



## Using ADSS Server as an Internal Service

There are many benefits to outsourcing complex IT services. The verification of signed documents and other business data including transactions, email, XML and other files is an area where questions arise as to whether it is best to in-source or out-source such services.

If the Managed Service Provider is using ADSS Server then the decision can be quite hard since many of the arguments about flexibility for the future will be resolved. There may be good reasons why for smaller organisations the best answer is to out-source. For larger organisations the decision is much harder. The following questions need to be addressed:

Questions	ADSS Server	Service Provider
How much time will it take to set up an internal product compared with creating secure links to an external service?	It may be easier to do this internally since ADSS is designed for simple installation and management	The service provider may provide a very rigid interface which cannot be changed
Can I control the trust schemes that can be used to verify signatures	Yes very easily – ADSS Server makes no initial assumptions – you are in complete control	Expect some lack of control or additional service charges for custom tailoring
Can I verify both current and historic signatures?	YES	Expect issues with historic signatures
Is good evidence kept that can help me with legal and compliance disputes later on	YES	Worth checking if possible and how long
Can a notary archive copy of the verified data be created in case there is a future dispute	YES – As a project option	Worth checking – they may use ADSS Server!
Some of the documents I deal with are confidential – can this privacy be maintained	YES – No extra software required for this	Worth checking to see if detached signatures can be handled & what local software is needed
As business volumes grow will the cost of verification rise?	NO – Charging is by license and not by document types or volumes	Almost certainly
There is also a need to sign documents – can the signing and verification be done by this one solution	YES – ADSS Server is modular and flexible	Worth checking if this is possible – it is normally quite a separate service offered by a different back-end product

ADSS Server has been designed to offer a comprehensive set of security functionality in a product package that is easy to install, management, maintain and extend – both for enterprise customers and also managed service providers. Larger businesses are expected to choose an internal approach to maintain control over the trust service features and costs.



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