

Electronic Signatures

Why does Heffron use electronic signatures?

One of the main reasons Heffron began using electronic signatures was to remove the long delays that inevitably occur when a large package of documents is posted and needs to be returned. We have the uncertain timelines of Australia Post and the documents never arrive in the pristine state in which they left our office. Further, we are subject to the “kitchen bench effect” which we are all guilty of, opening a pack of documents that require action and parking them on the kitchen bench until we find them months later!

Heffron began using electronic signatures two years ago and our customers tell us they find it much quicker to get their financial accounts signed and their tax lodged, particularly when there are multiple people who need to sign, when trustees don't all live together or when the documents arrive when someone is away.

FAQs

How do I sign my documents electronically?

When your documents are ready for review and signing you will receive an email from Heffron via our electronic signing platform Annature. Click the button “review documents” to start signing. Our comprehensive user guide and demonstration video can be found here.

Can I use a smart phone or tablet to sign my documents?

Yes. Annature is available on mobile and tablet devices.

What is a password and why do I need one?

Heffron has recently implemented recipient authentication as an extra layer of security when accessing your documents via Annature. Upon receiving your Annature email, you will be asked to provide a valid password to continue to view the documents. When the email is created, Heffron sets the password and includes in the email a hint as to what your password is.

If you are unsure of your password and cannot access the document, please contact Heffron's Client Relations Team for assistance on 1300 433 3766 or clientsupport@heffron.com.au

Can I electronically sign documents while overseas?

Yes. This is one of the great benefits of Annature, you can review and sign your documents anywhere in the world.

FAQs

What if I want to use my real signature?

You can setup a signature or accept to use the signature provided to you by Annature. If you wish to set your own signature, sign by using your mouse, finger or stylus. Our clients find it is easier to set a signature when using a tablet or mobile device.

Why is Annature asking for my GPS location?

Annature uses the geolocation options built into most modern web browsers to track the approximate location of where a signing ceremony took place. This is an additional authentication method to help secure the validity of your signed documents. Sharing your location information is not mandatory, you can still sign your documents electronically if you choose to block geolocation.

What if I share an email address with another trustee?

If you share an email address with another member or trustee of the fund, each member will receive a signing email to your shared email address asking you to review and complete the documents. Check the name at the top of the email is correct so you know it's your signing pack.

How do I get a copy of the pack?

Once all parties have completed the documents you will receive an email to download the completed documents and either print or save for your records.

I am unsure about how safe Annature is. What assurance can Heffron provide me that this is a safe service to be using?

Here at Heffron, our customers are at the heart of everything we do and we take the privacy of your personal information very seriously. We have worked closely with Annature to verify that they are compliant with international information security standards. Annature have made security a top priority, and one of the ways they have demonstrated their commitment is by achieving ISO 27001 certification, a globally recognised standard for information security management systems. This certification was obtained just six months after the company was established, making Annature the fastest e-signing company to achieve this certification.

What data and information does Heffron share with Annature?

Heffron only provide Annature with the minimal client information which is the data in the Annature email. This may include, name, address, date of birth, full name and SMSF information for all SMSF members. This information is held temporarily by Annature and will expire and be permanently deleted after 42 days for completed documents and 70 days for incomplete documents.

FAQs

What transactional data does Annature know about me?

For the purpose of sending your documents, Annature temporarily knows:

- Name and email address of recipient
- Signature selected for E signature.
- IP address of the PC on which the signature was completed.
- The type of device which was used to provide the signature ex/ PC, Mobile, Tablet.
- The data and time of sending email, viewing email and signing document.
- Who was copied into the email to receive as well.

No document or financial data will be held by Annature on an extended basis.

Does Annature use cookies?

Yes, Annature uses cookies. Cookies are required for technical reasons in order for their website to operate. They refer to these as “essential” or “strictly necessary” cookies. They use these essential Cookies to:

- log you into the Website
- protect your security
- help them detect and fight spam, abuse and other activities that violate Annature’s user agreements and terms; and
- authenticate your access to the Website.

Can I turn cookies off when using Annature?

Yes. Heffron clients can turn off non-essential cookies, you can set your cookie preference specific to Annature by following the prompts that appear when you sign a document or by following the steps found ...

How long will Annature retain my document?

Heffron controls the data retention rules for Annature. Currently we will purge all Annature emails and their content 42 days after they are completed. In the instance that a document is not completed, Annature will retain it for 70 days after which point in time it will be purged.

Heffron control the storage and deletion for documents located in our account. Completed documents are automatically stored in Annature, but customers may choose to:

- Delete their documents
- Download their documents and print or save for their records

Read more about Annature’s data protection policy here.

Can Annature staff see the contents of my emails?

No, Annature staff have no ability to see the contents of the emails. Annature allows Heffron to control who can access client documents, which is limited to Heffron authorised users and the designated document recipients. Document content is encrypted upon upload and inaccessible by Annature employees.