The Gpg4win Compendium

Secure e-mail and file encryption using GnuPG for Windows

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About this compendium

The Gpg4win Compendium consists of three parts:

- **Part I "For Novices"**: A quick course in Gpg4win.
- **Part II "For Advanced Users"**: Background information for Gpg4win.
- **Annex**: Additional technical information about Gpg4win.

Part I "For Novices" provides a brief guide for the installation and daily use of Gpg4win program components. The practice robot **Adele** will help you with this process and allow you to practice the de- and encryption process (using OpenPGP) until you have become familiar with Gpg4win.

The amount of time required to work through this brief guide will depend on your knowledge of your computer and Windows. It should take about one hour.

Part II "For Advanced Users" provides background information which illustrates the basic mechanisms on which Gpg4win is based, and also explains some of its less commonly used capabilities. Part I and II can be used independently of each other. However, to achieve an optimum understanding, you should read both parts in the indicated sequence, if possible.

The **Annex** contains details regarding the specific technical issues surrounding Gpg4win, including the GpgOL Outlook program extension.

Just like the cryptography program package Gpg4win, this compendium was not written for mathematicians, secret service agents or cryptographers, but rather was written to be read and understood **by anyone.**

The Gpg4win program package and compendium can be obtained at:
`http://www.gpg4win.org`

Legend

This compendium uses the following text markers:

- *Italics* are used for text that appears on a screen (e.g. in menus or dialogs). In addition, square brackets ~~[*buttons*]~~ are used to mark ==*[buttons]*==

  Sometimes italics will also be used for individual words in the text, if their meaning in a sentence is to be highlighted without disrupting the text flow, by using **bold** fond (e.g.*only* OpenPGP).

- **Bold** is used for individual words or sentences which are deemed particularly important and hence must be highlighted. These characteristics make it easier for readers to quickly pick up highlighted key terms and important phrases.

- `Typewriter font` ~~`Fixed tracking`~~ is used for all file names, paths, URLs, source codes, as well as inputs and outputs (e.g. for command lines).