

Verifying XML Signatures

Technical Note

UPDATED: 28 July 2023

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1 Introduction

1.1 Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline how to manually validate the digital signatures of resources provided by Kemp. Resources such as firmware, patches and add-ons have associated XML files which contain the MD5 and SHA-256 checksums of the resource and are digitally signed by Kemp.

XML checksum files are currently not provided for LoadMaster templates.

As of firmware version 7.2.49, you can automatically validate digital signatures easily using the LoadMaster Web User Interface (WUI). Simply enable the **Display Verify Update Option** check box in **System Configuration > Miscellaneous Options > WUI Settings**. This provides an option to upload the XML verification file when updating the LoadMaster software or installing an add-on file on the **System Configuration > System Administration > Update Software** page.

1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended to guide any LoadMaster administrator or corporate security officer through the options to validate the integrity and authenticity of downloaded Kemp resources.

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2 Kemp Digital Signatures

Kemp provides digital signatures as XML signature files (known as detached signatures) as defined by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) recommendation for XML Signature Syntax and Processing. Kemp XML signatures prior to version 7.2.51 use a Kemp certificate issued by a public CA (Certification Authority) . XML signatures version 7.2.51 and above and 7.2.48.3 LTS and above use a Kemp certificate issued by our internal Kemp Certificate Authority.

The Kemp XML signature filenames include the original resource filename as a prefix with the extension .checksum.xml and are provided as separate file downloads when downloading the original Kemp resource.

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3 XML Signature Validation

There are a number of different approaches to validation of detached XML signature files. The XML signature file is viewable in a text editor and looks something like the following:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<file name="LoadMaster-Patch-64bit.zip">
  <checksum>
    <sha256>ce7e1e92c1544061bb26ab0e14fc7dc512584ba37fd6c71e28e46e61ac2e41ba</sha256>
    <md5>79cf19cfa053f54e620c7d3de2cd690f</md5>
  </checksum>
  <Signature xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
    <SignedInfo>
      <CanonicalizationMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315"/>
      <SignatureMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig-more#ecdsa-sha384"/>
      <Reference URI="">
        <Transforms>
          <Transform Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#enveloped-signature"/>
        </Transforms>
        <DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig-more#sha384"/>
        <DigestValue>YukhB51PcSB3DsyMCtKaQsJuj9L4ca7qCS/ygBUNgLzkSH5+tCL+2TJHN7n7iIW2</DigestValue>
      </Reference>
    </SignedInfo>
    <SignatureValue>KnRlanWC7dj9pG3/S/dh1FVVndTPmLMHDJzeyDkEzQ9tx5OLLG3J5p+YaX79UJW6
S1TbDUlx/QSuWhQtjhoq+piC66Yp5FlY3EmFQ0GpGhG0o0ShW7IwzwaaH4JGjrse</SignatureValue>
    <KeyInfo>
      <X509Data>
        <X509Certificate>MIICWzCCAeKgAwIBAgICEAAwCgYIKoZIzj0EAwMwYDELMAkGA1UEBhMCVVMxCzAJ
BgNVBAgMAk5ZMR8wHQYDVQQKDBZLZW1wIFRlY2hub2xvZ2llcyBJbmMuMSMwIQYD
VQQDDBpLZW1wIENlcnRpZmljYXRlIEF1dGhvcml0eTAeFw0yMDA1MjcwODA4MzVa
Fw0yMjA1MjcwODA4MzVaMFcxCzAJBgNVBAYTAlVTMQswCQYDVQQIDAJOWTEfMB0G
A1UECgwWS2VtcCBUZWNobm9sb2dpZXMgSW5jLjEaMBgGA1UEAwwRS2VtcCBDb2Rl
IFNpZ25pbmcwdjAQBgcqhkjOPQIBBgUrgQQAIgNiAARNGCQDbxI6sFZ5l7amUVLu
h+w4r+0l/a5YvsrqZzDf4l/ExgtQFdlMzqN0eObQC85eu5E5RdEtUqQFYgRuIIdH
vd0+ceN6kZuF283EV/oVLJ2v0wN+zjfahi6YacptxmGjeDB2MB0GA1UdDgQWBBSG
UYGDdfxIAMD/YDNDfdHvnwArDzAfBgNVHSMEGDAWgBSfmMgzNt3X/uMJ9yElYI/7
WnWxLjAMBgNVHRMBAf8EAjAAMA4GA1UdDwEB/wQEAwIHgDAWBgNVHSUBAf8EDDAK
BggrBgEFBQcDAzAKBggqhkjOPQQDAwNnADBkAjBkGsfjH5ESe0eTOKdK1/loSNp4
QuM6hXbUHeNTJnHeZhoxEwKCJM/Esm52SiZ6E9ICME8Cc01LkYk8tita3WGJYogW
slUNelBEuOihi8hcfxxJpKxwEhxFKSuKd5xWCNjAHw==</X509Certificate>
<X509SubjectName>CN=Kemp Code Signing,O=Kemp Technologies Inc.,ST=NY,C=US</X509SubjectName>
<X509IssuerSerial>
<X509IssuerName>CN=Kemp Certificate Authority,O=Kemp Technologies Inc.,ST=NY,C=US</X509IssuerName>
<X509SerialNumber>4096</X509SerialNumber>
</X509IssuerSerial>
</X509Data>
    </KeyInfo>
  </Signature>
</file>
```

3.1 SHA-256 Checksum Comparison

The basic process to validate the integrity of a Kemp resource is to do a checksum comparison:

1. Perform a local SHA-256 checksum on the downloaded Kemp resource.

   - On Windows: **certUtil -hashfile <PathToResource> SHA256**

   - On Unix: **sha256sum <PathToResource>**

2. Compare the locally generated SHA-256 checksum with the checksum contained in the XML signature file. To do this, open the XML signature file in a text editor and compare the SHA-256 checksum under <checksum><sha256> with the locally generated one. If these values do not match, then the original resource has been altered and should not be trusted.

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3. If the checksums match, validate the digital signature of the XML signature file.

3.2 Verifying the XML Digital Signature

A number of tools exist to validate detached XML signatures as provided by Kemp. Kemp recommends using the XMLSec Library (https://www.aleksey.com/xmlsec/) to verify the authenticity of XML signature files. This site provides sources and downloadable binaries for Windows platforms. This tool is available on many Linux environments as the xmlsec1 command.

3.2.1 XML 7.2.50 and below

Verify the authenticity of the digital signature for XML files version 7.2.50 and below using the following xmlsec1 command.

xmlsec1 --verify <XMLSignatureFile>

If there are any errors in the output of the above command, the XML signature file has been altered and should not be trusted.

3.2.2 XML 7.2.51 and above & 7.2.48.3 LTS and above

Since version 7.2.51 and 7.2.48.3 LTS, we have changed the method of digitally signing the XML files. These XML files are signed using a Kemp certificate issued by our internal Kemp Certificate Authority. Therefore, to verify the authenticity of the XML digital signature, you must first download the Kemp certificate bundle using the link here

This downloads a zip archive with three certificates:

1. root.kemp.crt – Root Kemp CA certificate
2. ca.kemp.crt – Intermediate Kemp CA certificate
3. codesign.kemp.crt – Kemp code signing certificate

Unzip the archive into a desired location.

```
→  Downloads xmlsec1 --verify 7.2.49.1.18450.RELEASE.PATCH-64-MULTICORE.checksum.xml
OK
SignedInfo References (ok/all): 1/1
Manifests References (ok/all): 0/0
```


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Verify the authenticity of the digital signature for XML files version 7.2.51 / 7.2.48.3 LTS and above using the following xmlsec1 command.

xmlsec1 --verify --trusted-pem <KempRootCert> --trusted-pem <KempCACert> --trusted-pem <KempCodesignCert> <XMLSignatureFile>

If there are any errors in the output of the above command, the XML signature file has been altered and should not be trusted.

```
→  Downloads unzip kemp-certs.zip
Archive:  kemp-certs.zip
  inflating: ca.kemp.crt
  inflating: codesign.kemp.crt
  inflating: root.kemp.crt
→  Downloads ls
LoadMaster-Patch-64bit.zip  LoadMaster-Patch-64bit.zip.checksum.xml  ca.kemp.crt  codesign.kemp.crt  kemp-certs.zip  root.kemp.crt
```

```
→  Downloads xmlsec1 --verify --trusted-pem root.kemp.crt --trusted-pem ca.kemp.crt --trusted-pem cod
esign.kemp.crt LoadMaster-Patch-64bit.zip.checksum.xml
OK
SignedInfo References (ok/all): 1/1
Manifests References (ok/all): 0/0
```


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Last Updated Date

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