

ACRONYMS / TERMINOLOGY

TLS – Transport Layer Security: Cryptographic protocol that provides secure online communication

SSL – Secure Socket Layer: Cryptographic protocol that provides secure online communication

RSA – Rivest, Shamir, Adleman: Algorithm for public-key cryptography

SHA – Secure Hash Algorithm: Cryptographic hash function

CRL – Certificate Revocation List: A list of certificates that have been revoked

OCSP – Online Certificate Status Protocol: Internet protocol used for obtaining the revocation status of x.509 digital certificate

x.509 – Specifies, amongst other things, standard formats for public key certificates, certificate revocation lists, attribute certificates, and a certification path validation algorithm

CN – Common Name: The primary domain to be secured on a certificate

SAN – Subject Alternative Name: Different name on certificate other than common name

FQDN – Fully Qualified Domain Name: Complete domain name for specified host

PKI – Public Key Infrastructure: Set of hardware, software, people, policies, and procedures needed to create, manage, distribute, use, store, and revoke digital certificates

CSR – Certificate Signing Request: Encoded text that contains an organizations information (name, unit, location)

EV – Extended Validation: Certificates that require a more stringent validation process (green bar certificates)

INTERNAL ACRONYMS

DCV – Domain Control Validation: Email sent out to WHOIS contacts and admin contacts on base domain requesting confirmation of domain control and approval

OV – Ordinary Validation: Standard non-EV SSL certificates

MA – Master Agreement: Agreement between certificate applicant and DigiCert

DAL – Domain Authorization Letter: Letter of approval from domain owner for certificate applicant to get an SSL certificate for their domain

** Also see "Glossary of SSL, Server, and Validation Terms in DigiCert Wiki"