

Press Release

GLEIF Qualifies TrustAsia as a vLEI Issuer to Explore Organizational Identity for Signed PDFs and Content Credentials

As a vLEI Issuer, TrustAsia will explore how verifiable organizational identity through the vLEI can enhance trust in signed PDFs and C2PA Content Credentials

27 October 2026 – Basel – The Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF) today announces the qualification of TrustAsia Technologies, Inc. (TrustAsia) as a vLEI Issuer (QVI), enabling it to issue verifiable LEI (vLEI) credentials to organizations and their authorized representatives. Following its qualification, TrustAsia will explore how vLEIs can add verifiable organizational identity and authority to signed PDF documents and Content Credentials developed by the Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity (C2PA). This will enable recipients to verify both the legal entity behind digital content and the role of the individual acting on its behalf.

As organizations increasingly rely on digital documents and content to conduct business and communicate with stakeholders, recipients need a standardized way to verify the legal entity. The vLEI extends verified organizational identity into the digital domain, enabling counterparties to computationally verify the identity, authority, and role of a person acting on behalf of a legal entity. In digital document and content workflows, this can add verifiable organizational identity and authority information to existing trust mechanisms.

For signed PDFs, TrustAsia will explore how the vLEI could complement document-signing certificates with verifiable information about the legal entity represented by the signer and the signer's organizational role or authority. Potential applications include corporate reports, regulatory submissions, contracts, invoices, audit documents, and other documents exchanged across organizations or borders.

TrustAsia will also examine how the vLEI could complement C2PA Content Credentials by adding verifiable information about the legal entity responsible for digital content and, where relevant, its authorized representative. This could support greater trust and transparency across corporate communications, financial and sustainability reporting, public-sector content, brand protection, and content created or distributed with the assistance of artificial intelligence.

Alexandre Kech, CEO of GLEIF, comments: "As AI agents take on a greater role in creating, exchanging, and acting on digital content, organizations need a consistent

way to demonstrate which legal entity stands behind those interactions and what authority has been granted. TrustAsia's qualification creates an opportunity to examine how verifiable organizational identity can complement signed PDFs and Content Credentials. This can help users and systems verify organizational identity and authority consistently across borders, platforms, and ecosystems."

Edwin Zhai, CEO of TrustAsia, comments: "TrustAsia already supports the certificate and trust services used for signed documents and Content Credentials. As a vLEI Issuer, we can now explore how these mechanisms could be complemented with verifiable information about the legal entity behind a document or piece of content and the authority of the person acting for it. We look forward to working with GLEIF and the relevant standards communities to assess practical applications in corporate communications, reporting, cross-border documents, and AI-assisted content."

TrustAsia is a certification authority headquartered in Shanghai and holds licenses from China's State Cryptography Administration (SCA) and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) for electronic certification services. It has experience in public key infrastructure (PKI), digital certificates, document signing, timestamping, identity validation, certificate issuance, and revocation.

TrustAsia also participates in the PDF-signing and C2PA trust ecosystems. It is listed on the Adobe Approved Trust List, while its root certificates are included in the official C2PA Trust List and C2PA Timestamp Authority Trust List. This provides an established technical foundation for examining how the vLEI could complement existing certificate and content-provenance mechanisms.

The planned exploration builds on previous technical work between GLEIF and TrustAsia. In October 2023, TrustAsia issued the first S/MIME certificate with an embedded Legal Entity Identifier (LEI), enabling the certificate to link an email account directly to verified organizational identity data in the Global LEI Index.

For more information on the vLEI, please visit the GLEIF [website](#). A full list of vLEI Issuers is available [here](#).

– ENDS –

Full resolution images and logos can be downloaded via this link
<https://www.gleif.org/en/newsroom/gleif-graphics-images>

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Relevant link

www.gleif.org

Glossary of terms

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)

The Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a 20-character, alpha-numeric code based on the ISO 17442 standard developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The LEI connects to key reference information that enables clear and unique identification of legal entities participating in financial transactions. Each LEI contains information about an entity's ownership structure, answering the questions of 'who is who' and 'who owns whom'. It provides a universally recognized identifier paired with essential entity data, rigorous verification processes and high data quality.

Verifiable LEI (vLEI)

The vLEI concept is simple: It is the cryptographic secure digital counterpart of a conventional LEI. In other words, it is a digitally trustworthy version of the 20-digit LEI code which is automatically verified, without the need for human intervention. It gives government organizations, companies, and other legal entities worldwide the capacity to use non-repudiable identification data pertaining to their legal status, ownership structure and authorized representatives in any kind of digital interaction, transaction, or e-signature scenario.

About the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF)

Established by the Financial Stability Board in June 2014, the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF) is a not-for-profit organization created to support the implementation and use of the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) and its digital counterpart the verifiable LEI (vLEI). GLEIF is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland.

GLEIF's mission is to manage a network of global partners to provide trusted services and open, reliable data for unique legal entity identification worldwide. GLEIF makes available the technical infrastructure to provide, via an open data license, online access to the full global LEI database free of charge to users. GLEIF is overseen by the Regulatory Oversight Committee, which is made up of representatives of public authorities from across the globe.

Diversity and inclusion underpin GLEIF's values. This is reflected in its workforce of approximately 60 staff from over 20 nations, its operational excellence, and its commitment to open, global participation in the Global LEI System.

For more information, visit the GLEIF website at <https://www.gleif.org/en>.

Source:

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Commercial-Register-No.: CHE-200.595.965, VAT-No.: CHE-200.595.965MWST
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