

## **Digital Signatures PS**

Computing User Note 23 assumes that a scanned handwritten signature will be used as the visible appearance of the digital signature, but this was really proposed just to give signed documents the same look.

Digital signatures can just appear texty (see below) and this makes the initial set-up much easier, since one doesn't have to scan things. Several documents have gone to ESO with signatures in this form. In terms of traceability and accountability there is no difference, both forms being superior in this respect to photocopied documents with handwritten signatures.