

Acceptable Use of the Certification Mark

The rules certified clients must follow when displaying the Decrypt Compliance certification seal and referring to their ISO/IEC 27001:2022 certification.

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OWNER	Certification Manager	APPLIES TO	All certified clients

Governed by ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 §8.3, IAF MD documents, and IAS/ADM/084. Where this policy is silent, those documents prevail.

1 • Purpose and scope

When Decrypt Compliance certifies your information security management system (ISMS) against ISO/IEC 27001:2022, you earn the right to tell the market. This policy sets out how you may do that: how to display the Decrypt certification seal, how to word claims of certification, and the limits that keep every claim honest and traceable.

The rules exist for one reason. A certification mark is only worth something if the market can trust it. As an accredited certification body, Decrypt is required to control how our mark is used so that it always points back to a real, current, in-scope certification. These obligations flow from ISO/IEC 17021-1 and are a condition of your certification agreement with us.

In scope: the Decrypt certification seal, written and spoken claims of certification, and statements placed on packaging or accompanying material. **Out of scope for you:** the IAF/IAS combined accreditation mark, which only Decrypt may use (see 9).

2 • Key terms

Certification seal	The Decrypt Compliance mark showing certification against ISO/IEC 27001:2022, issued to you with your unique certificate number. Also called the certification mark.
Scope of certification	The activities, sites, and boundaries of the ISMS named on your certificate. Claims may never reach beyond it.
Accreditation symbol	The IAS symbol and the IAF/IAS combined mark that identify Decrypt as an accredited body. These belong to Decrypt and IAS, not to certified clients.
Certified client	Your organization, for as long as your certification remains valid, granted, and not suspended or withdrawn.

3 • The certification seal

Decrypt issues your seal as a locked artwork file with your certificate number set into it. Always use the file we supply. Do not rebuild it, re-type it in a font, or crop it into parts.



The certification seal. Every element is fixed: the Decrypt lockup, the standard reference (ISO/IEC 27001:2022), the descriptor (Information Security Management System), and your certificate number.

The seal makes three things unambiguous, as required by ISO/IEC 17021-1: **what** is certified (an information security management system), **against which standard** (ISO/IEC 27001:2022), and **who granted it** (Decrypt Compliance, traceable by certificate number). Never alter the mark in a way that blurs any of these.

4 • Who may use it, and when

The right to use the seal begins on the effective date of your certification decision and lasts only while your certificate is valid. It is granted to your organization for the certified ISMS. It is not transferable: you may not lend, sub-license, or allow a parent, subsidiary, supplier, or customer to use your seal or certificate number as their own.

- Use the seal only for the legal entity and sites named in your scope.
 - Keep the seal and any claims current with your certificate. If it lapses, stop (see 10).
 - Your customers may never use your seal. The mark speaks only for your certified ISMS.
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5 • How to display the seal correctly

Keep it proportional

Resize from the corner only, never a side handle. The seal must never be stretched, squashed, or rotated.

Show the certificate number

The certificate number is part of the artwork and must stay legible. Never remove or obscure it.

Give it clear space and contrast

Place it on a plain background with enough contrast to stay readable. Keep clear space around it so no other element crowds or overlaps it.

Use the supplied file

Reproduce from the original high-resolution artwork. Do not photocopy, screenshot, or re-colour it.

Keep it whole

Do not separate, redraw, re-type, or recolour any part of the lockup, standard reference, or descriptor.

Size for legibility

Never reproduce it so small that the standard reference or certificate number cannot be read.

Approved placements include your website, letterhead, quotations, brochures, presentations, email signatures, and advertising, provided the use sits within your certified scope.

6 • At a glance: do and don't

✓ DO

- Use the exact artwork file Decrypt supplies.
- Scale proportionally from a corner handle.
- Keep the certificate number readable.
- Place it against a clean, high-contrast background.
- Reference the standard as "ISO/IEC 27001:2022".

✗ DON'T

- Stretch, squash, rotate, or recolour the seal.
- Put it on a product, its packaging, or a label.
- Use it after suspension, withdrawal, or expiry.
- Imply certification of a product, person, or site outside scope.
- Let a customer or third party display your mark.

6.1 • Locking up the seal with your own logo

The seal is meant to sit *alongside* your own branding, never merged into it. Keep clear space between your logo and the seal so each reads on its own, and never combine them into a single graphic.

✓ CORRECT



Your logo and the seal side by side, each with its own clear space. The seal keeps its exact proportions and its certificate number stays legible.

× DON'T STRETCH



Never squash, stretch, or change its proportions.

× DON'T RECOLOUR



Never recolour, add effects, or restyle the artwork.

× DON'T MERGE



Never overlap or combine it with your logo.

7 • Wording your certification claims

Written and spoken references to your certification (on your website, in brochures, tenders, advertising, or social media) must be accurate and must not mislead. Whenever it is not otherwise obvious, name the standard, the certification body, and the scope.

ACCURATE

"[Company] is certified to ISO/IEC 27001:2022 by Decrypt Compliance for its [scope], certificate no. XXXXX.XX."

MISLEADING

"[Company] is ISO certified and fully secure." Vague standard, no body, and an implied guarantee.

Do not describe your organization simply as "ISO certified" or "27001 approved" without the full reference. Do not present certification as a guarantee of security outcomes, nor imply Decrypt endorses or recommends your products or services. Certification confirms your management system meets the standard, nothing more.

8 • Products, packaging, and accompanying information

Management system certification is not product certification. The seal must never appear on a product, on product packaging, or on a type label or identification plate, and never in any way that could be read as certifying the product itself.

You may make a factual statement in accompanying information (material that is separately available or easily detachable, not the packaging itself) that your organization holds a certified management system, provided it cannot be read as certifying the product, process, or service. Such a statement must include:

- the identification (brand or name) of your organization;
- the type of management system (information security) and the standard, ISO/IEC 27001:2022;
- the certification body that issued the certificate, Decrypt Compliance.

9 • The IAF / IAS accreditation mark

Decrypt is accredited by the International Accreditation Service (IAS), which is why our certificates may carry the IAF/IAS combined MLA mark. That combined accreditation mark belongs to IAS and IAF and is authorised for Decrypt's own use only.

Certified clients may not use the IAF/IAS combined mark, the IAS accreditation symbol, or the IAS logo, and may not copy them from a Decrypt certificate for their own materials. This restriction is required by IAS/ADM/084. Refer to your certification and to accreditation only through the Decrypt seal and the wording rules in this policy.

10 • Suspension, withdrawal, and change of scope

Your right to use the seal and to claim certification is tied to the status of your certificate.

- **On suspension** you must pause all use of the seal and all claims of certification until the suspension is lifted.

- **On withdrawal or expiry** you must stop using the seal entirely and remove or discontinue all advertising, web pages, documents, and materials that reference the certification, as directed by Decrypt.
- **On a reduction of scope** you must promptly amend all marks, claims, and materials so they reflect the reduced scope and never overstate what remains certified.

11 • Consequences of misuse

Decrypt controls the ownership of its mark and acts on incorrect references to certification status or misleading use of the seal, the certificate, or audit reports. Depending on severity and whether it is corrected, action may escalate:

1 • Correct Request for correction and corrective action.	2 • Suspend Suspension of certification until resolved.	3 • Withdraw Withdrawal of certification.	4 • Escalate Publication of the transgression and, if needed, legal action.
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12 • Getting artwork approved

If you are unsure whether a use is compliant, send it to us before you publish. A quick review protects you and keeps the mark trustworthy.

STEP 1 Request the seal Ask Decrypt for your seal artwork with your certificate number.	STEP 2 Apply it Place the seal following the rules in §5 to §8.	STEP 3 Submit a sample Send a proof of each new use (site, brochure, packaging text) for review.	STEP 4 Publish Once confirmed compliant, publish and keep the approval on file.
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13 • Frequently asked questions

Can I put the seal on my product or its box?

No. ISO/IEC 27001 certifies your management system, not a product. The seal may not go on a product, its packaging, or a label. You may reference certification in separate accompanying information (see 8).

Can my customer or reseller use my seal?

No. The mark speaks only for your certified ISMS. You may not let any third party display your seal or certificate number.

Can I use the IAF or IAS logo since Decrypt is accredited?

No. The IAF/IAS combined mark and IAS symbols are for Decrypt's use only (see §9). Reference accreditation only through the Decrypt seal.

Do I need to show the certificate number every time?

The number is built into the seal artwork and must stay legible wherever the seal appears. In text-only claims, include it whenever practical so the claim is traceable.

What happens the day my certificate expires?

Your right to use the seal ends. Remove it and all certification claims from your materials, as directed, until certification is renewed.

Acknowledgement

By using the Decrypt Compliance certification seal or referring to your ISO/IEC 27001:2022 certification, your organization accepts and agrees to be bound by the terms of this policy.

Questions about mark use?

Contact your engagement lead or email info@decrypt.cpa before you publish.

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