

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the Management of Internet Security Research Group:

### *Scope*

We have examined the [assertion by the management](#) of Internet Security Research Group (“ISRG”) that in providing its Let’s Encrypt SSL Certification Authority (CA) services at its Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, and Denver, Colorado, USA, locations, throughout the period from December 1, 2017, to November 30, 2018, for its root and subordinate CA certificates as listed in Appendix A, ISRG has:

- Disclosed its SSL Certificate practices and procedures in its:
  - [Certification Practice Statement \(v2.5\)](#); and
  - [Certificate Policy \(v2.2\)](#);including its commitment to provide SSL Certificates in conformity with the applicable CA/Browser Forum Requirements;
- Maintained effective controls to provide reasonable assurance that:
  - Subscriber information was properly collected, authenticated (for the registration activities performed by the CA) and verified;
  - The integrity of keys and certificates it manages is established and protected throughout their life cycles;
  - Logical and physical access to CA systems and data is restricted to authorized individuals;
  - The continuity of key and certificate management operations was maintained;
  - CA systems development, maintenance and operations are properly authorized and performed to maintain CA systems integrity; and
  - Network and Certificate System Security Requirements set forth by the CA/Browser Forum were met

based on the [WebTrust Principles and Criteria for Certification Authorities – SSL Baseline with Network Security – Version 2.3](#).

### *ISRG’s Responsibilities*

ISRG’s management is responsible for its assertion. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on management’s assertion based on our examination.

The relative effectiveness and significance of specific controls at ISRG and their effect on assessments of control risk for subscribers and relying parties are dependent on their interaction with the controls, and other factors present at individual subscriber and relying party locations. Our examination did not extend to controls at individual subscriber and relying party locations and we have not evaluated the effectiveness of such controls.

### *Independent Certified Public Accountant’s Responsibilities*

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether management’s assertion is fairly stated, in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about management’s assertion. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an

assessment of the risks of material misstatement of management's assertion, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

*Inherent Limitations*

Because of the nature and inherent limitations of controls, ISRG's ability to meet the aforementioned criteria may be affected. For example, controls may not prevent, or detect and correct, error, fraud, unauthorized access to systems and information, or failure to comply with internal and external policies or requirements. Also, the projection of any conclusions based on our findings to future periods is subject to the risk that changes may alter the validity of such conclusions.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, ISRG's management's assertion, as referred to above, is fairly stated, in all material respects.

This report does not include any representation as to the quality of ISRG's services other than its CA operations at its Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, and Denver, Colorado, USA, locations, nor the suitability of any of ISRG's services for any customer's intended purpose.

ISRG's use of the WebTrust Principles and Criteria for Certification Authorities – SSL Baseline with Network Security Seal constitutes a symbolic representation of the contents of this report and it is not intended, nor should it be construed, to update this report or provide any additional assurance.

SCHHELLMAN & COMPANY, LLC

Schellman & Company, LLC  
Certified Public Accountants  
4010 W Boy Scout Blvd, Suite 600  
Tampa, FL 33607  
January 8, 2019



**ASSERTION OF MANAGEMENT AS TO ITS DISCLOSURE OF ITS PRACTICES AND ITS CONTROLS  
OVER ITS SSL CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY OPERATIONS  
DURING THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2017, TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

January 8, 2019

Internet Security Research Group ("ISRG") operates the Certification Authority (CA) services known as Let's Encrypt and provides SSL CA services.

Management has assessed the controls over its Let's Encrypt SSL CA services. Based on that assessment, in ISRG management's opinion, in providing its CA services at its Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, and Denver, Colorado, USA, locations throughout the period from December 1, 2017, to November 30, 2018, for its root and subordinate CA certificates as listed in Appendix A, ISRG has:

- Disclosed its SSL Certificate practices and procedures and its:
  - [Certification Practice Statement \(v2.5\)](#); and
  - [Certificate Policy \(v2.2\)](#);including its commitment to provide SSL Certificates in conformity with the applicable CA/Browser Forum Requirements;
- Maintained effective controls to provide reasonable assurance that:
  - Subscriber information was properly collected, authenticated (for the registration activities performed by the CA) and verified;
  - The integrity of keys and certificates it manages is established and protected throughout their life cycles;
  - Logical and physical access to CA systems and data is restricted to authorized individuals;
  - The continuity of key and certificate management operations was maintained;
  - CA systems development, maintenance and operations are properly authorized and performed to maintain CA systems integrity; and
  - Network and Certificate System Security Requirements set forth by the CA/Browser Forum were met

based on the [WebTrust Principles and Criteria for Certification Authorities – SSL Baseline with Network Security – Version 2.3](#).

Joshua Aas  
Executive Director  
Internet Security Research Group  
January 8, 2019

**APPENDIX A – ISRG ROOT AND ISSUING CAs**

| Distinguished Name   | Certificate Thumbprint (sha256)   |
|--|---|
| Subject: C=US, O=Internet Security Research Group, CN=ISRG Root X1 | 96:BC:EC:06:26:49:76:F3:74:60:77:9A:CF:28:C5:A7:CF:E8:A3:C0:AA:E1:1A:8F:FC:EE:05:C0:BD:DF:08:C6 |
| Subject: C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X1      | BD:EE:0D:7C:8F:9C:27:8F:14:EA:9B:6A:4F:90:ED:66:5A:9F:56:DB:0A:56:B1:CD:DA:67:65:91:2F:39:8A:5E |
| Subject: C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X2      | E4:EB:54:A7:FF:A5:52:EF:64:D8:E1:AE:33:8B:69:BE:90:9C:29:E6:AF:57:17:0A:2F:6F:44:DF:22:5E:5A:14 |
| Subject: C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3      | 73:1D:3D:9C:FA:A0:61:48:7A:1D:71:44:5A:42:F6:7D:F0:AF:CA:2A:6C:2D:2F:98:FF:7B:3C:E1:12:B1:F5:68 |
| Subject: C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X4      | 5D:E9:15:2B:ED:31:FA:05:15:DD:1F:C7:46:13:3F:13:27:56:2E:F7:2A:84:CF:2D:24:03:E7:48:A6:04:D0:D4 |