

External Recipients

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Admin path: **Encryption > External Recipients** (`view_ext_rec_encryption.cfm`, `view_create_ext_recipient.cfm`, `view_ext_smime_certificates.cfm`, `view_ext_pgp_keyrings.cfm`, `view_ext_add_smime_cert.cfm`, `view_ext_add_pgp_keyring.cfm`, `inc/create_ext_recipient.cfm`, `inc/delete_ext_recipient.cfm`, `inc/reset_pdf_password.cfm`, `inc/reset_portal_password.cfm`).

This is the **per-counterparty encryption policy and key store** for external (non-managed) email addresses. Each row binds a single external email to one of three protocols (PDF / S/MIME / PGP) and to one of two trigger modes (Mandatory / By Subject). It is the page where the policy referenced by [Encryption Settings](#) actually takes effect — the global page chooses the **mechanism** (subject trigger keyword, shared secrets, PDF reply sender); this page chooses the **policy** for every external recipient the gateway encrypts to.

The DataTable is the master view across **both** Hermes-side metadata (`external_recipients` in the `hermes` DB) and CipherMail's own user table (`cm_users` in the `djigzo` DB), joined on email address. Rows are tagged **Admin-Configured** (explicitly created on this page, with a matching `external_recipients` row) or **Auto-Discovered** (materialized by CipherMail during message processing, no `external_recipients` row).

Schema: two tables, one view

```
+-----+ +-----+
| hermes.external_recipients | | djigzo.cm_users |
| (admin metadata) | | (CipherMail user store) |
+-----+ +-----+
| email | ---- | cm_email |
| encryption_mode | | cm_id --> cm_properties|
| pdf, smime, pgp (flags) | | (per-user |
| pdf_mode | | policy) |
| pdf_password (AES-enc.) | +-----+
+-----+
```

```

      |
      v
Page renders Admin badge
      |
+-----+
| If NO matching row,      |
| recipient is "Auto" with |
| inferred policy from     |
| cm_certificates_email /  |
| cm_keyring_email        |
+-----+

```

The page never N+1's against CipherMail — three batch queries build struct lookups (`adminLookup`, `smimeLookup`, `pgpLookup`) and the row loop reads from those instead of per-row queries. That matters at any scale beyond a few hundred recipients.

`external_recipients` columns:

Column	Purpose
<code>id</code>	PK
<code>email</code>	External email address (joined to <code>cm_users.cm_email</code>)
<code>encryption_mode</code>	<code>pdf_mandatory</code> / <code>pdf_by_subject</code> / <code>smime_mandatory</code> / <code>smime_by_subject</code> / <code>pgp_mandatory</code> / <code>pgp_by_subject</code>
<code>pdf</code> / <code>smime</code> / <code>pgp</code>	Flag (1 / NULL) indicating which protocol is the active one for this recipient
<code>pdf_mode</code>	For PDF only: <code>static</code> / <code>random</code> / <code>backtosender</code>
<code>pdf_password</code>	AES-encrypted (with <code>/opt/hermes/keys/hermes.key</code>) copy of the static PDF password — for admin re-display only; CipherMail holds its own copy
<code>smime_mode</code> / <code>pgp_mode</code>	Reserved for parity; populated identically to <code>encryption_mode</code> for the matching protocol

Encryption modes

The 6 encryption modes map cleanly onto two axes (protocol × trigger):

Mode	CipherMail <code>user.encryptMode</code>	CipherMail <code>user.pdf.encryptionAllowed</code>	CipherMail <code>user.sMIMEEnabled</code>	CipherMail <code>user.pgp.enabled</code>
<code>pdf_mandatory</code>	<code>mandatory</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>

Mode	CipherMail user.encryptMode	CipherMail user.pdf.encryptedAL Lowed	CipherMail user.sMIMEEnabled	CipherMail user.pgp.enabled
pdf_by_subject	allow	true	false	false
smime_mandatory	mandatory	false	true	false
smime_by_subject	allow	false	true	false
pgp_mandatory	mandatory	false	false	true
pgp_by_subject	allow	false	false	true

"By Subject" requires **Encryption Settings > Trigger Encryption by Subject = Enabled** plus the configured keyword (default [encrypt]) in the message subject. See [Encryption Settings — Subject Trigger](#) for the decision tree.

PDF mode: three sub-policies

PDF encryption is the lowest-friction protocol (recipient needs only a PDF reader and a password — no certs, no keys, no portal account required up front), so it ships with three independent password-distribution sub-modes:

pdf_mode	How the password reaches the recipient	When to use
random	CipherMail auto-generates a one-time password per message and pushes it through the Secure Email Portal (<code>https://<console>/web/portal</code>); recipient self-registers on first use	Default. Best for ad-hoc / first-time external recipients
static	Admin sets a fixed password once (minimum 12 chars); recipient must already know it via out-of-band channel	Long-term partners who have agreed on a shared secret
backtosender	CipherMail generates a per-message password and emails it back to the original internal sender for them to relay to the recipient	Compliance scenarios where the sender must explicitly hand the password to the recipient (auditable trail)

For `backtosender`, two extra fields are configurable per recipient:

Field	Range	Purpose
Password Age (minutes)	15-240	How long the random password is valid

Field	Range	Purpose
Password Length	16-bit / 20-bit	Bit-strength of the generated random password

Bulk vs single create

The **Create External Recipient** page (`view_create_ext_recipient.cfm`) exposes a Single / Bulk toggle:

Mode	Protocol options	Use case
Single	PDF, S/MIME, PGP (all three modes available)	One-off precise configuration including S/MIME / PGP recipients that need a cert/key uploaded afterward
Bulk	PDF only (Mandatory or By Subject)	Mass-onboard a list of external addresses, one per line; the UI auto-hides S/MIME and PGP because those protocols need per-recipient cert/key material that has no bulk equivalent

The bulk path validates and skips per-row (invalid format / internal domain / already-exists rows are reported but do not abort the batch); session variables `bulk_created`, `bulk_skipped`, `bulk_failed` feed a partial-success alert on return.

Both paths refuse internal domains. The check is a `COUNT(*) FROM domains WHERE domain = <recipient-domain>` — if Hermes is the authoritative MX for that domain, the recipient is a local mailbox or relay recipient, not an external recipient, and per-mailbox encryption policy belongs on Email Server > Mailboxes instead.

Auto-Discovered recipients

When CipherMail processes mail to an address it has never seen, it materializes a `cm_users` row with the global defaults. These recipients show up here with **Source = Auto** and no `external_recipients` row backing them. They:

- Use the global Subject Trigger policy (from [Encryption Settings](#))
- Have no per-recipient password mode (PDF random is the CipherMail default)
- Display only the cert / keyring counts CipherMail actually holds
- Cannot be edited from this page (no Admin badge, no action buttons for cert / PGP / password reset) — managing them means **either** promoting them to Admin-Configured by creating an explicit row, **or** dropping into CipherMail's own admin UI at `/ciphermail/`

The Source dropdown defaults to **Admin-Configured** on page load — operators most often want to see what they explicitly configured, not the long tail of mail CipherMail has touched.

Per-row actions

The action column varies by what the recipient is configured for:

Action	Icon	Visible when	What it does
S/MIME Certificates	<code>fa-certificate</code> (green)	Admin row, <code>smime = 1</code>	Links to <code>view_ext_smime_certificates.cfm?email=...</code> for cert add / delete / send
PGP Keyrings	<code>fa-key</code> (blue)	Admin row, <code>pgp = 1</code>	Links to <code>view_ext_pgp_keyrings.cfm?email=...</code> for keyring add / delete / publish
Reset PDF Password	<code>fa-file-pdf</code> (yellow)	Admin row, <code>pdf = 1</code> AND <code>pdf_mode = static</code>	Opens modal; auto-generates a 16-char mixed-case-alphanumeric password client-side via <code>generatePassword(16)</code> ; submits to <code>inc/reset_pdf_password.cfm</code>
Reset Portal Password	<code>fa-lock</code> (grey)	Admin row, <code>pdf = 1</code> AND <code>pdf_mode = random</code>	Opens modal; same 16-char generator; submits to <code>inc/reset_portal_password.cfm</code> (two-step: encode via <code>--encode-password</code> , then set <code>user.portal.password</code>)
Delete Recipient	<code>fa-trash-alt</code> (red)	Every row	Confirms, then submits to <code>delete_recipient</code> handler

The Cert Expiry column derives from a batch join of `cm_certificates_email + cm_certificates`, picking the **earliest** `cm_not_after` across all certs for that recipient. Color coding: red bold (already expired), yellow bold (within 30 days), grey muted (more than 30 days).

Delete cascade

Deleting an external recipient is a multi-table operation handled by `inc/delete_ext_recipient.cfm`:

```
+-----+
| For each row in      |
| recipient_certificates |
```

```

| where user_id = recipient |
+-----+
|
| v
+-----+
| inc/delete_smime_ |----->| Removes from |
| certificate.cfm   |      | cm_certificates_email, |
|                   |      | CipherMail user store, |
|                   |      | on-disk PFX            |
+-----+
|
| v
+-----+
| For each master keyring |
| in recipient_keystores |
+-----+
|
| v
+-----+
| inc/delete_pgp_keyring. |
| cfm                     |
+-----+
|
| v
+-----+
| DELETE FROM             |
| external_recipients    |
| WHERE id = ...         |
+-----+
|
| v
+-----+
| docker exec hermes_ciphermail CLITool |
| --delete-user <email>                |
| (cascades all cm_properties, cm_users) |
+-----+

```

On success the page surfaces a callout reminding the operator that any **Sender Checks Bypass** mapping tied to this recipient must be re-created — that relationship is not auto-cascaded.

Password reset specifics

PDF static password reset (`inc/reset_pdf_password.cfm`):

1. Writes a one-liner `CLITool --set-property user.password --value <newpass> --encrypt --email <recipient>` to `/opt/hermes/tmp/<token>_reset_pdf_password.sh`.
2. `chmod +x`, executes (240s timeout), deletes.
3. AES-encrypts the new password with `/opt/hermes/keys/hermes.key` and UPDATES `external_recipients.pdf_password` so the admin re-display path still works.

Portal password reset (`inc/reset_portal_password.cfm`) is **two-step** because CipherMail's portal password is stored as an encoded value, not the raw string:

1. **Step 1 — encode:** runs `CLITool --encode-password <newpass>`, captures stdout to `/opt/hermes/tmp/<token>_portal_password`, reads that file back into CFML, deletes the temp file.
2. **Step 2 — set:** runs `CLITool --set-property user.portal.password --encrypt --email <recipient> --value <encoded>` to push the encoded value into CipherMail.

Both modals auto-generate a 16-character mixed-case-alphanumeric password client-side and pre-populate the hidden confirm field; the operator can regenerate or type-in their own. Min length 12 is enforced server-side; the regenerator produces 16.

The modal text explicitly notes that **unencrypted voice calls and texts are NOT considered secure** for relaying the password to the recipient — operators are expected to use Signal, an in-person exchange, or a separately-encrypted channel.

CipherMail integration: every action is docker exec

Every CipherMail-side mutation on this page uses the same pattern documented across the Hermes admin:

```
+-----+ +-----+ +-----+
| CFML builds shell |-----| Write to |-----| chmod +x |
| string with N     | | /opt/hermes/tmp/ | | |
| docker exec CLITool | | <token>_<purpose>.sh | | |
| lines            | | | | |
+-----+ +-----+ +-----+
```

```

      |
      v
+-----+
| cfexecute (240s), |
| then delete the  |
| temp file       |
+-----+
      |
      v
+-----+
| docker exec hermes_ciphermail |
| /usr/bin/java -cp './../lib/*'|
| mitm.application.djigzo.tools |
| .CLITool <args>              |
+-----+

```

The Hermes app container (`hermes_commandbox`) holds no JVM and no CipherMail libraries; everything reaches into `hermes_ciphermail` over the docker socket via `CLITool`. The temp-script pattern (write + chmod + execute + delete) survives the Lucee `cfexecute` quirks around stderr and quoting that would otherwise make a direct inline invocation unreliable.

What's NOT on this page

Expectation	Where it actually lives
Per-recipient cipher / algorithm selection (AES-128 vs AES-256, RSA / EC)	CipherMail Advanced Settings (<code>/ciphermail/</code>); per-recipient overrides live in <code>cm_properties</code> directly
Auto-lookup of recipient PGP keys from a keyserver at send time	Not implemented; see PGP Key Servers — that page is publish-only. Keys must be uploaded manually on the PGP Keyrings sub-page
Auto-lookup of recipient S/MIME certs via LDAP / public directory	Not implemented; certs must be uploaded manually on the S/MIME Certificates sub-page, OR minted from an Internal CA row and sent to the recipient
Per-recipient subject-trigger keyword override	Not implemented; the keyword is global (one row in <code>encryption_settings</code>)
Recipient-side enrollment / self-service for their own keys	The Secure Email Portal handles recipient password registration for PDF-random mode; there is no self-service cert / PGP upload UI
Bulk import from CSV with mixed protocols	Bulk path is PDF-only by design (S/MIME / PGP need per-recipient material that doesn't bulk-import cleanly)

Expectation	Where it actually lives
Sender-side "force encrypt for this thread" UI	Senders use the subject trigger; there is no per-mailbox sender UI

Container and database touch-points

Component	Container / path	Role
Page	<code>config/hermes/var/www/html/admin/2/view_ext_rec_encryption.cfm</code> (<code>hermes_commandbox</code>)	List, filter, password resets, delete
Create page	<code>view_create_ext_recipient.cfm</code> + sub-pages for cert / keyring management	Single + bulk insertion
Action includes	<code>inc/create_ext_recipient.cfm</code> , <code>inc/delete_ext_recipient.cfm</code> , <code>inc/reset_pdf_password.cfm</code> , <code>inc/reset_portal_password.cfm</code>	One-liner CLITool dispatchers via temp script
Admin metadata	<code>external_recipients</code> in <code>hermes</code> DB (<code>hermes_db_server</code>)	Per-recipient policy choices + AES-encrypted static PDF password copy
CipherMail user store	<code>cm_users</code> , <code>cm_properties</code> in <code>djigzo</code> DB	Authoritative per-recipient state
CipherMail cert / key index	<code>cm_certificates_email</code> , <code>cm_certificates</code> , <code>cm_keyring_email</code> in <code>djigzo</code> DB	Joined batch into <code>smimeLookup</code> / <code>pgpLookup</code> for column rendering
Encryption engine	<code>hermes_ciphermail</code> (Java; CipherMail Community 5.x branded <code>djigzo</code>)	Actual S/MIME / PGP / PDF encryption + portal back-channel
AES key	<code>/opt/hermes/keys/hermes.key</code> (<code>hermes_commandbox</code> bind mount)	Encrypts <code>pdf_password</code> for re-display
Secure Email Portal	<code>https://<console.host>/web/portal/</code> (served by <code>hermes_ciphermail</code>)	Recipient-facing landing page for PDF random + portal account flows

Related

- [Encryption Settings](#) — global Subject Trigger, PDF reply sender, three shared secrets; the policy mechanism this page applies per recipient
- [Internal CA](#) — where the private CAs that can mint S/MIME certs for these recipients live (operator-issued S/MIME chain delivered out-of-band)

- [PGP Key Servers](#) — the publish list for the Publish action on the PGP Keyrings sub-page (note: publish-only, not lookup)
 - [System Certificates](#) — distinct TLS cert store; not related to message-content S/MIME
 - [Disclaimers](#) — body-mod ordering vs the CipherMail encryption pass (disclaimer is appended before encryption wraps the message)
 - [Organizational Signatures](#) — same milter ordering applies to signature injection
 - [ARC Settings](#) — same milter-ordering pattern applied to inbound chain sealing
 - **Advanced Settings** (sidebar link to `/ciphermail/`) — CipherMail's own admin UI for everything not surfaced here (per-recipient cipher tuning, custom DLP, direct `cm_properties` editing)
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