

Title (en)  
ELECTRONIC MAIL METHOD

Title (de)  
VERFAHREN ZUR VERTEILUNG VON ELEKTRONISCHER POST

Title (fr)  
PROCEDE RELATIF AU COURRIER ELECTRONIQUE

Publication  
**EP 0958673 A2 19991124 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 97944079 A 19971013**

Priority  

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Abstract (en)  
[origin: WO9817042A2] A method for transferring electronic mail (E-mail) including registered and secure messages, uses means for achieving communications in which the sender receives proof of the E-mail message was indeed delivered to recipient. The recipient may either accept the message or not. A plurality of centers connected in a hierarchical key dissemination center array uses certificates to provide the public encryption keys to parties desiring to perform secure E-mail communications therebetween. The array also includes a plurality of intermediaries or post offices which can be used for legal registered mail (LRM). The method supports three modes of E-mail transmission: a secure message system, where there is no receipt of transmission; a business registered mail, where the transaction is direct between the parties and a receipt is returned to sender; and a legal registered mail, where an intermediary participates in the transaction to send the E-mail message to the second user and to bring a receipt to the first user.

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