T-Mail Service

Simple and secure telex

- **Sending and receiving telex messages simply via e-mail.**
- **No special software required.**
- **No direct platform connection required.**
- **High security (signature, encryption, decryption).**
- **Confirmation of messages sent (delivered yes/no with reasons).**
- **Alternative delivery of incoming messages (in the event of reception problems).**

Operational scope

T-Mail Service allows subscribers equipped with a modern PC to send and receive their telex messages via e-mail. This service does not require any special software other than your traditional Electronic Mail application. It is also possible to use the T-Mail Service only to receive telex messages via e-mail. This is the solution for subscribers who wish to use WinTelex32 over IP to send telex but do not want to open their WinTelex32 platform to external connections coming from the Internet (e.g. because of security restrictions). There is now no need to stay online to receive messages. Instead, incoming telex messages can be retrieved along with and in the same way as conventional e-mails.

Security

All e-mails sent through the T-Mail Service are digitally signed by the subscriber or the SwissTelex T-Mail gateways and encrypted using standard X.509 certificates. The encryption strength for telexes received by the subscriber is 128 bits with 1024-bit keys. The encryption strength for telexes sent by the subscriber depends on the configuration of the subscriber's e-mail client software. Subscribers may also choose to send and receive telex by unencrypted e-mail. Certificates are managed and delivered by SwissTelex SA, which runs its own certification authority for the telex service. Every T-Mail subscriber is provided with a personal e-mail X.509 certificate containing his telex number and answerback, and allowing the signing of telexes sent by him and decryption of telexes received by him. The holder of the personal certificate is the only party who can decrypt messages sent by the T-Mail Service. The public certificate of the T-Mail gateway is also provided. This certificate allows the subscriber to authenticate that the source of received messages is really the T-Mail gateway, and also allows encryption of messages sent to the gateway. Any electronic mail end user program which supports the use of standard X.509 certificates (signing, encryption and decryption) using the Microsoft Basic Cryptographic provider, SHA-1 Thumbprints and RC2 algorithm is able to use the T-Mail Service. No other special software is required in order to use the T-Mail Service. The only requirement is that the proper certificates are installed.

Sending T-Mail

Any telex to be sent via T-Mail should be sent as an-email to telex@tlxmail.com. It should contain the telex number of the called party as the first line of text. The telex message text should contain only valid telex characters (ITA no. 2 alphabet) and the Mail must be prepared in "Plain-Text" format (no Rich-Text, no HTML and no attachments). A telex e-mail sent by the subscriber via T-Mail must be digitally signed to ensure authentication of the source, and should also be encrypted (unless the subscriber has elected to send unencrypted e-mail). Each telex e-mail will be queued for immediate delivery to the telex network. If delivery to telex is unsuccessful, the T-Mail gateway will retry delivery for a period of time defined by the gateway (typically 6 retries at an interval of 15 minutes). Finally, a notification e-mail is sent back to the subscriber, indicating whether or not the telex has been successfully delivered to the telex network.

Receiving T-Mail

Inbound telexes for T-Mail subscribers are received and stored in the telex exchange on the subscriber's behalf. The answerback delivered to the calling party will be that of the subscriber, adapted in accordance with ITU Recommendation F.74 (Operational Provisions relating to Mailbox Devices connected to the Telex Network).The stored telex message will be delivered to the subscriber as an e-mail. This will be digitally signed to ensure authentication of its source, and will also be encrypted (unless the subscriber has elected to receive unencrypted e-mail). Telexes received for the subscriber are normally delivered by the T-Mail Service in a matter of minute after the message is received by the telex exchange. Should the e-mail delivery be problematic, the gateway will repeatedly attempt e-mail delivery for a period of time defined on the gateway typically 3 days). Manual procedures also exist for alternate delivery of undeliverable messages (e.g. by fax).

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Fact & Figures

Line interface	
Connection	Permanent or dial-up Internet connection or Intranet to a corporate mail server
Protocol	Internet TCP/IP
Delivery	Standard e-mail messages
Encryption	With X.509 certificates (1024-bit keys) at 128-bit level (Microsoft Basic Cryptograghic provider,,SHA-1 Thumbprints and RC2 algorithm)
Signer	Swisscom Fixnet AG, Telex/Mail Service
Certification authority	Swisscom Fixnet AG, Telex Services
Message format	S/MIME
Message code	ITA no. 2 subset in ASCII
Internet/mail gateways	Duplicated infrastructure
Storage	
Reception storage/transmission storage	Stored until delivered. Storage in the telex-exchange-secured premises
Printer interface	
Through your usual printers from the e-mail program	

PC system requirements	**Product description**
• Connection to the Internet (permanent or dial-up) • Any version of MS-Windows from Windows 98 and above • An e-mail client application which supports certificates and encryption/decryption using standard X.509 certificates	• Configuration diskette (certificates, installation utilities and installation documentation) • Full product support • A personal computer is not part of the product

The information in this document does not constitute a binding offer. It is subject to revision at any time.

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