

Novell Developer Kit

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NOVELL CERTIFICATE SERVER™
CLASSES FOR JAVA*

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About This Guide

The Novell Certificate Server™ Classes for Java* (JPKI) enable you to access the Novell Certificate Server API directly from their Java programs. This API provides a Java native interface (JNI) to the native Certificate Server API. The native API is supported on all eDirectory™ platforms.

JPKI will help you use this functionality to further enhance or customize your security solutions without re-writing your own technology.

WARNING: This is an Early Access API. Consequently, the methods and documentation are subject to change, so you should use care if developing this component in a production environment.

For more information about the Novell implementation of Certificate Server, see [NDK: Novell Certificate Server APIs --- Overview](#).

This guide contains the following sections:

- [Chapter 1, “Concepts,” on page 11](#)
- [Chapter 2, “JavaDoc API Reference,” on page 13](#)

Audience

This guide is intended for Certificate Server developers familiar with the Java programming language.

Feedback

We want to hear your comments and suggestions about this manual. Please use the User Comments feature at the bottom of each page of the online documentation and enter your comments there.

Documentation Updates

For the most recent version of this guide, see [Novell Certificate Server Classes for Java \(http://developer.novell.com/ndk/ncsjava.htm\)](http://developer.novell.com/ndk/ncsjava.htm).

Additional Documentation

For more comprehensive background information about setting up, managing, and troubleshooting this service, see the [Novell Certificate Server Administration Guide \(http://www.novell.com/documentation/lg/crt221ad/index.html\)](http://www.novell.com/documentation/lg/crt221ad/index.html).

The new Certificate Server functionality runs only on the same platforms as eDirectory 8.7 (see [Novell eDirectory 8.7 System Requirements \(http://www.novell.com/products/edirectory/sysreqs.html\)](http://www.novell.com/products/edirectory/sysreqs.html))

For Certificate Server source code projects, visit [Forge Project: Novell Certificate Server Libraries for C \(http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/project/?ncslib\)](http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/project/?ncslib) and [Forge Project: Novell Certificate Server Classes for Java \(http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/project/?ncsjava\)](http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/project/?ncsjava).

For help with Certificate Server problems or questions, visit the [Novell NCSLIB Support Forum](http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/newsportal/thread.php?group_id=1258&group=novell.devsup.ncsjava) (http://forge.novell.com/modules/xfmod/newsportal/thread.php?group_id=1258&group=novell.devsup.ncsjava).

NOTE: Because Certificate Server for Java is an Early Access API, there currently is no developer support forum for this component.

Documentation Conventions

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When a single pathname can be written with a backslash for some platforms or a forward slash for other platforms, the pathname is presented with a backslash. Users of platforms that require a forward slash, such as Linux or UNIX, should use forward slashes as required by your software.

The Novell® Certificate Server Classes for Java (JPKI) map all functionality of the Novell Certificate Server C APIs. In other words, anything that can be done in the C APIs can also be done in the Java API. JPKI closely resembles the C API so the learning curve of those using the C functions should be short.

For more information about the Novell Certificate Server C APIs, see [NDK: Novell Certificate Server Library for C Version 2](#) and [NDK: Novell Public Key Infrastructure Toolbox](#). To understand conceptual about the implementation of Novell Certificate Server, see [NDK: Novell Certificate Server APIs --- Overview](#).

1.1 Dependencies

JPKI depends on the C API native code, specifically PKIAPI and NPKIT. It therefore has the same dependencies as those libraries. The Java API is contained in npki.jar, which contains the JNI interface for both PKIAPI and NPKIT. It also contains helper classes that are used to pass parameters to the API and receive return values. Errors are thrown from calls to the API.

JPKI contains functions that enable you to manage and access certificates. NPKI methods require an authentication to eDirectory™, while the NPKIT methods are directory independent. A suggested implementation is to extend the NPKIAPI object and provide the connection information suited to your particular needs.

The new version of the PKI code (3.1x) will run on eDirectory, however new features are only supported in eDirectory 8.8.x and above (that is, although the features may work on eDir 8.7x, they have only been tested and are officially supported only on eDir 8.8x and above).

The new features, which are only supported on eDirectory 8.8, consist of the following:

- Certificate Server creation of CRL distribution points:
 - Functionality that creates and uses PKI Container object(s).
 - Functionality that creates and uses CRL Configuration object(s).
 - Functionality that creates and uses CRL Distribution Point object(s).
 - Issuing CRLs.
 - Revocation of certificates.
- Support for Subordinate CAs; that is, having the Organizational CA be subordinate to either a third-party CA or another eDirectory tree.
- Support for 4096 bit key size; that is, support for key-sizes greater than 2048 bits.

JavaDoc API Reference

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Click to open the on-line [JavaDoc API Reference and NPKIAPI_SAMPLE.java documentation](http://developer.novell.com/ndk/doc/ncsjava/jpki_enu/api/index.html) (http://developer.novell.com/ndk/doc/ncsjava/jpki_enu/api/index.html).

Revision History



Revision Date	Changes
March 1, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated Javadoc for 3.1.1 code release.• Updated Section 1.1, "Dependencies," on page 11.• Fixed broken links.
October 5, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transitioned to revised Novell documentation standards.
March 5, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated document to comply with requirements of Novell Forge.• Fixed broken links.
October 6, 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made technical corrections and fixed broken links.
June 9, 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rolled in the latest version of the 2.72.1 code, which includes all bug fixes for future releases• Made minor documentation updates.
February 18, 2004	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Made minor editorial revisions and updated broken links to Novell Certificate Server Libraries for C (http://developer.novell.com/ndk/ssocomp.htm).2. Revised Javadoc version to PKI_2.52. <p>2. As part of version PKI_2.52 revisions, added the following Java classes to the API (see the JavaDoc API Reference and NPKIAPI_SAMPLE.java documentation (http://developer.novell.com/ndk/doc/ncsjava/jpki_enu/api/index.html)):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">NPKIT_cacheNPKI_CertificateNameNPKI_CertificateNamesListNPKI_ErrorNPKI_ErrorList
October 8, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changed name from Certificate Server Java API to Novell Certificate Server Classes for Java.• Updated product registration and trademark information.
June 2003	Add Certificate Server Java API as a new NDK component.
