

Application:Microsoft VBAPlatform:WindowsVersion:2013, 2010, 2007Activity:Self-signed<br/>Certificates

Immediate, Expert TECHNICAL SUPPORT of Off-the-Shelf Software and Mobile Devices

## **Issue Details:**

Application	Version	Description of issue
Microsoft	Office 2013	When using unsigned scripts and macros, it is common for applications to
Visual Basic for	Office 2010	pop up a warning message that the code about to be executed might have a
Applications	Office 2007	malicious purpose. Once signed, Office applications will trust the macro.

# Solution:

### How to create a self-signed digital certificate:

1. Press the **Start** button and type in *Digital Certificate for VBA Project* as is shown in Exhibit 1. Alternatively you may navigate to **All Programs**, followed **Microsoft Office** and **Microsoft Office Tools**.

Note: If you're using Windows 8, use the **Search** charm to find the utility. The Search charm can be summoned by moving the mouse to the upper or lower right corner of the screen for a few seconds.

*Tip: You needn't type in the full name of the utility in order to search for it as is shown in Exhibit 1.* 

- 2. Open Digital Certificate for VBA Project.
- 3. You will be presented with a *Create Digital Certificate* window.
- 4. Type in a **name** for the certificate in the highlighted field in Exhibit 2 and press OK. The name can be freely chosen. Once done you will be presented with a window confirming the creation of the certificate. *Note: The method described here will work only on the computer for which it is being setup. For large-scale deployment, click the blue link presented in Exhibit 2.*
- 5. Launch the Office application, using the macro containing the unsigned code.
- 6. Switch to the **Developer** tab and click the **Visual Basic** icon as shown in Exhibit 3.
- 7. Open the unsigned macro and click on the **Tools** menu. From the list of options choose **Digital Signature...** as shown in Exhibit 4.
- 8. A Digital Signatures window will open. Press the Choose button.
- 9. Select the certificate you created in Step 4 and press OK.
- 10. Save the changes to the VBA project.

#### How to add a trusted publisher:

The next time you execute the self-signed code, depending on your settings, you may be prompted whether to execute the code from the unknown publisher. In order to prevent future prompts of that sort, choose the **Trust all documents** from this publisher option.

#### How to remove a trusted publisher:

In order to undo the above topic, go to **Control Panel** and choose the **Network and Internet** category. Choose the **Internet Options** sub-category. An *Internet Properties* window will pop up. Switch to the **Content** tab and click on the **Publishers** button, part of the *Certificates* section. In the *Certificates* window that will pop up, select the publisher you created and press the **Remove** button.



Application:Microsoft VBAPlatform:WindowsVersion:2013, 2010, 2007Activity:Self-signed<br/>Certificates

### Immediate, Expert TECHNICAL SUPPORT of Off-the-Shelf Software and Mobile Devices

## **Illustration:**

Exhibit 1: Search results



Exhibit 2: Create Digital Certificate window



Exhibit 3: Developer tab (1) and Visual Basic button (2)

🗐 🛃 🤊 (J 🔺 🔶 📔	Ŧ		Untitled - Message (HTML)	
File Message	Insert Options	Format Text Review	Developer	🕥 🗘
Aacros × Macro Security 2 Code	COM Disabled Add-Ins Items Add-Ins	Design Design Publish This Form a Form + Form		

Exhibit 4: Tools menu (1) and Digital Signature option (2)

Aicrosoft Visual Basic for Applications - VbaProject.OTM	1 [design] - [ThisOutlookSession (Co	ie)]	
Eile Edit View Insert Format Debug Run	Tools Add-Ins Window He	lp l	_ & ×
i 🖸 🔤 - 🔜 🕺 🖻 🛍 🛤 🔊 (° i 🕨 🗉	References	əl1 🗸	
Project - Project1 X (General)	Additional Controls	✓ (Declarations)	
	Macros		
	Options		n in the second s
Microsoft Outlook Objec ThisOutlookSession	Project1 Properties		
	Digital Signature 2		