

SharePoint 2007 invalidates digital signatures with Word 2003.

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.docmanagement/2007-01/msg01814.html>

- *From:* mwalz@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 19 Jan 2007 15:15:46 -0800
-

SharePoint 2007 document libraries appear to be writing hidden data into Word documents that causes the digital signatures in the document to become invalid (because the document appears to have been modified).

Specifically, digitally signed documents authored/signed with Word 2003 become invalid. However, digitally signed documents authored/signed with Word 2007 do not – they are able to maintain their validity.

Here is a sample of actions that can cause a Word digital signature to become invalid:

- Uploading a digitally signed document from the desktop into a SharePoint 2007 document library.
- Starting a workflow on a document library, if it is the first time that workflow has been used on the library, will invalidate the digital signatures of every document in the library.
- Editing the Association of a workflow template with a document library will invalidate the digital signatures of every document in the library.
- Adding new columns to the document library will invalidate the digital signature of every document in the library.
- Editing the properties of a document will invalidate the digital signature of the document.
- Events that write data to a property of a document when it is saved/updated will invalidate the digital signature of the document.

We are hoping someone can help us with this issue. We are using a Microsoft Partner's digital signature solution in our software and their signatures are becoming invalid too during the course of interacting with SharePoint 2007 document libraries. They are looking for advice on what part of the document SharePoint is changing that is causing their signatures to invalidate.