

# How SAFE-BioPharma and the 4BF (Four Bridges Forum) solve your identity management issues

**SAFE-BioPharma is the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries' link to the Four Bridges Forum ([www.the4BF.com](http://www.the4BF.com)), an infrastructure that facilitates trusted electronic business across federal agencies, pharmaceutical and healthcare companies, aerospace and defense contractors and colleges and universities.**

**The 4BF was formed by SAFE-BioPharma and the nation's other leading federated identity trust hubs.**

Using the 4BF  
...ensures the integrity of online transactions  
...provides strong identity assurance  
...lowers costs associated with identity management

## **How the 4BF works**

- Each 4BF trust hub comprises multiple organizations using comparable policies and procedures to authenticate the identities of its participants and to assert those identities across the entire federation.
- Each authenticated identity is protected using sophisticated cryptographic technology.

- Once authenticated, the identity is uniquely linked to a SAFE-BioPharma digital certificate, permitting digital signatures.

## **SAFE-BioPharma/4BF Identity Benefits**

- The identity can be trusted across the SAFE-BioPharma hub and all other hubs with which it is linked. This allows for trusted interoperability between separate and disparate systems.
- The identity can be used to authenticate individuals to access a variety of resources and to conduct other important business transactions.

## **SAFE-BioPharma/4BF Digital Signing Benefits**

- SAFE-BioPharma™ digital signatures allow important business and regulatory transactions to take place in a fully electronic environment. Their use eliminates the need to handle, copy, ship and store paper documents and reduces carbon footprints.
- SAFE-BioPharma digital signatures are non-repudiable and legally acceptable.
- SAFE-BioPharma digital signatures are valid for the life of the document; any change to the document invalidates the signature.

[www.the4BF.com](http://www.the4BF.com)



# Why participate in the 4BF?



## Improve Identity Management

Over the past decade, Identity Trust Hubs (also known as “Public Key Infrastructure Certification Authority Bridges” or “Certification Bridges”) have evolved to assure the identities of those using the Internet for the secure exchange of confidential and other sensitive information. The 4BF is a federation of the nation’s leading trust hubs. ***Each hub asserts the identity of participants across the entire federation.***

## Improve Interoperability

Many organizations use unique internal policies and procedures to manage identities of their own employees and those of collaborating groups. These systems do not easily or efficiently communicate with systems with different policies and procedures. Use of the 4BF helps make different systems interoperable.

## Minimize Risk of Identity-Based Cyber-Attacks and Exposure to Hackers

Poor cybersecurity is a global economic issue. It compromises

trust in the Internet for a broad range of confidential business-to-business, business-to-government and government-to-government transactions.

## Improve Compliance

Participation in the 4BF improves compliance with government privacy and other regulations and automatically creates auditable digital records

## Reduce Costs; Improve Efficiency; Reduce Carbon Footprints

The 4BF improves trust in the Internet for the exchange of sensitive information, reduces business costs, streamlines communications and accelerates process improvements. Because digital transactions vastly reduce use of paper, use of the 4BF also reduces carbon footprints.

## Participants in the 4BF

- **Federal PKI Architecture** (Federal Bridge), serving all federal agencies.
- **CertiPath**, serving the aerospace and defense industries.
- **SAFE-BioPharma Association**, serving the biopharmaceutical and healthcare industries.
- **HEBCA**, serving the higher education sector in the United States.



## “Small Entity Membership Fees” now available

SAFE-BioPharma members use SAFE-BioPharma™ digital certificates in many research, regulatory and business applications. New “Small Entity Membership Fees” for clinical investigators, CROs and other smaller entities within the biopharmaceutical and healthcare communities make access to the standard’s benefits highly affordable.

[www.safe-biopharma.org](http://www.safe-biopharma.org) for specifics.

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