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Certus Erasure User Manual

for v3.13.0



Certus Software GmbH

HRB 29785

Karl Nolan Strasse 3

86157 Augsburg

Germany

Tel: +49 (0) 821 - 650 688 - 0

Fax: +49 (0) 821 - 650 688 - 20

Email: contact@certus.software

Website: www.certus.software



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CHAPTER 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Please note that after successfully using the product on your storage devices, all the data contained will be destroyed in such way that it will be impossible to be recovered by any existing method or tool. After performing the Certus erasure procedure, your storage devices will be perfectly usable.

1.1. Certus Erasure installation prerequisites

Minimum system requirements to run Certus Erasure:

- x86 or x86-64 Pentium 4 or equivalent machine;
- 512 MB RAM memory;
- USB port;
- VGA video card (minimum screen resolution: 1024x768);
- Active Ethernet connection (optional for HASP solution).

Software requirements:

- CertusErasure-X.X.X.iso file downloaded from Certus Software Web Manager (CEWM) an online application used to store and manage Certus erasure reports <u>https://cloud.certus.software;</u>
- USB Flash drive;
- Computer running Microsoft Windows, Linux or MacOS family operating systems.

For Windows operating system, the user should install Win32 Disk Imager from **https://sourceforge.net/projects/win32diskimager** and use it to write Certus Erasure ISO image. For Linux and MacOS operating systems, the user should identify the USB flash drive in a terminal, unmount it and write Certus Erasure ISO image. A detailed description of the installation steps can be found in the Quick User Guide document, which can be downloaded from CEWM.

1.2. Certus Erasure online solution

Certus Erasure Web Manager (CEWM) is a management tool designed to integrate functionalities related to the erasures procedures performed through the Certus Erasure application.

The tool serves as a centralized control point, which manages users, erasure licenses and data erasure reports generated by Certus Erasure. Its usage offers clients the online solution to:

- create, edit, delete a group/user;
- transfer group/user data;
- check group/user activity;
- assign licenses to users;
- transfer licenses between users;
- suspend or activate user accounts;
- create, edit or delete a template erasure report;
- edit, delete, export reports;
- check report properties.



For more information regarding the CEWM tool please consult Certus Erasure Web Manager User Manual. To get access to this user manual, you must login into the CEWM tool from the link: <u>https://cloud.certus.software</u> and the select the Downloads module.

1.3. Certus Erasure offline solution

The offline solution, recommended by the Certus team, is represented by the HASP (Hardware Against Software Piracy) key. It is a management solution which enables the use of Certus Erasure software enforcing software protection and licensing.

To use the offline solution, first, the user must insert the HASP key into a USB slot on a computer and then login into the Certus Erasure application. The application will automatically start if the HASP key is recognized and validated by the application.

For more details regarding the HASP Key refer to the HASP Key User Guide available on CEWM.

NOTE: No internet connection is required while operating with the Certus Erasure software through the HASP key.

NOTE: A HASP Key solution is available on request at the <u>contact@certus.software</u> email address.

NOTE: It is highly recommended for the user to periodically check, at least once a week, for the latest version of Certus Erasure. Because of the lack of internet connectivity, the software is unable to check the latest version as it does in case of the online solution, therefore the operation must be done manually. To do this, access the Downloads module from CEWM (<u>https://cloud.certus.software</u>) and check the available software versions. If there's a higher version than the one you're currently using, please download it and use it to create a new bootable USB Flash Drive. Please check the Quick User Guide which can be found on the same page and follow the instructions presented in it to learn how you should use the Certus Erasure ISO image properly.

1.4. Recommendations for the user

The person using this software is advised to follow the guidelines offered by Certus team in the documents stored on CEWM, Downloads module – Certus Erasure Manual, Certus Erasure Quick User Guide and Certus Erasure Web Manager Manual.

WARNING:

The user can copy, install, access and benefit from using Certus Erasure Software, during the license term, only for his own internal operations.

The user shall:

- ensure that the Software is installed on designated equipment(s) only;
- keep a complete and accurate record of the use of the Software;
- notify Certus Software GmbH as soon as it becomes aware of any unauthorized use of the Software;
- not use or access the Software if he is or becomes a direct competitor of Certus Software GmbH, except with Certus Software GmbH prior written consent or for purposes of competitive benchmarking or similar purposes;



- not be allowed to commercially exploit the Software in any way;
- not produce any derivative works based on, any part of the Software for any reason or purpose;
- not be entitled to license, sublicense, sell, resell, transfer, assign, distribute, rent, to the maximum extent such restriction is permitted by applicable law;
- comply with all applicable data protection laws and not use the Software in contravention with such laws.



CHAPTER 2. LOGIN SCREEN

When Certus Erasure has booted successfully, the login screen is shown. The following credentials are asked for: *username*, *password* and *customer code*.

The login screen also contains **Wi-Fi**, **Internet connection**, **Help**, **Settings** and **Shutdown** buttons. Please refer to **Wi-Fi button**, **Internet connection icon**, **Help button**, **Settings button**, **Report an issue button** and **Shutdown button** chapters for more information.

Certus Erasure		9 9 2 0 1 0
	LOG IN	
	password customer code LOG IN weak with with weak	
SUPPORT Support@cettus.software Trips://support.cettus.software/servicedesk/customer/porta/[

Fig. 2.1 Login screen



CHAPTER 3. CERTUS ERASURE USER INTERFACE

The Certus Erasure user interface is divided into three main areas as follows: the **header** area, the **work** area and the **footer** area.

vices: 6 MODEL 4001ABD32V		2 ERAS	ε			3 REPORT	
MODEL					Eras		
						sure pattern: S	Standard Overwrite
		түре	BUS	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBI		STATUS
-IQUIADD32*		HDD	SATA	20 GB	9FFSD5HG	81.300 Pass 1/1	0 % (220.176MB/s) Time left 16 sec
AMSUNG PM81		HDD	SATA	10 GB	SOMZNEABA002	11 75.900 Pass 1/1	0 % (220.176MB/s) Time left 10 sec
ST49506JP		HDD	SATA	234 GB	MIMRQWH		0 % (220.176MB/s) Time left 4 min
GST3250EQ01		HDD	SATA	442 GB	HAK8675KEHL	71 400	0 % (220.176MB/s)
vices: 5		١	Work a	area			
IODEL	ТҮРЕ	BUS	SIZE	E SER	RIAL NUMBER	STATUS	END TIME
3250EQ01	HDD	SATA	442 0	бв на	K8675KEHLL	Erased	01.03.2017 11:29:45
G SDD PM99	SDD	SATA-US	B 219 G	SB SO	EMABA01111	Erased	01.03.2017 11:29:45
9506JP	HDD	SATA	234 0	БВ	MIMRQWH	Erased	01.03.2017 11:24:37
JNG PM81	HDD	SATA	10 G	B SOM	ZNEABA00211	Erased	01.03.2017 11:20:53
	ST49506JP GST3250EQ01 vices: 5 IODEL 3250EQ01 IG SDD PM99 49506JP UNG PM81	GST3250EQ01 vices: 5 IODEL TYPE 3250EQ01 HDD IG SDD PM99 SDD 49506JP HDD UNG PM81 HDD	GST3250EQ01 HDD vices: 5 HDDEL TYPE BUS 3250EQ01 HDD SATA IG SDD PM99 SDD SATA-US 49506JP HDD SATA UNG PM81 HDD SATA 4 storage devi	GST3250EQ01 HDD SATA Vices: 5 HDDEL TYPE BUS SIZE 3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 C 1G SDD PM99 SDD SATA-USB 219 C 49506JP HDD SATA 234 C UNG PM81 HDD SATA 10 G 4 storage device(s) set	GST3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB Work area Work area Work area ODEL TYPE BUS SIZE SEF 3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB HA IG SDD PM99 SDD SATA-USB 219 GB SOI 49506JP HDD SATA 234 GB IO UNG PM81 HDD SATA 10 GB SOM	GST3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHL Work area Work area ODEL TYPE BUS SIZE SERIAL NUMBER 3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHLL Identified 3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHLL Identified 32506JP HDD SATA 219 GB SOEMABA01111 Identified 49506JP HDD SATA 234 GB MIMRQWH Identified UNG PM81 HDD SATA 10 GB SOMZNEABA00211 Identified 4 storage device(s) selected (4 being erased)	ST49506/P HDD SATA 234 GB MIMRQWH Pass 1/1 GST3250E001 HDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHLL 71.400 Work area wices: 5 IODEL TYPE BUS SIZE SERIAL NUMBER STATUS 3250EQ01 HDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHLL Erased IG SDD PM99 SDD SATA 442 GB HAK8675KEHLL Erased IG SDD PM99 SDD SATA 234 GB MIMRQWH Erased I9506/P HDD SATA 234 GB MIMRQWH Erased UNG PM81 HDD SATA 10 GB SOMZNEABA00211 Erased 4 storage device(s) selected (4 being erased)



3.1. Header area

The header area contains information about the software in use, such as the software name and the version. The username and the available licenses are displayed on the left side of the header area, along with a button to refresh them. Wi-Fi button, Internet connection button, Help button, Settings button, Report an issue button, Shutdown button, date and time, View Report button and Hexviewer button are displayed on the right side of the header area.



Fig. 3.2 Header area



3.1.1. User and licenses

Logged in as Certus User - 960 licenses available \mathcal{O} This section of header area contains the username and the total number of the available licenses of the currently logged in person. The button next to it will allow you to initiate a request to CEWM for refreshing the settings and the number of available licenses.

3.1.2. Wi-Fi button

The user can connect to the internet through a Wi-Fi network by selecting the first button from the top right side of the main window from CE application. Then, after selecting the "Turn on wi-fi interface" function, a list with all the Wi-Fi available networks will appear in the Wi-fi menu. After selecting a Wi-Fi network, If the network is secured you will need to provide a password to connect to it, otherwise the system will connect automatically to the related Wi-Fi network. Once you're connected, the WI-FI network will be marked with blue.

NOTE: The machine on which Certus Erasure runs must have a Wi-Fi card.



Fig. 3.3 Password window for wi-fi

3.1.3. Internet connection icon

Certus Erasure monitors the internet connection and offers a set of icons, which shows its status, located in the header area. The user can, at any time, hover the mouse on the displayed icon to read the status of the internet connection.



For an active internet connection and a successful connection to Certus server, the icon will be a white checkmark on green background.



In case of a detected internet connection with a problematic connection to Certus server, the icon will be a white exclamation mark on yellow background. For this situation, the user is asked to click on the icon for resetting the internet connection. If this action is successful, the icon will become green, if not, it will remain the same. For the second case, the user must check the settings of the router or call the support number displayed on Certus Software website www.certus.software.



The icon will be a white "x" on red background in case the software cannot reach the cloud server. There are three different scenarios which can cause this issue:

- The machine is not connected to a network you should plug a network cable in the erasure machine or check for faulty cables;
- DNS resolution fails you should check your network configuration;
- The cloud server is malfunctioning you should contact Certus Software support immediately.

3.1.4. Help button

Click on the **Help** button to open a window in which the Certus Erasure User Manual is displayed for the current version of Certus Erasure.



Fig. 3.4 User Manual window

3.1.5. Settings button

Q

The **Settings** button function is organized in 4 tabs:

- **General** with settings for language, digital fingerprint, screensaver and update ISO functionality;
- Erasure where the user can set the erasure pattern and the verification percentage;
- **Proxy** where the user can choose how to connect to internet: with or without proxy.
- Auto where the user can set several options related to automatic procedures.

Note that in the login screen the available tabs are General and Proxy. In the main interface the available tabs are General and Erasure. The Auto tab is available at all times, but it's options can only



be modified in the presence of a HASP key. Alternatively, those settings can be changed in the CEWM and at the next login in Certus Erasure, they will be imported from the CEWM.

3.1.5.1. Language and keyboard tab

General		
Language	Choose the language to be displayed	
Digital fingerprint	English	
Screensaver		
Update media	Choose the keyboard layout to be used	
Erasure	English (United States)	
Ргоху		
Aute		
Settings		
Login		
Wi-Fi		
		-

Fig. 3.5 Settings – Language tab

The user has the possibility to change the display language (which takes effect immediately) and between different keyboard layouts.

3.1.5.2. Digital Fingerprint tab

When enabled, Certus Erasure will digitally sign each storage device that is erased successfully. The digital signature consists of the following information:

- the time at which the erasure procedure took place;
- the name and the verification percent of the pattern that was used to erase the storage device;
- the version of the software that has been used;

SETTINGS	
General	
Language	When enabled, the application will automatically perform a digital fingerprint on each storage device that is erased successfully
Digital fingerprint	Enable Digital Fingerprint
Screensaver	
Update media	
Louise .	
Proxy	
Auto	
- 5	
SAVE	





After performing an erasure procedure, the user has the possibility to verify if the digital fingerprint took place. To do this, the user must select the Hexviewer button from the CE main window. Then in the "HEXVIEWER Tool" window, the user must select the storage device from the list and selector sector 0 to be displayed. In the ASCII table the information that has been signed on the storage device can be seen.

elected st Hitachi HCC K				203	<mark>42BL</mark>	0]]93 /	P (3:		-	4244	7	•	H																
exadecima Start addr								-		nt																			
100000000 100000030 100000048 1000000048 1000000078 100000009 1000000048 1000000048 1000000048 100000018 1000000138 1000000150 1000000180 10000000180 10000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 1000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000180 1000000180 1000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000180 10000000000	e0 d0 00 00 38 e4 6e 20 32 3a 77 72 70 65 43 65 00 00	ca b 00 0 5c b 65 7 35 3 69 7 72 6 72 7 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0	f 9d 0 01 7 70 2 61 7 20 4 65 3 65 4 70 0 00	bb 9 00 0 54 6 73 2 2c 2 2c 2 6e 7 73 2 00 0	33 1 c 30 00 58 69 55 64 73 69 20 77 45 72 30 00	dc 64 73 20 6e 69 67 61 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	9d e 03 0 20 6 61 7 67 2 67 2 67 2 65 2 73 7 00 0 00 0	4 000 6 0 000 6 4 65 7 4 20 6 5 32 8 20 6 0 00 6 0 00 7 2 0 00 6 0 000 6 0 00 6 00 6 00 6 0 000 6 000 6 000 6 000 6 000 6 000 6 000 6 0000	 C8 78 76 31 74 61 00 	4e 50 9b 78 69 63 37 2e 61 6e 20 33 50 6 20 33 50 6 20 30 00 00 00	: b7 3 b7 3 b7 3 65 3 64 2 25 77 3 2e 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0	80 20 38 61 20 65 38 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0	82 73 98 78 68 61 2e 31 72 64 72 65 72 65 2e 31 00 00 00	a b7 3 b7 2 30 4 20 5 72 2 0d 5 72 2 0d 9 00 9 00 9 00 9 00 9 00 9 00 9 00 9	00 e8 20 31 69 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 0 844 0 622 6 377 3 766 6 77 6 666 7 700 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0	0 00 4 08 5 65 31 72 9 20 9 20 0 00	. 8 12 9		 	.s . n . g 	 d a t	x e v S t 	N 7 a P 	x c e c 0 n d %	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.z .x ha .2 rd	 s 0 1 0	

Fig. 3.7 Sector 0 of a digitally signed storage device

3.1.5.3. Screensaver tab

The user has the possibility to modify the following screensaver options:

- enable or disable screensaver by checking or unchecking the corresponding box.
- enable or disable the digital fingerprint feature.
- choose the way to clear the warning flash which notifies the errors of the erasure processes; the user has the option of clearing it after screen reinitialization or after the erasure report is saved.
- choose the information displayed regarding the progress of the erasure process progress referenced to the longest time-consuming device (furthest device from finishing) or progress referenced to the shortest time-consuming device (closest device to finishing).
- choose the time-out number of seconds before screensaver display; time cannot be less than 5 seconds; the default value is 60 seconds.



General		
Language	When enabled, the screensaver wi	II appear on your monitor with a status of the erasure process
Digital fingerprint	Enable screensaver	
Screensaver	Clear warning flash after :	 Screensaver reinitialization Report saved
Update media		
	Progress referenced to :	 Furthest device from finishing Closest device to finishing
Proxy		
Auto	Time-out: 50	seconds.

Fig. 3.8 Settings – Screensaver tab

3.1.5.4. Erasure tab

The erasure tab contains the main settings which are used when wiping devices: **erasure pattern** and **verification**.

Certus Erasure currently provides 14 *erasure patterns* which are detailed in the **ERASURE PATTERNS** chapter. The *verification* setting lets the user set a percentage of the overwritten data to be verified, in order to be sure that the erasure process successfully took place; the verification value can be set from 1% to 100%, the default being 1%.

NOTE: Please pay attention when configuring the erasure settings, and set the appropriate values according to the chosen standard and your internal security requirements, before starting the erasure process.

SETTINGS	
General	Choose the pattern you want to use for the erasure process
Language	Standard Overwrite
Digital fingerprint	The verification process starts after the erasure has been completed
Screensaver	VERIFICATION
Update media	1%
Erasure	STEP WRITTEN VALUE 1 0x00
Proxy	
Auto	
SAVE	CANCEL

Fig. 3.9 Settings - Erasure tab



3.1.5.5. Proxy tab

A proxy can be configured for connecting to the internet through it in the proxy tab. Note that if the connection to the proxy server requires authentication, they must be completed in the respective fields.

SETTINGS	
General Language Digital fingerprint	No proxy ○ Manual proxy settings:
Screensaver Update media	Host name: Port: o Proxy requires explicit authentication Username
Ersame Proxy Auto	Password
SAVE	CANCEL

Fig. 3.10 Settings - Proxy tab

3.1.5.6. Automatic procedures tab

3eneral	The automatic settings can only be modified in the presence of a HASP key or on the CEWM!
Language	Automatically digitally sign the storage device
Digital fingerprint	Automatically unfreeze
Screensaver	Automatically send erasure report
Update media	Automatically start erasure after login: Automatically erase SSD's with ATA Secure Erase
	(delay in seconds)
Proxy	
Auto	Select the erasure report name pattern:
Settings	
Login	
Wi-Fi	Save tettingi clear settings



The Auto Settings tab provides the user with the following options:

- Automatically digitally sign the storage device
 - When enabled, the application will automatically perform a digital fingerprint on each storage device whose erasure has finished with success;



- Automatically unfreeze
 - When enabled, the application will automatically perform an unfreeze operation when detecting a storage device which is **FROZEN**;
- Automatically send erasure report
 - When enabled, the application will automatically upload the erasure report after each erasure that finishes;
- Automatically start erasure after logging in
 - When enabled, the application will automatically select all the storage devices in the table and start an erasure on each of them;
 - If the user whishes this automatic erasure procedure to be delayed with a certain period, he can set up an optional delay in seconds. The application will display a window with a countdown timer related to that delay, and allow the user to either stop the automatic erasure or allow it to continue.

AUTOMATIC ERASURE		
Note: Pressing the pressing the CAN	c erasure enabled, begining process in: 12 seconds STOP button will stop the automatic erasure, ICEL button will close this window but allow itomatic erasure to continue.	
STOP	CANCEL	

Fig. 3.12 Automatic erasure window

- Automatically erase SSD with ATA Secure Erase
 - When enabled with the automatic erasure, the application will automatically perform the ATA Secure Erase on all the storage devices that are SSD's;
- Customize the report name
 - When enabled, the document ID of the erasure will be set with the following format:
 - Serial number of the motherboard on which the application is running
 - Underscore character (_)
 - Serial number of the first storage device in the table
 - In case there are no storage devices detected, the last part will be comprised of a default value "no_storage_device".

Note: The options above can be modified either on CEWM, if the operator has been provided with the ability to edit his automatic settings (if not, they can be set by the administrator), either on Certus Erasure if the operator has used a HASP key to log in.

The **Auto Login** tab provides the user with the possibility to save the credentials on the media, so that the next time the application boots up, it will automatically try to log in with those credentials. When choosing to save the credentials, Certus will verify if the credentials are valid and only if they pass the



validation they are saved on the media. The user also has the possibility to clear the credentials from the media.

SETTINGS		
SETTINGS General Language Digital fingerprint Screensaver Update media Erraure	Username Password Customer code Delay: 5 seconds Save credentials Clear credentials	
Proxy Auto		
Settings Login		
Wi-Fi		
SAVE		ANCEL

Fig. 3.13 Settings - Auto login tab

If the application detects saved credentials on the media, it will display a window in which the user has the possibility to stop the automatic login procedure.

AUTOMATIC LOGIN
Automatic login enabled, begining process in: 27 seconds Note: Pressing the STOP button will stop the automatic login, pressing the CANCEL button will close this window but allow automatic login to continue.
STOP

Fig. 3.14 Automatic login window

Note: After clearing the media, a reboot is required for the change to take place.

The **Auto Wi-Fi** tab provides the user with the possibility to save the information used to connect to a wireless network, so that the next time the application boots up, it will automatically try to connect to that wireless network. When choosing to save the credentials, Certus will verify if the wireless network is present and attempt to connect to it. If the connection succeeds, then Certus will save the data on



the media, if the connection fails, it will not save the data and inform the user that the network is unreachable.

SETTINGS		
General		
Language	Wi-Fi Name	
Digital fingerprint	Password	
Screensaver	Show password	
Update media	Save connection Clear connection	
Eresure		
Ргоху		
Auto		
Settings		
Login		
WI-FI		
SAVE		CANCEL

Fig. 3.15 Settings – Auto Wi-Fi tab

Note: After clearing the media, a reboot is required for the change to take place.

3.1.6. Screensaver

The Certus screensaver shows the progress of all erasure processes on the computer. It displays:

- the erasure progress bar;
- a percentage of the average progress of the erasure processes;
- the average time left to complete the erasure(s).



Fig. 3.16 Screensaver – progress bar





If any errors occur during the erasure process, the screensaver will provide a notification of this by shifting the color of the progress bar between grey (default color) and red.



The screensaver provides a good overview of the result, whether all erasure processes are successful (green icon) or at least one erasure process is failed/canceled (red icon).



Fig. 3.18 Screensaver – Successful erasure



Fig. 3.19 Screensaver – Failed erasure

3.1.7. Update ISO

General			
Language	Bootup firmware mode	Clear settings from media	
Digital fingerprint	UEFI (default)	Clear login settings	
Screensaver		Clear wifi settings	
Update media			
Erasure	UPDATE MEDIA		
Proxy			
Auto			

Fig. 3.17 Settings – Update Media

The application will verify if it is currently running the latest available version when the user logs in, and in case it detects a newer version on the CEWS (Certus Erasure Web Server), it will notify the user by displaying a pop-up in which he is prompted to update his version.

To update the Certus Erasure software, the user should press the F3 key (or click on the Settings icon), and there go the Update Media section where he should choose the type of ISO to download (whether



UEFI or **BIOS**). It is recommended to use the same type as he previously used for installing Certus Erasure on the USB.

UEFI and BIOS represent two firmware interfaces for computers which are used at the startup of the computer to initialize the hardware components and start the operating system stored on a storage device. The difference between them resides in the way they boot up the system. The user is advised to first try to use the BIOS ISO image. In case this fails, he should try the UEFI ISO image.

Note that the user also has the possibility to remove any type of stored automatic settings on the media if he wants to. To remove them, the user must check any of the three boxes before pressing the **UPDATE MEDIA** button.

After that, the user must make sure that the USB stick used to start Certus Erasure is still plugged into the computer, and he should press the **UPDATE MEDIA** button. If no error occurs during the process of updating the software, the user will be notified, after the process is finished, that the update is successful and he should reboot the computer. The errors that can occur during the process are the following:

1. Target media is up to date!

This means that the user is already running the latest available version of Certus Erasure.

2. No target media connected!

This means that there is no USB stick with Certus Erasure installed on it currently plugged into the computer. Please insert your USB stick with Certus Erasure installed on it.

3. Not enough RAM!

This means that the computer where Certus Erasure is running has an insufficient amount of RAM available for the process to begin. The user is advised to use Certus Erasure on a computer with more amount of RAM available.

4. Integrity check failed!

This means that the file that has been downloaded is corrupted and cannot be written to the disk. The user is advised to reboot Certus Erasure and try again.

5. Target unmount failed!

This means that the USB stick plugged into the computer has failed to unmount itself. The user is advised to use another USB port to plug the stick.

6. Too many target devices!

This means that there is more than one USB stick with Certus Erasure on it that are plugged into the computer. The user is advised to remove all other USB devices and keep only one USB with Certus Erasure installed on it.



7. Download failed!

This means that an error has occurred during the download of the ISO image. The user should check his internet connection, reboot the computer and try again.

8. Write to target failed!

This means that an error has occurred during the writing of the ISO image to the USB stick. The user is advised to use another USB slot for the USB device with Certus on it.

9. Target media unplugged during writing!

This means that the USB stick has been unplugged while the ISO image was still being written to it. The user should not remove the USB device until the application notifies him that the update has taken place.

3.1.8. Report an issue button

If issues are found, they can be reported by pressing **Report an issue** button. Inside Report an issue window, the user can write a description of the problem encountered while using Certus Erasure.

REPORT AN ISSUE	
Description *	
* required	0 / 255
GENERATE	CANCEL

Fig. 3.20 Report an issue – Description

Pressing the **Generate** button leads to an XML report which can be saved to a removable device or can be uploaded to server.



REPORT AN IS	SSUE		
Report name	log_08_02_1713_58_43_3	176571226.xml	
	1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?≻		
<report></report>			
≺user_id≻			
	ne≻vasea≺/username≻		
	er_code>2		
	nt_id>821746487 <td>nt_id></td> <td></td>	nt_id>	
	3-02-17 13:58:43		
	≻CertusErasure-3.8.0≺/versic	n>	
<certus_issu< td=""><th></th><td></td><td></td></certus_issu<>			
	name="issue">	20. states	
	y name="user_comment"≻31	.23	
	y name="system_status">		
			MTNfNThfNDNfMTc2NTcxMjI2VVQJAAMYJJtYEySbW
			UEgUGRL5kYitSTl2PPr32pSktmizDg0J+spUhisJVZf
			1HOrHBJHB5xO3J9j0S3AbccEopWuVNTztqjSzL3Z6
			P9Pzh4v3gfKcH0cJ1yAPPWvAW+e30Crn1m2Kvws
			GDUK2laS1Wrynt5XLu2lZsQhgeccOtCWEg/XturyJO
			ge9ljte1Hgz+cwwC1+6d5EHe79d+UGDyS0A3cZ7
			IZOn9UOqDPnMEt2Kmq0F0KcdBNaD+KmM+ByG
			Cwn29GR25csLw1J6P2VZucgf1JT/QAwwrAE6F89k
			ZLXzjKlel1L3aeJW0mT4x500sXMmSdNnVN1YscMnv
			S63eu35MwsI9jbwvC8cLyLKh3bPuLxdhZbP7W7Jb
			sgxvAPHoWMpnz+1P55/IW+f3Qhj0AgPAs8XZgQr
			95aqqUplR/+UNLymbdhAlOF4ubeMNPYUzJ8hqPB1
			f2STpR9uynyGQD4ic2Y+0xvd7PNS3YKx/+x7qwx+
			FVPIwipIXHUVufNavjR/cMOoFkBLvHvL7a9vHx+Kgi3
			rqm2qDeCNulo9vxasvLd7HieDTo85tlKqUrpgXTfe
			u1Pyh0f8nJ6+0+ip44Zfn6jbE6LN6gqLPG0UDDu
			Rete4Katce24Uwj5g/VvMSpT8LrZB8FD8b9jRao9
			Zm6o3n6M7MPbqvt5//DN3tFmkYjWasu/jS1HSj+S nPf/toi195Xz//mKQdD656MllwwAUxtAjBnfykH3VUQ
			1PDIWwPn2DoYNdT6wfLGWK070QCQ5XSdCGKntTl
			DM0wMiswbulNVAoNEvGmALIcamID0euiPPSiVD3ct
Select external			
Select external	device		
			✓ C
UPLOAD	D SAVE		
			CANCEL

Fig. 3.21 Report an issue – XML report

If the upload to server or the saving to removable device is successful, one of the following windows will appear:



Fig. 3.22 Report saved successfully to server

Fig. 3.23 Report saved successfully to external device

If the upload to server or the saving to removable device is unsuccessful, one of the following windows will appear:





Fig. 3.24 Report saved unsuccessfully to server

Report could not be saved to external device.
CLOSE

Fig. 3.25 Report saved unsuccessfully to external device

3.1.9. Automatic issue report

Should the application encounter a critical error and crash or shut down, a log file will be automatically created with the error details and the application will be restarted. After restarting, it will first present to the user the option to upload to the CEWM or save the log and upload it on another computer so that the Certus team can analyze it and come back with a resolution as to why the error occurred.

File name:	log 24 11 17 15 28 27 272225552.xml
Applicatio	on crash detected.
	was automatically created.
You can s	end it to the server or save it locally to upload it from another computer.
xml vers</th <td>ion-"1.0" encoding-"UTF-8" standalone-"yes"?></td>	ion-"1.0" encoding-"UTF-8" standalone-"yes"?>
<report></report>	
<user< th=""><td>_id> username>Certus User </td></user<>	_id> username>Certus User
	customer code>10000
	email>_code>rood>_code>rood>
	document id>249566529
	date>24-11-17 13:24:05
	irsion>CertusErasure-3.11.0
<td></td>	
	rtus_issue_report>
	<entries name="issue"> <entry name="user comment">User comment.</entry></entries>
ontry no	<entry name="user_comment">bser comment.</entry>
WnV4CwA8 C2LKVarV 9J4c2jZl0P 93800JHK5 6LPK1 KpZc m12yFeMH 64WmETZ wRJAXQIXP pIb5NB6r 88//Pi+BKv G4c2W0K WQ+U3FE 10D5T9X+ PL6thUtS E9h 6tJ5Y2	CAMAAInreEsAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

Fig. 3.26 Automatic issue window

Note: This issue window will appear before the login window.

3.1.10. RAM monitoring

The application constantly monitors the available RAM and should it ever encounter a situation where the amount of available RAM is insufficient, it will notify the user to save or upload the report and reboot the machine.





Fig. 3.27 RAM notification window

3.1.11. Shutdown button

To shut down the machine click the **Shutdown** button. The user can confirm the shutting down of the machine by pressing **Shutdown** button or cancel the action by pressing **Cancel** button.

The Reboot button allows restarting the machine on which Certus Erasure software is running

To access this function, the user should press the Shutdown button, from the header Area and then click on the **Reboot** button C from the new opened window.

The Log off button allows the user to log off the current account and go back to the Login window.

To access this function, the user should press the Shutdown button, from the header Area and then click on the **Log off** button from the new opened window.



Fig. 3.28 Shutdown dialog

If one or more erasures took place and no report has been saved, a different pop-up window appears.



- If the user clicks the **Shutdown** or the **Reboot** button, the action will be confirmed, but no report will be saved;
- If the user clicks Save button, he will be redirected to Save report dialog;
- If the user clicks **Cancel** button, the action will be canceled.



Fig. 3.29 Shutdown confirmation dialog

3.1.12. View Report button

VIEW/SAVE REPORT Pressing this button opens the Data Erasure Report. The report contains detailed information regarding:

- the document document ID, report date, software version, operator and custom fields;
- the system hardware information about the erasure machine;
- the erasure information about erased device(s) and erasure process results.



REPORT			Certus Erasur
	DO	CUMENT INFO	
DOCUMENTID:	155888260	OPERATOR:	CertuS
REPORT DATE:	24.11.2017 12:20:47 (+0200)	SOFTWARE VERSION:	3.11.0
REMARKS:		CUSTOM1:	
CUSTOM2:		CUSTOM3:	
CUSTOM4:		CUSTOM5:	
MANUFACTURER:	VMware, Inc.	SERIAL NUMBER:	VMware-56 4d 56 63 11 8a d8 b7-86 38 2d 0d a5 55 86 83
CHASIS TYPE:	Other	MOTHERBOARD:	0d a5 55 86 83 Intel Corporation; 440BX Desktop Reference Platform
MODEL:	VMware Virtual Platform	SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION(UUID):	63564D56-8A11-B7D8-8638-2D0DA5558683
BIOS:	Phoenix Technologies LTD; Version	n: 6.00; Release date: 07/02/2015	
MEMORY SLOT 1:	Not Specified; 2048 MB; Unknown;	DIMM; DRAM - EDO	
MEMORY SLOT 2:	Not Specified; 512 MB; Unknown; D	IMM; DRAM - EDO	
MEMORY INFO:	Total memory: 2.5 GB; Number of	memory slot: 128	
GRAPHICS CARD:	VMware SVGA II Adapter		
SOUND CARD:	Not present		
NETWORK ADAPTER:	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. [AMI 255.255.255.0	0] 79c970 [PCnet32 LANCE]; 00:50:56:2d	1:57:30; 192.168.72.150; 192.168.72.2;
OPTICAL DRIVE:	NECVMWar: Model: VMware IDE CD	R10: Revision: 1.00	

Fig. 3.30 View report window

To download the report, select the "SAVE" button, otherwise select "CANCEL".

After selecting the "SAVE" button, a popup window appears ("SAVE Report") which gives the opportunity to the user to do the following:

- assigning a lot ID for the report (for more details regarding the lots refer to the CEWM User manual)
 - the refresh button next to the list of lots will synchronize the list of lots from CE with the one from CEWM;
- uploading the report to the Certus Erasure Web Manager (CEWM) application
- fill any of the custom fields (note that the name of the custom fields is by default "Custom 1..." but if the operator changes the name of these fields on CEWM, those changes will be reflected in the application and instead of "Custom 1..." it will display the name set on that field on CEWM);
- downloading the erasure report to an external removable device in XML, PDF or HTML format
- selecting the status of the erasures included in the report:



- "Successful only" will include in the report only the erasures that have been finished successfully;
- **"All "**will include in the report every erasure, including the ones that were not finished successfully;

SAVE REPORT	
SAVE REPORT	
File name:	certus_187006728
Customl	
Custom2	
Custom3	
Custom4	
Custom5	
customs	
Assign lot ID:	-
5	
Specify report destination	
Upload on server	
Certus Erasure Web Ma https://cloud.certus.sof	nager [Upload the erasure report to remote management server. It can be found later on itware.]
	,
Save on removable of save on removable on	levice
Local removable storag	e device [Save the erasure report on local removable storage device.]
Select driv	/e:
Select file format:	Erasures included into PDF:
PDF VXML	HTML O Successful only
UPLOAD	SAVE

Fig. 3.31 Save Report window

If the upload to server/saving to removable device is successful, one of the following windows will appear:





Fig. 3.33 Report saved successfully to external device

If the upload to server/saving to removable device is unsuccessful, one of the following windows will appear:



Report could not be sent to server
CLOSE

Fig. 3.34 Report saved unsuccessfully to server

Report could not be saved to external device.
CLOSE

Fig. 3.35 Report saved unsuccessfully to external device

3.1.13. Hexviewer button



This button shows the visual content of a storage device in hexadecimal format. Hexviewer allows the user to see the hex-format pattern of the erasure result.

IEXVIEWER TOOL							
Use this tool to view the data stored on each HDD sector. Selected storage device							
MAware Virtual SATA Hard Drive-000000000000000000000000000000000000							
H < D / 6291455 > H							
Hexadecimal data for current sector (512 bytes)							
Start address - Hexadecimal content - ASCII content							
CLOSE							

Fig. 3.36 Hex viewer

3.2. Work area

Work area contains:

- the graphic description of the 3-step process Prepare, Erase, Report;
- the table of information regarding the detected storage devices;
- the current lot and pattern that have been selected;
- the table of information regarding the operated storage devices.



er of detected	l storage devices: 6		Lot: 12	23456	789	Erasu	re pattern: Sta	andard Overwrite	
VENDOR	MODEL	(3	TYPE E	ius	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBER		STATUS	
Toshiba	MQ01ABD32V	3	HDD S	ATA	20 GB	9FFSD5HG	81.300 9 Pass 1/1	% (220.176MB/s) Time left 16 sec	П
Samsung	SAMSUNG PM81		HDD S	ATA	10 GB	SOMZNEABA00211	75,900 Fass 1/1	% (220.176MB/s)	11
Seagate	ST49506jP		HDD S	ATA	234 GB	MIMRQWH	73.800 Pass 1/1	% (220.176MB/s) Time left 4 min	I
Hitachi	HGST3250EQ01		HDD S	ATA	442 GB	HAK8675KEHLL	71.400	% (220.176MB/s)	U
er of operated	d storage devices: 5	Түре	BUS	SIZE	SEF	NAL NUMBER	STATUS	END TIME	
Hitachi	HGST3250EQ01	HDD	SATA	442 GE	в на	K8675KEHLL	Erased	01.03.2017 11:2	9:4
Samsung	SAMSUNG SDD PM99	SDD	SATA-USB	219 GE	s soi	EMABA01111	Erased	01.03.2017 11:25	9:4
Seagate	ST49506JP	HDD	SATA	234 GE	3	MIMRQWH	Erased	01.03.2017 11:24	4:3

Fig. 3.37 Work area

3.2.1. Detected storage devices

The total number of the detected storage devices, the currently used lot and erasure pattern and the refresh button are present on top of the table.

The user can select in CEWM a default lot to be assigned to it's account so that it is automatically selected by the application after logging in. If there is no default lot selected, then the lot label will not be visible after logging into the application. The user can assign a lot from the "Save Report" window. See <u>View Report button</u> section. After a lot is selected, it will be displayed above the detected storage devices. The user can also click on the lot and it will automatically open the "Save Report" window so another one can be selected.

The table contains information about the storage devices detected by the erasure machine: vendor, model, type, bus, size, serial number and status. The status column presents erasure information: percentage, speed, pass and time left.

For multiple erasures, the user can select all drives using the checkbox located at the top right corner of the table.

Number of detected st	orage devices: 6		Lot: 12	3456789	Erasure	pattern: Standard Overwrite 🛛 😋
VENDOR	MODEL	ТҮРЕ	BUS	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBER	STATUS 🗌
Toshiba	MQ01ABD32V	HDD	SATA	20 GB	9FFSD5HG	81.300 % (220.176MB/s) Pass 1/1 Time left 16 sec
Samsung	SAMSUNG PM81	HDD	SATA	10 GB	SOMZNEABA00211	75.900 % (220.176MB/s) Pass 1/1 Time left 10 sec
Seagate	ST49506JP	HDD	SATA	234 GB	MIMRQWH	73.800 % (220.176MB/s) Pass 1/1 Time left 4 min
Hitachi	HGST3250EQ01	HDD	SATA	442 GB	HAK8675KEHLL	71.400 % (220.176MB/s)



The erasure process cannot be performed on password protected devices or freeze locked drives. Certus Erasure shows these statuses by displaying the "locked" icon in red color for frozen drives and in yellow color for password protected devices.

VENDOR	MODEL	ТҮРЕ	BUS	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBER	STATUS	
Western Digital	WDC WD5000L12X-21UJGT0	HDD	SATA-USB	516 GB	WD-WX41A54J2877	Frozen	•





VENDOR	MODEL	ТҮРЕ	BUS	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBER	STATUS	
SanDisk	SanDisk SDSSDA120G	HDD	SATA-USB	120 GB	155332400921	Password protected	6

Fig. 3.40 Password protected storage device

The user is invited to remove the password protection by clicking on the yellow icon. The window that appears allows typing the password and validating it. If the user is not aware of a password being set on the drive, it is recommended to check the documentation of the storage device in question or contact the drive manufacturer/provider.

Device is currently	locked with passwor	d.
Please type the password	d and press Validat (e button.
VALIDATE	c	

Fig. 3.41 Password removal

Certus provides the overview of the removal result, whether it is successful or unsuccessful (wrong password or failed password removal).



Fig. 3.42 Successful password removal

Fig. 3.43 Wrong password





Fig. 3.44 Failed password removal

Certus detects if at least one of the drives about to be erased is freeze locked. When a drive is freeze locked, Certus notifies the user by displaying a red lock icon. Pressing this icon and clicking the ok button from the new opened window, will prompt Certus to perform an unfreeze operation which will power cycle the machine (the machine is put to sleep, the screen blanks out for a couple of seconds and then the machine is woken up). As the machine is power cycled, Certus attempts to remove the freeze locks on all locked drives at once. If this process is successful, the red icon will be removed for all the locked drives.



Fig. 3.45 Device is frozen

Caution! On some hardware configurations, the screen might not turn back on due to the fact the machine is not waking up properly/at all. This can be caused by the machine's underlying hardware, such as the motherboard, its BIOS or graphical device(s). The erasure process is either interrupted or continues in the background, however the user will not be able to save any report in the latter case.

3.2.2. Operated storage devices

The total number of operated devices is placed on top of the table.



The table provides data about the operated storage devices: vendor, model, type, bus, size, serial number, status, end time of the operation.

Status messages can be:

- Erased the storage device was successfully erased;
- Erasure finished with warning the storage device was successfully erased but warnings occurred:
 - *Remapped sectors were not erased.*

Note: For further guidelines on remapped sectors, please check **Remapped sectors** chapter.

- Interrupted by user the erasure process was stopped by the user (*Note that if the erasure process was started, all the data on the storage device is compromised*);
- Interrupted by program the erasure engine encountered a critical error when initializing or during erasure process;
- Disconnected the storage device was disconnected during the erasure process;
- Not erased the storage device has hidden areas (HPA/DCO) that are not accessible or the storage device contains failed sectors.

VENDOR	MODEL	ТҮРЕ	BUS	SIZE	SERIAL NUMBER	STATUS	END TIME
Hitachi	HGST3250EQ01	HDD	SATA	442 GB	HAK8675KEHLL	Erased	01.03.2017 11:29:45 📤
Samsung	SAMSUNG SDD PM99	SDD	SATA-USB	219 GB	SOEMABA01111	Erased	01.03.2017 11:29:45 =
Seagate	ST49506JP	HDD	SATA	234 GB	MIMRQWH	Erased	01.03.2017 11:24:37
Samsung	SAMSUNG PM81	HDD	SATA	10 GB	SOMZNEABA00211	Erased	01.03.2017 11:20:53 💌

Number of operated storage devices: 5

Fig. 3.46 Operated storage devices

3.3. Footer area

The lower left corner of the section contains system information: station name, number of CPUs, CPU, CPU frequency, RAM.

The status of the erasure process, presented next to system information box, shows if the device(s) is/are:

- in progress of being erased;
- successfully erased;
- failed to be erased.

The lower right corner of the section contains Erase button which allows the erasure process to start. If one or several erasures are in progress, the Stop button appears. It allows the user to stop the erasure process.







CHAPTER 4. USING CERTUS ERASURE SOFTWARE PRODUCT

4.1. Preparing storage devices

After a successful authentication, Certus main window is displayed. Certus Software will automatically display the storage device(s) connected to the erasing machine.

r of detected storage devices: 8 VENDOR MODEL TYPE BUS SIZE SERVAL MURIER STATUS Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1003 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1004 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1004 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1004 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1005 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1007 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1009 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1009 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1010 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NM4e SATA 100 GB Serval_1010 Ready for erase
VENDORMODELTYPEBUSSIZESERIAL NUMBERSTATUSSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1003Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1004Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1005Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1005Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1006Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1007Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusN/MeSATA100 GBSenial_1010Ready for ense
SamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1003Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1004Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1005Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1006Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1006Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1006Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1008Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 08Senal_1010Ready for ense
SamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1004Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1005Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1006Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1007Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1007Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1009Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1009Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1010Ready for eraseSamsungCertusNVMeSATA100 GBSerial_1010Ready for erase
SamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1005Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1006Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1007Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1007Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1008Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1009Ready for enseSamsungCertusNMeSATA100 GBSenal 1019Ready for ense
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Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Serial_100B Readyfor ense Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Serial_1009 Readyfor ense Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Serial_1010 Readyfor ense Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Serial_1010 Readyfor ense
Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Senal_1009 Ready for erase Samsung Certus NVMe SATA 100 GB Serial_1010 Ready for erase
VENDOR MODEL TYPE BUS SIZE SERUL NUMBER STATUS END TIME

Fig. 4.1 Main window with detected storage devices

Please note that that the status of the storage device(s) connected to the erasing machine is **Ready for erase** in case no erasure operation has been performed on them, and **Operated** when at least one erasure operation has been performed on them.

If a RAID controller is detected, a window appears with system info and RAID controller info. To dismantle the RAID array, click the **Prepare** button. To cancel the action, click the **Cancel** button.



RAID controller detected							
System info	RAID Controller info						
Manufacturer: Dell Model: Dell A4x400 AX40052B	Number of controllers: 1 Mega Raid: 1 Smart Array: 0						
	The software has detected storage devices connected to above RAID controller. In order to access them directly, the controller needs to be prepared.						
Warning!							
By pressing PREPARE RAID CONTROLLER button, the existing RAID array configuration will be altered!							
PREPARE	CANCEL						

Fig. 4.2 RAID controller detected

After clicking **Prepare** button, a loading message appears. During the dismantle process the refresh icon is disabled (the user can't refresh the device list until the dismantle process is completed).

		Wait to complete RAID dismantle
1 PREPARE	2 ERASE	3 REPORT
Number of detected storage devices: 0		Erasure pattern: Standard Overwrite



4.2. Performing erasure

The user can start the erasure process by selecting one or more storage devices from the detected storage devices table and by pressing the **Erase** button located in the footer area. A confirmation dialog with a list of the selected storage devices, erasure pattern and erasure verification percentage appear. To start the erasure process, click the **Erase** button. To cancel the action, click the **Cancel** button.

Please note that pressing the Erase button will automatically reduce the amount of the available licenses with the number of the selected storage devices.



\bigwedge					
WARNING					
By pressing the ERASE button all the data from the selected storage devices will be permanently erased .					
By pressing the ERASE button you also accept the end user license agreement.					
Click here to view EULA					
Toshiba 9FFSD5HG 20 GB Samsung S0MZNEABA00211 10 GB Seagate MIMRQWH 234 GB Hitachi HAK8675KEHLL 442 GB WesternDigital MHMERETXZY 65 GB Samsung SOEMABA01111 219 GB					
Erasure pattern: British HMG IS5 Baseline. Erasure verification: 1%					
ERASE					

Fig. 4.4 Erasure confirmation window

If a SSD is detected and the erasure pattern is not ATA Secure Erase, another window appears. To confirm the erasure with current pattern, click **Erase**. To cancel the action, click **Cancel**.



Fig. 4.5 SSD Erasure confirmation window

4.3. Pause and resume erasure

The user has the possibility to pause any erasure process, which is currently running, by clicking on the corresponding icon.

The user has the possibility to resume any paused erasure, allowing the continuation of the erasure process, by clicking on the corresponding icon.

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Please note that a paused erasure can only be continued in the current session of Certus Erasure. If the user reboots the machine or if it is by any means power cycled, the erasure cannot be continued.

4.4. Canceling erasure

During the erasure of one or more storage devices, the user can cancel the process at any time by clicking the **Stop** button. A confirmation dialog with a list of storage devices with ongoing erasures appears. To stop the erasure process, select the desired device(s), then click the **Stop** button. To cancel the action, click the **Cancel** button.



Fig. 4.6 Cancel erasure confirmation dialog

4.5. Checking erasure results

In order to examine the results, at the end of an erasure, click on the **Hexviewer** button.

4.6. Saving erasure reports

HEXVIEWER

VIEW REPORT

After a successful or failed erasure, from the header area, click on the **View report** button and then on the **Save** button, detailed in chapter **3.1.13**.

All Certus erasure reports are digitally signed by the application to assure their authenticity. The user can check their digital signature. After saving the erasure reports and opening them with Adobe Reader (for Windows operating systems), the following message should be displayed: "You are currently viewing a signed version".

The upload of the reports on Certus Erasure Web Manager is based on the automatic verification and validation of the digital signature.



CHAPTER 5. DATA ERASURE REPORT

The erasure report is an important component, as part of the erasure and hardware identification processes carried out by Certus Erasure. The document serves as a certified evidence that the application conducted erasure and/or hardware related operations on the host machine.

The Certus Erasure Data Erasure report is divided in three main sections, which are described in the following chapters; these sections are:

- Document Information;
- System Hardware Information;
- Storage Device Information.

The first time a report is generated is when the user logs into the application. After the user boots the software and authenticates, Certus Erasure starts an identification process to detect the system configuration before any erasure operation is started. The program generates a hardware audit report, which contains only document and hardware information; this report is then updated after certain operations take place: an erasure process is finished (successful or not) or identification of hardware. For each erasure process finished, an additional Storage Device Information section is added to the report.

5.1. Document Information

The *Document Info* is the first section of the report and contains document related information like the identification number, the date of the report, the operator which performed the operations and the software version.

Important to note here is the *report date* field which is constantly updated after each erasure process is finished or after hardware changes are detected by the software (like plugging new devices).

The *Document Info* section is generated when a working session begins (after user login).

5.2. System Hardware Information

The *System Hardware Info* is the second section of the report and represents the hardware audit part of the document. This section contains the main hardware components of the system, identified by Certus Erasure: manufacturer, chassis type, model, serial number, motherboard, UUID, BIOS, processor, memory, graphics card, sound card, network adapter, optical drive, storage controller, storage device, peripheral ports and battery.

The *System Hardware Info* section is generated at the beginning of and during of a working session if hardware changes are detected.

5.3. Storage Device Information

The *Storage Device Info* section is the last part of the report. For each erasure process started, a Storage Device Info section is added to the report; if no erasure process took place, the report contains only document and hardware info.



Each storage device block is divided in two main areas as follows:

- Device Information it presents the main characteristics of the operated device (e.g.: vendor, type, size, sectors etc.);
- Erasure Information contains all the details of the erasure process (e.g.: erasure pattern and verification, start time and end time, duration, sectors related info, erasure status etc.).

5.3.1. Hidden areas in a drive

The **Host Protected Area (HPA)** is a feature set implemented by some ATA conforming devices allowing for the possibility of reducing the number of addressable sectors, thus creating an area on the device hidden from view using regular access. The operations that can be conducted on this area are specific to the HPA feature set.

The **Device Configuration Overlay (DCO)** is a feature set implemented by some ATA conforming devices allowing for the possibility of changing several configuration items from different feature sets implemented by the device. Among these configuration items is the number of addressable sectors, thus allowing for the creation of another form of hidden area on the device. The operations that can be conducted on this area are specific to the DCO feature set.

If the device has a hidden area (HPA or DCO) before the erasure, the appropriate field (HPA or DCO) in the *Device Information* section will contain information following the pattern: 'X/Y Enabled', where X and Y are the lower and higher ends of the hidden area. For example, if a device has 1000 addressable sectors, a HPA of 100 sectors and a DCO of another 100 sectors, the fields in *Device Information* would appear as: 'Sectors: 1000', 'HPA: 1000/1100 Enabled', 'DCO: 1100/1200 Enabled'.

If there are hidden areas enabled on the device, it's total capacity is the greatest number of sectors between the fields *'Sectors'* and the *Y* values of the fields *'HPA'* and *'DCO'* from the *Device Information* section.

In the *Erasure Information* section, there is a field '*Sectors*' holding information about the number of total sectors that have been erased. If, in the example above, the software successfully deletes the hidden areas, then the field '*Sectors*' in the section *Erasure Information* will hold the value 1200 which is the maximum capacity of the device.

5.3.2. Remapped sectors

The number of reallocated sectors is a parameter of S.M.A.R.T. which in turn is a feature set implemented by some ATA conforming devices. Devices implementing this feature set and supporting the reallocated sectors parameter mark the sectors where it encounters a read/write/verification error as *'reallocated'* and transfers the data to a special reserved area (spare area). Thus, the data then resides on a fresh sector, while the one which encountered an error is hidden from view.

Although the remapped sector remains hidden, it may still contain user data. The standard ATA interface does not allow access on a reallocated sector, thus, when erasing a device with remapped sectors, Certus Erasure will produce a report with a status '*Erasure finished with warning (Remapped sectors: X)*' where X is the value of the remapped sectors after the erasure. **It is important to note that those remapped sectors were not erased by Certus.**



Recommendation: A positive value of this parameter could indicate imminent drive failure. Do not repurpose a drive with a positive value of this parameter without refurbishment.



CHAPTER 6. ERASURE PATTERNS

The following are the erasure standards (patterns) supported by Certus Erasure Software:

Pattern	Description			
Standard overwrite	Single pass over each sector writing 0x00.			
British HMG IS5 Baseline	Pass over each sector once writing random value.			
British HMG IS5	Pass over each sector 3 times writing 0x00, 0xFF and a random value.			
Enhanced				
Bruce Schneier	Pass over each sector 7 times, writing 0xFF, 0x00 and then five times random values.			
Canadian OPS-II	Pass over each sector 7 times, writing 0x00, 0xFF, 0x00, 0xFF, 0x00, 0xFF and a random value.			
Gutmann Algorithm	Pass over each sector 35 times, writing random values the first four times, then respectively write 0x555555, 0xAAAAAA, 0x924924, 0x492492, 0x249249, 0x000000, 0x111111, 0x222222, 0x333333, 0x444444, 0x555555, 0x6666666, 0x777777, 0x8888888, 0x999999, 0xAAAAAA, 0xBBBBBB, 0xCCCCCC, 0xDDDDDD, 0xEEEEEE, 0xFFFFFF, 0x924924, 0x492492, 0x249249, 0x6DB6DB, 0xB6DB6D, 0xDB6DB6 and another four times random values.			
German VSITR	Pass over each sector 7 times writing 0x00, 0xFF, 0x00, 0xFF, 0x00, 0xFF and 0xAA.			
NAVSO P-5329-26	Pass over each sector 3 times writing 0x00, 0xFF and a random value.			
NCSC-TG-025	Pass over each sector 3 times writing 0x00, 0xFF and a random value.			
NSA 130-2	Pass over each sector 2 times writing a random value.			
Russian GOST R 50739- 95	Pass over each sector 2 times writing 0x00 and a random value.			
US Air Force 5020	Pass over each sector 3 times writing 0xFF, 0x00 and a random value.			
US DoD 5220.22-M	Pass over each sector 3 times writing 0x00, 0xFF and a random value.			
ATA Secure Erase	Standard overwrite*			

* Warning! To be used only with Solid State Drives (SSD). Firmware based erasure. Once the erasure process is started with this pattern, it cannot be stopped.



CHAPTER 7. KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

7.1. Generic controls

7.1.1. Tab key Tab 🔄

The Tab key moves the focus inside a window, element to element, from left to right, top to bottom (except from the two tables from the main window and the table with the erasure pattern description from the settings window, where shifting is done with two arrows - up and down). By combining the Shift-key with Tab-key (Shift + Tab), the direction is reversed (goes backwards: from right to left, bottom to top). If the focused component is a button, a checkbox or a radio button, the focus is highlighted with a rectangle. If the focused component is a text area, the focus is highlighted with a low opacity yellow color. If the focused component is a table, the focused row is highlighted with a border.

7.1.2. Arrow keys ← ↑ ↓ →

Whenever the focus is:

- On an area that contains a horizontal and/or vertical scroll-bar (Report View, Help window, EULA window, Settings window, table with operated devices, table with erasure history, etc.):
 - The arrow keys can be used to go up/down/left/right inside that area.
- On a drop-down list (list of erasure patterns, list of languages, list of drives from Hex Viewer, list of drives from Stop window, etc.):
 - The arrow keys can be used to scroll those lists.
- On a slider's handle (verification percentage slider, current sector slider):
 - The arrow keys can be used to move the handle.
- On a wi-fi list of connections, it will move between the available connections.

7.1.3. Home key Home

In the Settings window and the Hexviewer window, the Home key moves the handle to the home position. In an expanded drop-down list, it selects the first item.

7.1.4. End key End

In the Settings window and the Hexviewer window, the End key moves the handle to the end position. In an expanded drop-down list, it selects the last item.

7.1.5. Space bar Space

Whenever the focus is:

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- On top of a checkbox or on top of a radio button:
 - The Space bar selects/deselects it.
 - On a row of a table with connected drives:
 - The Space bar selects/deselects it.
- On top of a button:
 - The Space bar pushes it.



7.1.6. Enter key Enter el

- In the Login window:
 - The enter key pushes the login button.
- Whenever the focus is on an element of an expanded drop-down list:
 - o The Enter key selects that element.
- Whenever the focus is on a wi-fi connection from the wi-fi list:
 - The Enter key expands/contracts that connection.

7.1.7. Ctrl + Enter key CTRL + Enter 4

Whenever the focus is on a wi-fi connection from the wi-fi list, this key combination will attempt to connect to the focused wi-fi connection.

7.1.8. Esc key Esc

Whenever the focus is:

- On top of an expanded drop-down list:
 - Escape key collapses it.
- Inside an open window (pop-up, dialog):
 - Escape key closes it without saving any change (equivalent to Cancel/Close).

7.2. Specific controls

7.2.1. F1 key [1]

Pushes the Help button (opens the Help window).

7.2.2. F2 key F2

Pushes the View Report button (opens the View Report window).

7.2.3. F3 key F3

Pushes the Settings button (opens the Settings window).

7.2.4. F4 key [F4]

Pushes the Hexviewer button (opens the Hexviewer window).

7.2.5. F5 key F5

Pushes the Report an issue button (opens the Report an issue window).

7.2.6. F10 key F10

Pushes the Shutdown button (opens the Shutdown confirmation window).

7.2.7. Shift + F10 key SHIFT + F10

Pushes the Shutdown button in the Shut Down confirmation window (shuts down the system).

7.2.8. Ctrl + A key CTRL +A

This key combination selects/deselects all drives for erasure.



7.2.9. Ctrl + R key CTRL +R

This key combination pushes the Refresh button (in the main window refreshes the list of connected drives, in the Save Report window refreshes the connected removable devices).

7.2.10. Ctrl + Shift + R key CTRL + SHIFT + R

This key combination pushes the Refresh lot list button. (in the report save window downloads from CEWM the lot list and replaces the local list with it).

7.2.11. Ctrl + E key CTRL + E

This key combination pushes the Erase button (opens the Erase confirmation window).

7.2.12. Ctrl + Shift + E key CTRL + SHIFT + E

This key combination pushes the Erase button in the Erase confirmation window (starts the erasure).

7.2.13. Ctrl + O key CTRL +0

This key combination pushes the Stop button (opens the Stop confirmation window).

7.2.14. Ctrl + Shift + O key CTRL + SHIFT +O

This key combination pushes the Stop button in the Stop confirmation window (stopping selected devices).

7.2.15. Ctrl + S key CTRL +S

This key combination pushes the Save button (in the View Report window opens the Save Report window, in the Save Report or Report an issue windows saves report to the external device, in the Settings window saves the changes).

7.2.16. Ctrl + U key CTRL +U

This key combination pushes the Upload button in the Save Report window (uploads the report on the server).

7.2.17. Ctrl + P key CTRL + P

This key combination pushes the Prepare RAID Controller button (starting the dismantle process).

7.2.18. Ctrl + V key CTRL +V

This key combination pushes the Validate button (sends device password to the ATA Secure Erase process).

7.2.19. Ctrl + F key CTRL + F

This key combination pushes the OK button in the Unfreeze dialog.

7.2.20. Ctrl + G key CTRL +G

This key combination pushes the Generate button in the Report an issue window.



CHAPTER 8. CONTACT

If you have any questions or if you need our help don't hesitate to submit a technical support ticket using the following link:

https://support.certus.software/servicedesk/customer/portal/1

For more information about the latest data erasure products and for contact details, visit Certus website using the following link:

https://www.certus.software

We are always looking for ways to improve our products and services. If you have any suggestions, please provide us with your feedback!



CHAPTER 9. DOCUMENT REVISIONS

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
21/10/2016	1.0	Major	- Initial version.
09/02/2017	1.1	Minor	- Updated images;
			- Updated page layout;
			 Added information about "Report an issue";
			- Added information about new "Settings" window.
02/03/2017	1.2	Minor	- Replaced buttons from "Contact" chapter with links.
15/03/2017	1.3	Minor	 Added information about "Screensaver";
			- Added information about "Hasp key".
05/04/2017	1.4	Minor	 Added "General information" chapter;
			- Updated information.
07/04/2017	1.5	Minor	- Added information about "Handle password
			protected devices" and "Unfreeze DCO and Security
			Features".
25/04/2017	2.0	Major	- Added information about "Pause and resume
			erasure", "Digital signature of reports", "Internet
			connection icon", "Update ISO";
			- Updated information.
12/05/2017	2.1	Minor	- Improved the grammar and meaning of certain
			parts of the text.
12/08/2017	2.2	Minor	- Added information about "Wi-Fi button", "Digital
			fingerprint";
			- Updated pictures and information.
21/09/2017	2.3	Minor	- Added information about "Automatic procedures";
22/44/2047	2.4	N 41	- Updated pictures and information.
23/11/2017	2.4	Minor	-Updated information about "Automatic
			procedures"; -Added information about "RAM monitoring","
			Automatic issue report";
			-Updated pictures and information.
15/01/2018	2.5	Minor	-Updated content.
31/01/2018	2.6	Minor	-Updated information about "Update Media";
51/01/2018	2.0	WIIIO	-Updated information about "Opdate Media",
			-Updated pictures and information.
20/03/2018	2.7	Minor	-Updated information about lots.
23/04/2018	2.8	Minor	- Updated information about erasure status;
20,07/2010	2.0		- Added information about the erasure report,
			hidden areas and remapped sectors.
19/06/2018	2.9	Minor	- Updated content;
_0,00,2010	2.5		