN is www.mysite.users.internet.co.uk, the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation from the domain holder of internet.co.uk.

Acceptable methods by which the CA MAY verify the Applicant's right to use include:

- (A) Obtaining positive confirmation from the registered domain holder by paper mail, e-mail, telephone, or facsimile that the Applicant has been granted the exclusive right to use the requested Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN); or,
- (B) Obtaining a positive confirmation of the Applicant's exclusive right to use by communicating with the registrable Domain Name's administrator using an email address created by pre-pending 'admin', 'administrator', 'webmaster', 'hostmaster', or 'postmaster' in the local part, followed by the at-sign ("@"), followed by the Domain Name, which may be formed by pruning zero or more components from the requested FQDN. For purposes of determining the appropriate Domain Name to use, the registrable Domain Name is the second-level domain for generic top-level domains (gTLD) such as .com, .net, or .org, or, if the Fully Qualified Domain Name contains a 2 letter Country Code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD), then the domain level is whatever is allowed for registration according to the rules of that ccTLD;

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Comment [JR1]: Since this is applicable to multiple of the permitted methods, I moved it up above the specific ways for verifying domain names.

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Comment [JR2]: All I did is move this above the options to make it clear that this applies to all verification processes performed under this section.

Comment [JR3]: This is already required below under (3). Might as well eliminate the redundancy.

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If the Top-Level Domain is a 2 letter Country Code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD), the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation from the domain holder at the appropriate domain level, based on the rules of the ccTLD. For example, if the requested FQDN is www.mysite.users.internet.co.uk, the CA MUST obtain positive confirmation from the domain holder of internet.co.uk.

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In addition, the CA MUST verify the Applicant's exclusive right to use the Domain Name using one of the following methods: ¶

- (i) Relying on a Verified Legal Opinion or a Verified Accountant Letter to the effect that the Applicant has the exclusive right to use the specified Domain Name in identifying itself on the Internet; or
- (ii) Relying on a representation from the Contract Signer, or the Certificate Approver, if expressly so authorized in a mutually-agreed-upon contract.

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- (C) In cases where the registered domain holder cannot be contacted, Obtaining a representation from the Contract Signer, or the Certificate Approver, if expressly so authorized in a mutually-agreed-upon contract, coupled with a practical demonstration by the Applicant establishing that it controls the Domain Name by making an agreed-upon change in information found online in a DNS record associated with the Domain Name or on a Web page identified by a uniform resource identifier containing the Applicant's FQDN.
- (3) **Knowledge:** Acceptable methods by which the CA MAY verify that the Applicant is aware that it has exclusive control of the Domain Name include the following:
- (A) Relying on a Verified Legal Opinion or a Verified Accountant Letter to the effect that the Applicant is aware that it has exclusive control of the Domain Name; or
 - (B) Obtaining a confirmation from the Contract Signer or Certificate Approver verifying that the Applicant is aware that it has exclusive control of the Domain Name.
- (4) **Mixed Character Set Domain Names:** EV Certificates MAY include Domain Names containing mixed character sets only in compliance with the rules set forth by the domain registrar. The CA MUST visually compare any Domain Names with mixed character sets with known high risk domains. If a similarity is found, then the EV Certificate Request MUST be flagged as High Risk. The CA must perform reasonably appropriate additional authentication and verification to be certain beyond reasonable doubt that the Applicant and the target in question are the same organization.

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(i) Rely on a Verified Legal Opinion or a Verified Accountant Letter to the effect that the Applicant has the exclusive right to use the specified Domain Name in identifying itself on the Internet; and ¶
(ii)

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