sign pro plug-in for Adobe Acrobat

Getting started with the Wacom sign pro plug-in for Adobe Acrobat

Use the Wacom sign pro plug-in for Adobe Acrobat to include a handwritten signature when digitally signing a PDF document. The plug-in adds a new dimension to the Adobe Default Security signature by capturing a handwritten electronic signature at the time of signing. The handwritten signature is then displayed in the PDF document, replacing the normal certificate appearance. The plugin was developed for Acrobat Reader & Acrobat Pro.

System Requirements

- Windows 10 or later (32-bit and 64-bit)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader, Standard or Pro
- Wacom Signature Pad or Business Pen Display

Installer

The plug-in installation consists of two parts:

- Wacom Signature Components (from the Wacom Signature SDK)
- Acrobat plug-in file

Wacom Signature Components

The signature components can be tested independently of the plug-in using the test program SignHere.exe.

Run the test program and press Sign to start signature capture.

Acrobat plug-in

The plug-in file SignProAcrobat.api is copied to the plugins folder:

Acrobat Reader:
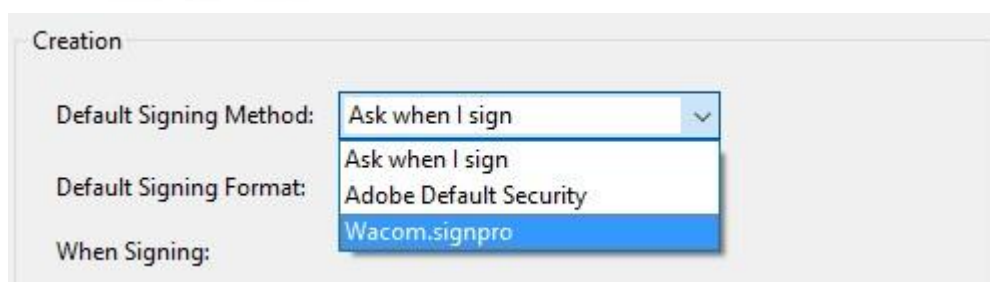C:\Program Files\Adobe\Acrobat Reader DC\Reader\plug_ins

Adobe Acrobat Pro:
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Acrobat DC\Acrobat\plug_ins

To verify that the plug-in has been successfully loaded, select

Edit...Preferences...Signatures...Creation & Appearance...More

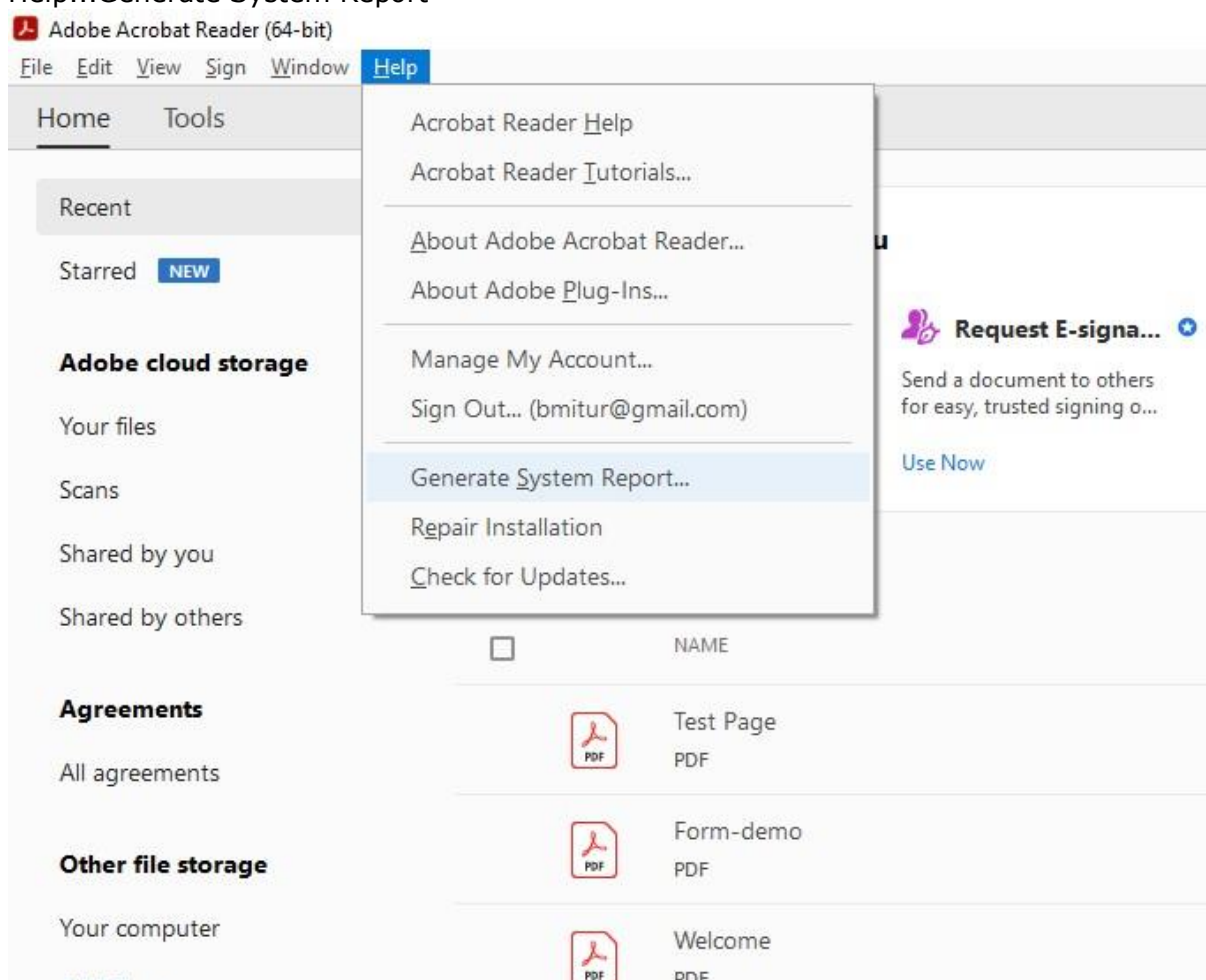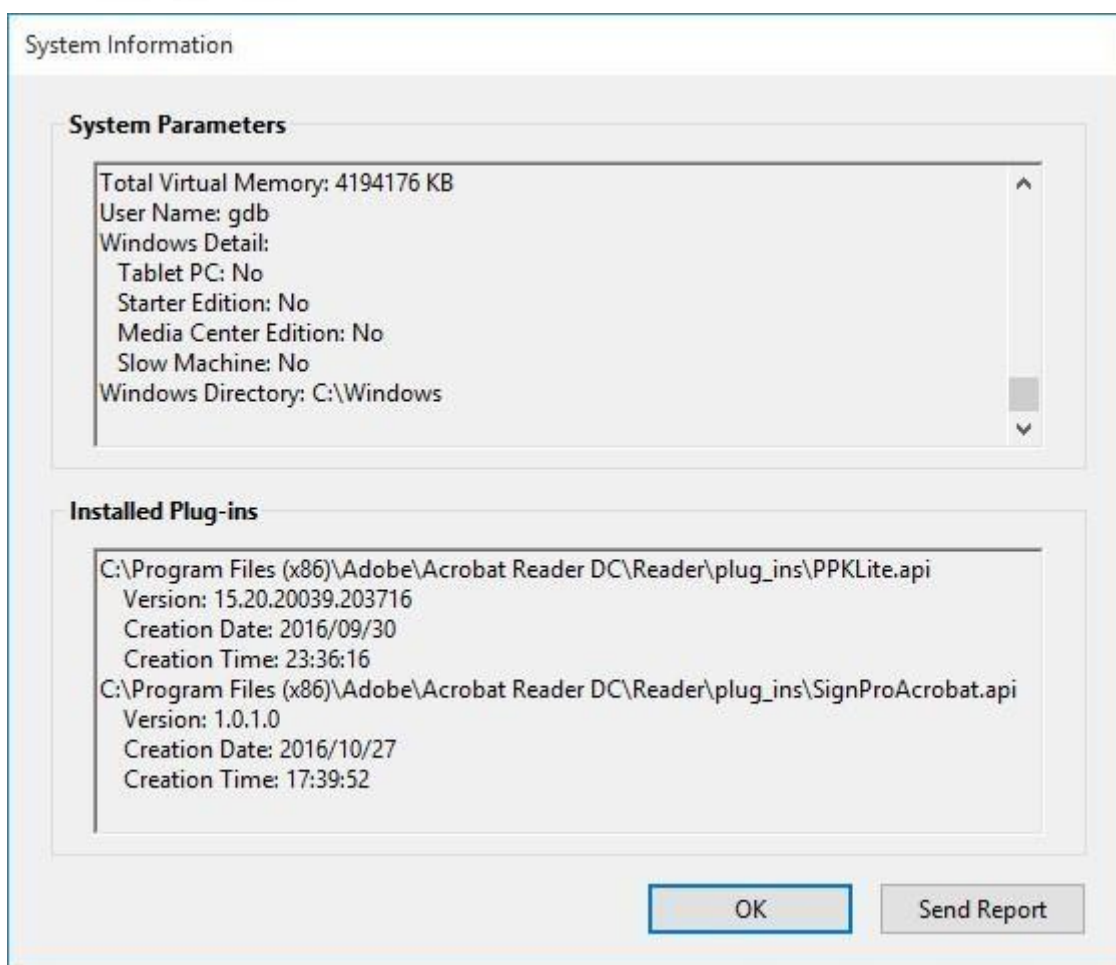The Default Signing Method field will then show the Wacom.signpro option:

Checking the installed version

To display the version number of the installed plug-in, select:

Help...Generate System Report

The version information is displayed as part of the System Information:

System Information

Installing the plug-in

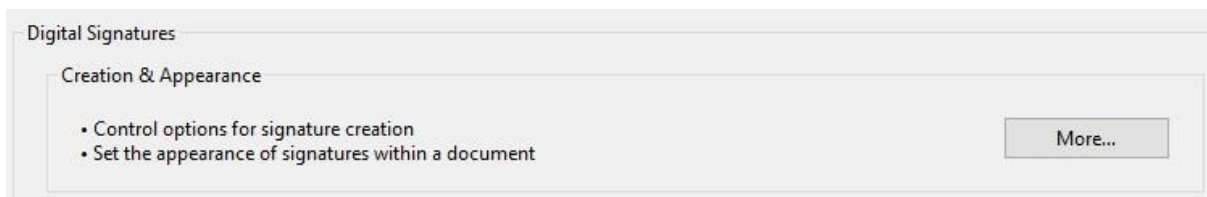Run the Wacom plug-in installer and follow the instructions provided.

When the installation has completed start Adobe Acrobat Reader and set these preferences to activate the plug-in:

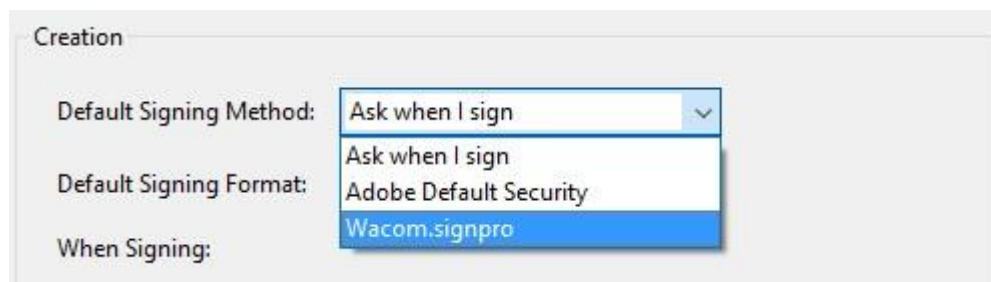From the menu bar, select **Edit...Preferences**

From the **Categories** list select:

Signatures

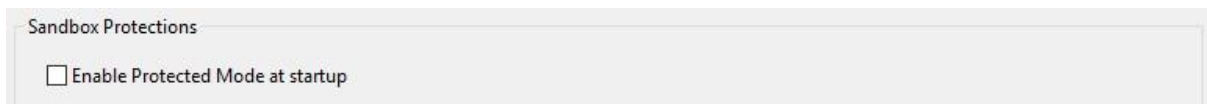Click **More...** then select the Default Signing Method as either: 'Ask when I sign' or 'Wacom.signpro'

Use the method 'Ask when I sign' to make a handwritten signature optional.

The following setting is required for Acrobat Reader but is not required for Acrobat Pro. From the **Categories** list select:

> **Security (Enhanced)**
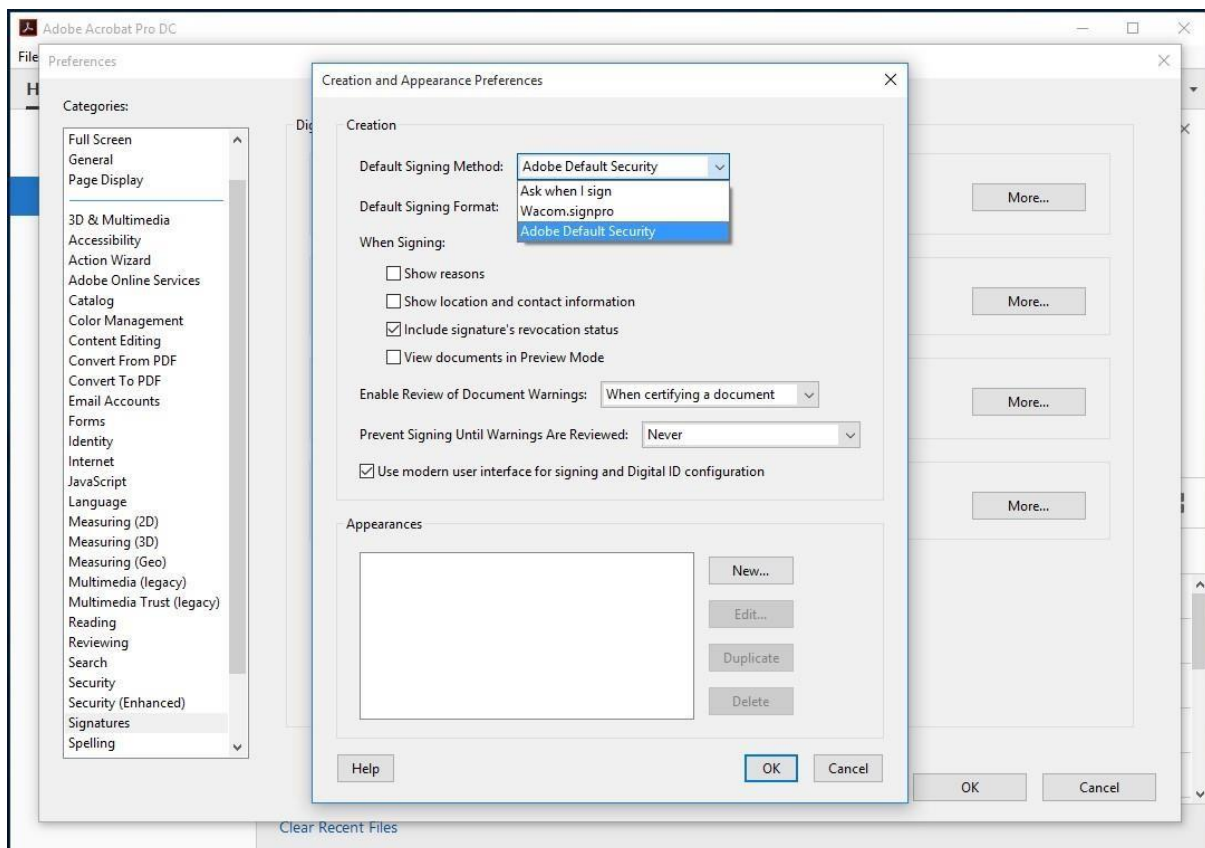>> Uncheck the option '**Enable Protected Mode at startup**'

Adobe Acrobat will be ready to use the Wacom sign pro plug-in when restarted.

Configuration
select Edit...Preferences...Signatures...Creation & Appearance...More

The Default Signing Method field will then show the Wacom.signpro option:

Signature Preferences

To use either the Adobe Default Security signing method or sign pro, select the option 'Ask when I sign'.

The plug-in performs the same actions as signing with Adobe Default Security, but displays the handwritten signature in the signed document. To resolve questions regarding detailed preferences please refer to the Adobe documentation for the standard Adobe Default Security method.

Security (Enhanced)

Acrobat Reader

To allow the plug-in to operate correctly remove the option to 'Enable Protected Mode at Startup':
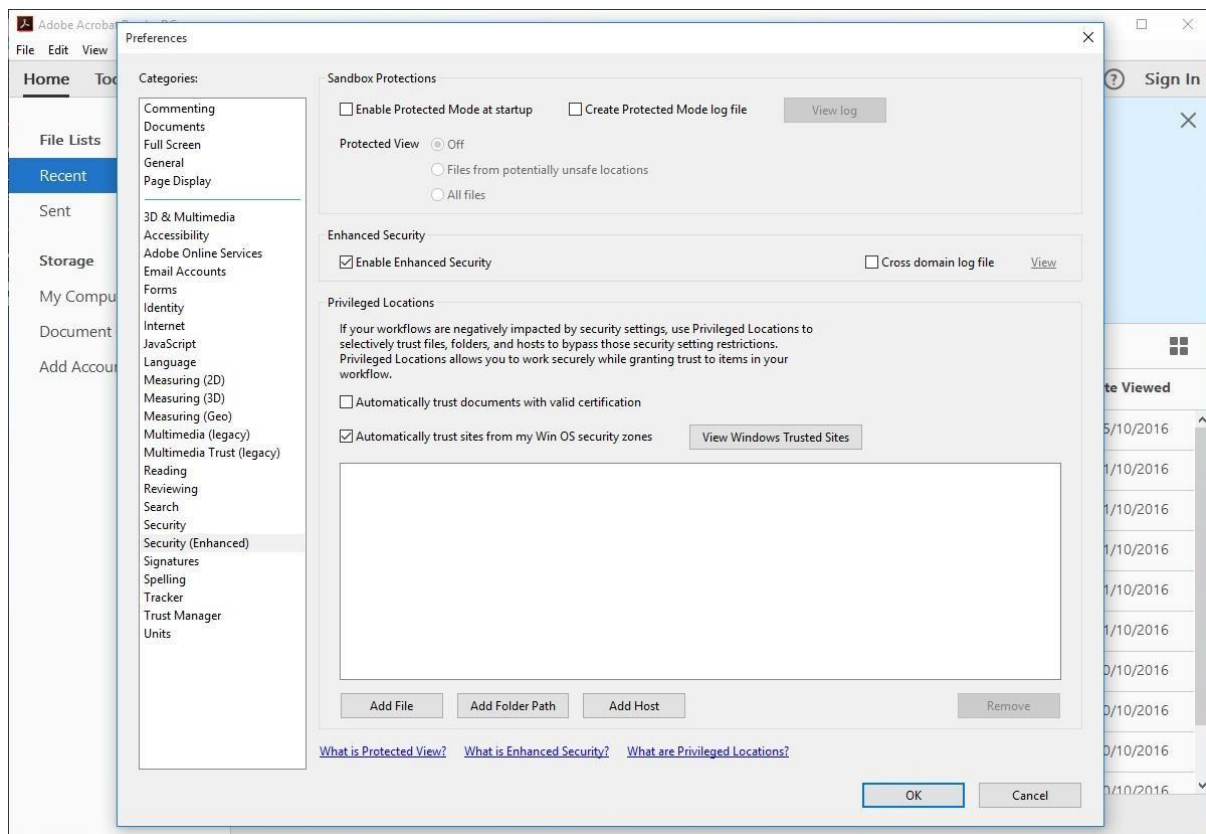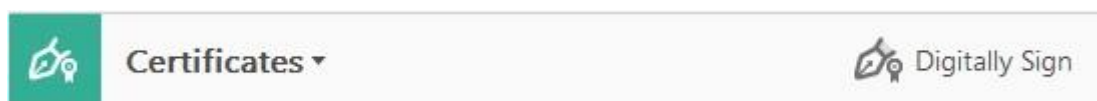
Security Preferences

Adobe Acrobat Pro

The Pro version does not require a change to the default security settings.

Signing a document

To sign a document select **Tools…Certificates**:

Select '**Digitally Sign**' from the toolbar:

With **Wacom.signpro** as the Digital Signature Method, use your mouse to draw an area on the document where your signature should appear.

The plug-in allows you to change or confirm the information it needs to sign:

Quick Start Guide

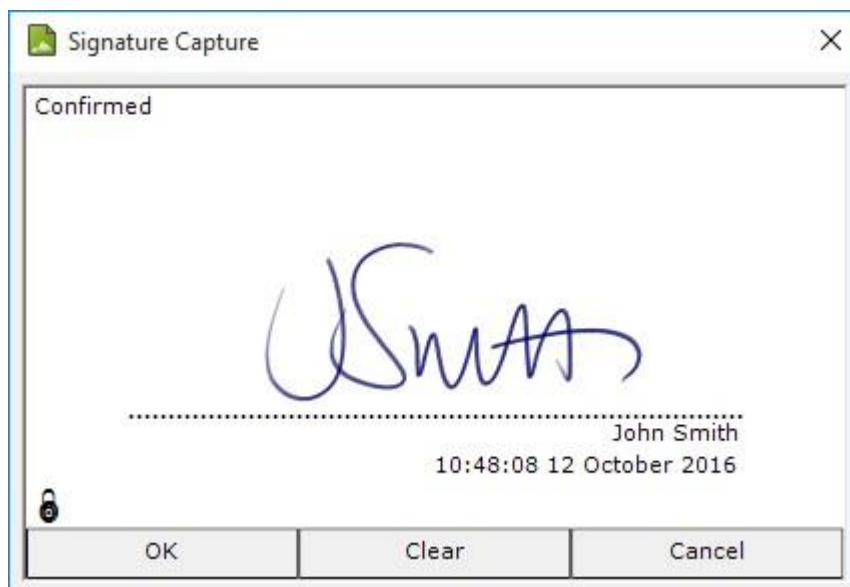Signature name: the name of the person signing will be saved with the signature
Reason for signing: the reason for signing will be saved with the signature
Certificate: the digital certificate will be used by Adobe Acrobat to sign

 Save as Default: check the option to remember the settings

During installation a digital certificate is created which Adobe Acrobat will use for its security signing process. The Certificate option allows you to browse for an alternative certificate in the Windows Certificate Store, or you can create a new certificate by selecting **New... ID**

Press OK to confirm the information and start signature capture:

Use your Wacom signature pad or pen display to sign in the normal way. You can use the Clear button to sign again and press the OK button to accept the signature.

On completion your signature will be displayed in the document in the place of a conventional Adobe Acrobat digital signature:
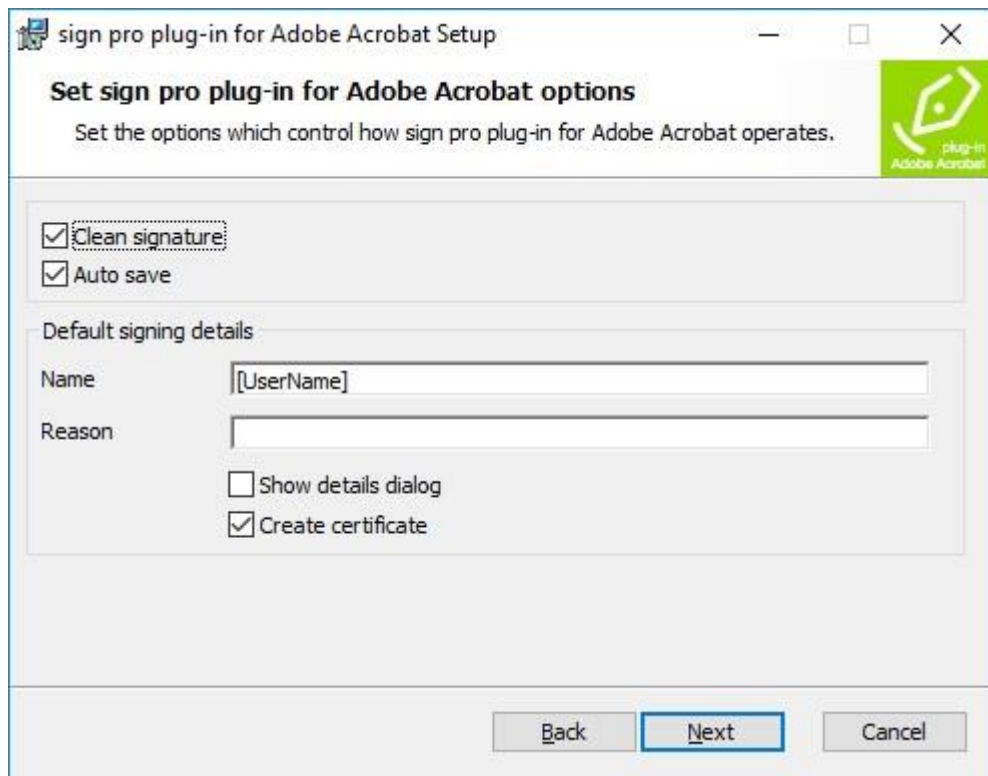
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By signing here, I agree that I have read and agree to the terms and conditions

Name: John Smith
Reason: Confirmed
Date: 12 October 2016 10:48
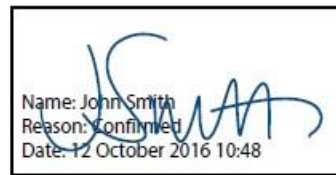
Installation Notes

A number of options are presented during installation:

Clean Signature	- optionally displays details of a signature (name, reason, time)
Auto Save	- optionally displays the file save dialog
Name	- default name associated with the signature
Reason	- default reason for the signature
Show details dialog	- optionally displays the signature name/reason dialog
Create certificate	- optionally creates a signing certificate

After installation options can be changed by selecting 'Change' in Programs and Features in the Windows Control Panel.

For an automated installation install the product directly from a command prompt, for example:

```
msiexec /i Wacom-signpro-Acrobat-Plugin.msi
```

Editing the plug-in settings in the Windows registry

The plug-in settings are held in the Windows registry where they can be viewed and modified:

```
HKLM\Software\WOW6432Node\Wacom\SignProAcrobat
```

Name	Type	Value
AutoCert	REG_DWORD	0=OFF, 1=ON (default) When ON, the plug-in automatically creates a selfsigned certificate for signing.
AutoSave	REG_DWORD	0=OFF, 1=ON (default) When ON, the plug-in tells Acrobat to auto-save document after signing. Known issue: if the PDF is open in another app, the signature is not inserted into the PDF and save silently fails.
CleanSignature	REG_DWORD	0=OFF, 1=ON (default) When ON, only the signature is displayed in the document. When OFF, Name, Reason and Date/time also appear in the signature area.
DetailsDialog	REG_DWORD	0=OFF (default), 1=ON When OFF, the dialog for input of Name and Reason and selection of certificate is not displayed. When ON, the dialog is displayed
License	REG_SZ	The License string supplied by the installer
Name	REG_SZ	Name to use for signatory. If the value is [UserName], the name of the logged-in user, obtained from Windows, is substituted.
Reason	REG_SZ	Reason for signing

Details Dialog:

DetailsDialog, Name and Reason can also appear under HKCU.

If Name or Reason are missing or empty under HKLM, the details dialog will be shown on the first signing (regardless of the DetailsDialog setting).

The Name and Reason entered will be saved under HKCU and become defaults for subsequent signatures.

If the user selects the option to not show the dialog again, HKCU\...\DetailsDialog will be set to 0. This does not override HKLM\...\DetailsDialog: if that is 0, the option is preselected and cannot be changed.

Setting installation properties via the command line

During installation, users alternatively have the ability to set the signing certificate from the command line interface.

An example of how to do so can be seen below. The following may be inserted into the command line:

```
msiexec CERTIFICATE=<certificate> /i Wacom-signpro-Acrobat-Plugin-
x64-1.3.0.msi
```

| Name	Values
CLEANSIGNATURE	0 (off) 1 (on)
AUTOSAVE	0 (off) 1 (on)
DETAILSDIALOG	0 (off) 1 (on)
AUTOCERT	0 (off) 1 (on)
NAME	string
REASON	string
CERTIFICATE	The certificate thumbprint available in the User Account section of the Windows key store.

List of tested Wacom devices as of December 2022

- STU-300 • STU-500 • STU-520 • STU-530 • STU-540
- CTL-471
- CTH-460
- DTU-1031
- DTU-1031X and DTU-1031AX
- DTU-1141 and DTU-1141/B

Known issues

Timestamping issue

Timestamping PDF changes with the application using wacom.plugin is not supported.
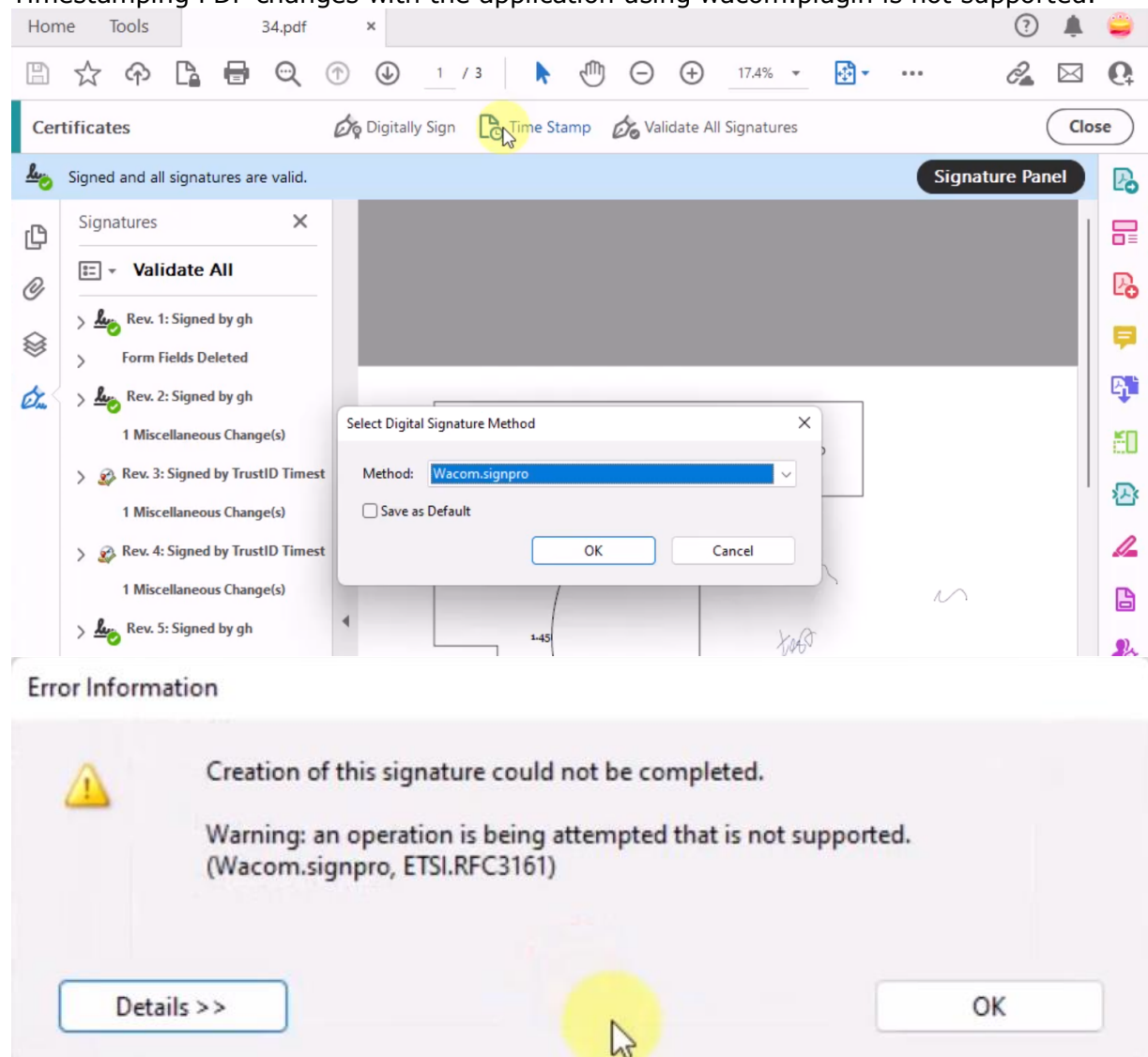
Users will experience the following error when attempting to sign with it.

Signature capture dialog appearing when selecting Certify (Invisible Signature)

When opening a PDF and selecting to certify the document using Certify (Invisible Signature) option, using the plugin will trigger the signature capture dialog. This allows users to sign a signature that cannot be viewed in the Signature Panel.

Both these issues have been reported to Adobe to allow a fix to be implemented.