## *TITLE: Digital Signatures & Paper Less workflow.* **AUTHOR/S: Michael Ryan** CEO, eCom Asia Pacific Pty Ltd, Perth, Western Australia

Technology over the past 5 years has evolved to the point that it is part of everyday life, governments both federal and state have passed laws that allow business to utilise technology in daily transactions. However in many cases we are still required to print a piece of paper and sign it in ink because many of the individual document type laws have not changed, and will not in the foreseeable future.

Therefore we find ourselves with advanced technology and applications on our desktop, defined and refined digital business processes and stuck with still printing and signing paper. There is an answer which is to deploy eSignature technology that matches the existing paper and ink signature laws, thus allowing point to point digital processes, and also allows where required biometric recognition of an individual signature.

This technology is non invasive and allows anyone to sign naturally any document anywhere they have access to a computer and signing device. Also as various laws are changing re public record access it makes commercial sense to start capturing electronic signatures inside for example PDF documents which not only provides a legal digital document but also provides fast text search and retrieval capability, significantly reducing paper storage and decreasing retrieval times.

The technology has four core components; Digital Evidence, Signature Ceremony Data, Biometric Data and Content Hash.

At the time of signing the biometric data is captured X,Y,T and P, the reason for signing, date, time, location and name. A hash (picture gram) is taken of the contents of the document as each person signs, so that if change is made after signing the hash will detect the change and invalidate the signature. Other data is captured such as machine ID, operating system etc.

All of the captured data is bound using Des 3 Des and the data encrypted inside the document for the life of the document. Special tools are provided to Forensic Examiners to interrogate the data electronically.