



# Seamless certificate automation at scale with **NetScaler** and **DigiCert**

Together, NetScaler and DigiCert deliver a  
seamless certificate lifecycle experience

#### **Products highlighted**

NetScaler Console

DigiCert CertCentral

DigiCert Trust Lifecycle Manager

### The Industry Problem: Shrinking Certificate Lifetimes

The SSL/TLS certificate ecosystem is undergoing a major shift. To improve internet security and reduce the window of exposure if a certificate or key is compromised, certificate lifetimes are being shortened across the industry — reduced from 398 days to 47 days. These changes are being driven by browser vendors, certificate authorities, and industry bodies like the CA/Browser Forum, reflecting a push toward stronger cryptographic agility and faster adoption of new standards.

#### This creates three key challenges for enterprises:

- **Frequent renewals** increase administrative burden.
- **Manual processes** are time-consuming and error-prone (CSR generation, certificate uploads, binding to vServers).
- **Missed expirations** are a leading cause of outages, leading to customer-facing downtime and reputational damage.

### Business Value (executive perspective)

From an executive standpoint, ACME + Zero-Touch in NetScaler Console provides:

- **Risk Reduction:** Automated renewals prevent costly outages and compliance gaps caused by expired certificates.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Significantly reduces manual effort and human error in certificate lifecycle management.
- **Agility at Scale:** Supports rapid certificate turnover required by industry changes (47-day validity and beyond).
- **Governance & Compliance:** Centralized dashboard, monitoring, and auditability align with enterprise security mandates.
- **Strategic Advantage:** By automating foundational security processes, IT teams can focus on innovation and delivering business outcomes.

**34%** of sites still have inadequate SSL/TLS security

Source: Qualys SSL Labs, SSL Pulse, June 2025



## The solution – Part 1: Zero-touch certificate management

### *Automated deployment of certificates*

NetScaler has introduced Zero-Touch Certificate Management (ZTCM) to address these challenges.

- **Automatic lifecycle handling:** Once certificates and keys are uploaded to the Console's repository, onboarded NetScaler appliances fetch, validate, and deploy the correct certificates automatically.
- **Hands-free renewals:** No binding required. Certificates are continuously fetched and updated across all NetScaler deployments.
- **Seamless experience:** The correct certificate is served dynamically at handshake based on SNI, removing the need for admins to configure bindings manually.

**Result:** Administrators save time, eliminate repetitive errors, and ensure continuous availability of secure services.

## The solution – Part 2: Automated certificate renewal powered by DigiCert and ACME

### *Automated renewal of certificates*

With DigiCert's leadership in digital trust, customers gain not only automation but confidence that their certificates meet compliance and security standards worldwide.

### **NetScaler Zero-Touch Certificate Management (ZTCM) integrates the ACME protocol for full end-to-end automation solving the renewal problem too**

- **Standards-based automation:** Through direct integration with DigiCert — a global leader in digital trust — NetScaler ZTCM extends into full end-to-end automation, from issuance through renewal.
- **Automated domain validation:** Console (via acme.sh) supports DNS-01, automatically provisioning validation records with supported DNS providers.

ZTCM ACME support ensures enterprises with hundreds or thousands of SSL-enabled vServers stay secure with minimal overhead.

## Use cases

- **Enterprise Web Applications:** Prevent downtime and expired-certificate incidents for public websites and APIs.
- **Hybrid & Multi-Cloud Deployments:** Centrally manage certificates across AWS, Azure, and on-premises appliances.
- **High-Scale Deployments:** Large enterprises with thousands of SSL VIPs gain the most value through automation.
- **VDI & Secure Access:** Support for CVAD scenarios such as authentication, enumeration, and session initiation.
- **DigiCert-First Automation:** Enterprises standardizing on DigiCert as their certificate authority can now automate issuance, deployment, and renewal in one integrated flow — no manual intervention required.
- **Compliance Without Complexity:** Organizations with stringent compliance needs can pair DigiCert's advanced validation and reporting with NetScaler's centralized dashboard for audit-ready operations.



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