NETSHIELD Custom Certificates

Overview

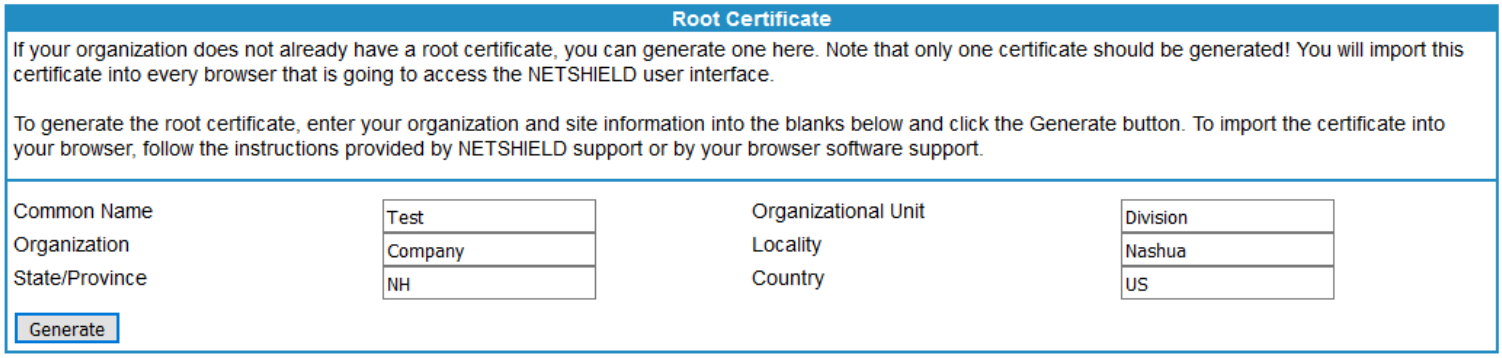
The self-signed certificates that ship with NETSHIELD will allow you to set up your appliance, but give security warnings in modern browsers. These security warnings may also affect your ability to use the NetSHIELD Command Center. To fix these issues, you can create trusted certificates for all your appliances.

IMPORTANT: Ensure all your appliances are updated to the latest patch before proceeding.

Create the Root Certificate

If your organization does not already have a root certificate, you can generate one here. Note that only one certificate should be generated! You will import this certificate into every browser that is going to access the NETSHIELD user interface.

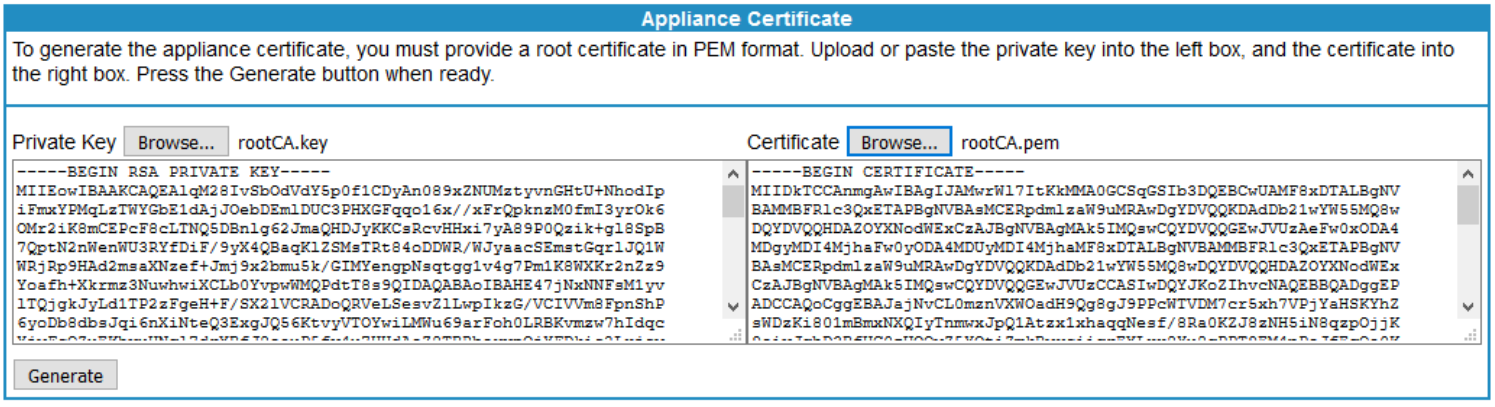
To generate the root certificate, enter your organization and site information into the blanks below and click the Generate button.



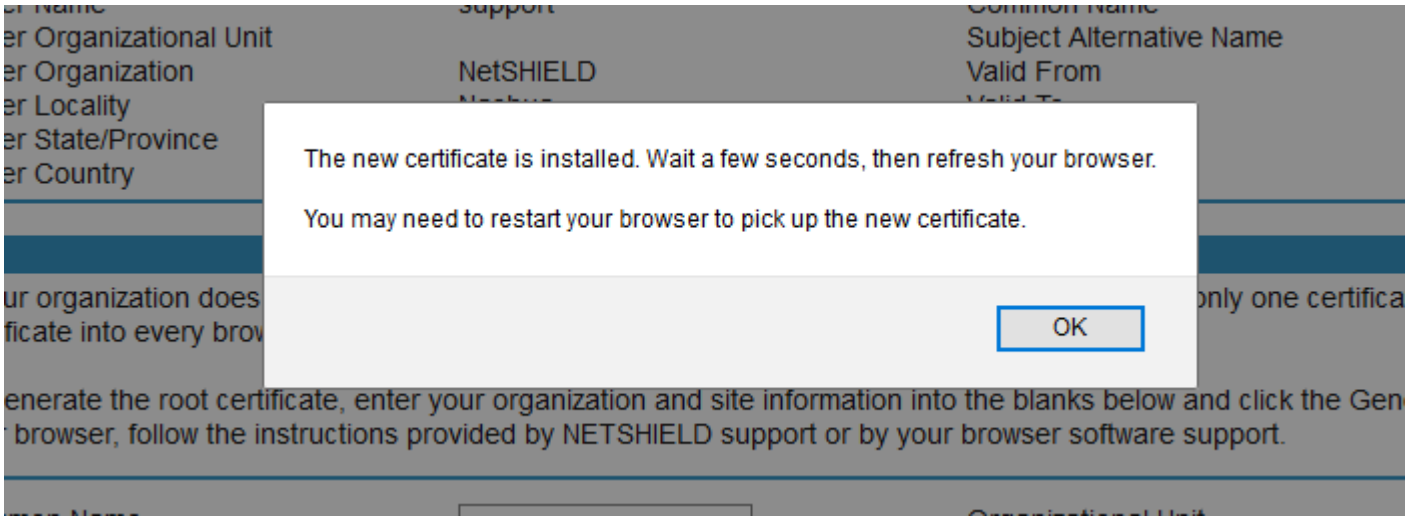
This will generate two files – rootCA.pem and rootCA.key. Save and store both of these files in a secure location. To import the certificate into your browser, follow the instructions provided in the last section or by your browser software support.

Create the Appliance Certificate

To generate the appliance certificate, you must provide a root certificate in PEM format. Upload or paste the private key (Ex. rootCA.pem) into the left box, and the certificate (Ex. rootCA.key) into the right box.
Press the Generate button when ready.



You will receive a message that the certificate is installed.



Install the Root Certificate

The root certificate (rootCA.pem) must be imported into every browser that will access the appliance. The procedure for doing this differs for every browser (and across operating systems).

Google Chrome

Click the menu button at the top right, then Settings. Go to Show Advanced Settings, Manage Certificates.
On Windows, click the Trusted Root Certification Authorities tab. On Linux, click the Authorities tab.
Click the Import... button and select the rootCA.pem file you created in the previous step. Exit the dialog and restart the browser.

Mozilla Firefox

Click the menu button at the top right, then Preferences. Go to Advanced, then Certificates, then the View Certificates button.
On Windows, click the Trusted Root Certification Authorities tab. On Linux, click the Authorities tab.
Click the Import... button, and select the rootCA.pem file you created in the previous step. Exit the dialog and restart the browser.

Other Browsers

Enter the Settings (or Preferences) area in your browser. Find a button marked something like Manage Certificates. It may be accessible via an advanced tab or dialog. Click the button to get the lists of which certificates are currently installed on your browser or workstation. Find a tab or area marked Authorities or Certificate Authorities, click it, and look for a button marked Import or Install. Click it and select the 'rootCA.pem' file you created in the previous step. Get out of the certificates dialog, and restart the browser.

For additional support, please refer to your browser's documentation or support information.