

Network Working Group  
Smyslov  
Internet-Draft  
PLUS  
Intended status: Informational  
2021  
Expires: May 14, 2022

V.  
ELVIS-  
November 10,

**Using GOST algorithms in IKEv2  
draft-smyslov-ike2-gost-07**

Abstract

This document defines a set of cryptographic transforms for use in the Internet Key Exchange version 2 (IKEv2) protocol. The transforms are based on Russian cryptographic standard algorithms (GOST).

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**[1](#). Introduction**

This document defines a number of transforms for the Internet Key Exchange version 2 (IKEv2) [[RFC7296](#)]. These transforms are based on Russian cryptographic standard algorithms (often called "GOST" algorithms) for hash function, digital signature and key exchange method. Along with transforms defined in [[I-D.smyslov-esp-gost](#)], the

transforms defined in this specification allow using GOST cryptographic algorithms in IPsec protocols.

**[2](#). Terminology and Notation**

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in

[BCP](#)

[14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

### **3. Overview**

Russian cryptographic standard (GOST) algorithms are a set of cryptographic algorithms of different types - ciphers, hash functions, digital signatures etc. In particular, Russian cryptographic standard [[GOST3412-2015](#)] defines block ciphers "Kuznyechik" (also defined in [[RFC7801](#)]) and "Magma" (also defined in [[RFC8891](#)]). Cryptographic standard [[GOST3410-2012](#)] defines elliptic curve digital signature algorithm (also defined in [[RFC7091](#)]), while

[GOST3411-2012] defines two cryptographic hash functions "Streebog", with different output length (also defined in [RFC6986]). The parameters for the elliptic curves used in GOST signature and key exchange algorithms are defined in [RFC7836].

#### **4. IKE SA Protection**

Specification [I-D.smyslov-esp-gost] defines two transforms of type 1

(Encryption Algorithm Transform IDs) based on GOST block ciphers that

may be used for IKE SA protection: ENCR\_KUZNYECHIK\_MGM\_KTREE (32) based on "Kuznyechik" block cipher and ENCR\_MAGMA\_MGM\_KTREE (33) based on "Magma" block cipher. Since they are AEAD transforms and provide both encryption and authentication, there is no need for new transform type 3 (Integrity Algorithm Transform IDs), because it must

not be used with these transforms (or must have a value NONE).

#### **5. Pseudo Random Function**

This specification defines a new transform of type 2 (Pseudorandom Function Transform IDs) - PRF\_HMAC\_STREEBOG\_512 (9). This transform uses PRF HMAC\_GOSTR3411\_2012\_512 defined in Section 4.1.2 of [RFC7836]. The PRF uses GOST R 34.11-2012 ("Streebog") hash-function

with 512-bit output defined in [RFC6986][GOST3411-2012] with HMAC [RFC2104] construction. The PRF has a 512-bit block size and a 512-bit output length.

#### **6. Shared Key Calculation**

This specification defines two new transforms of type 4 (Diffie-Hellman Group Transform IDs): GOST3410\_2012\_256 (33) and GOST3410\_2012\_512 (34). These transforms uses Elliptic Curve Diffie-

Hellman (ECDH) key exchange algorithm over Twisted Edwards curves. The parameters for these curves are defined in Section A.2 of [RFC7836]. In particular, transform GOST3410\_2012\_256 uses id-tc26-gost-3410-2012-256-paramSetA parameter set and GOST3410\_2012\_512 uses

id-tc26-gost-3410-2012-512-paramSetC parameter set (both defined in [RFC7836]).

Shared secret is computed as follows. The initiator randomly selects

its private key  $d_i$  from  $\{1, \dots, q - 1\}$ , where  $q$  is the group order and

$is$  a parameter of the selected curve. Then a public key  $Q_i$  is computed as a point on the curve:  $Q_i = d_i * G$ , where  $G$  is the generator for the selected curve, and then is sent to the responder. The responder makes the same calculations to get  $d_r$  and  $Q_r$  and

sends  $Q_r$  to the initiator. After peers exchange  $Q_i$  and  $Q_R$  both sides can compute a point on the curve  $S = ((m / q) * d_i) * Q_r = ((m / q) * d_r) * Q_i$ , where  $m$  is the subgroup order and is a parameter of the selected curve. The shared secret  $K$  is an  $x$

coordinate of S in a little-endian representation. The size of K is determined by the size of used curve and is either 256 or 512 bit.

When GOST public key is transmitted in the KE payload, it MUST be represented as x coordinate immediately followed by y coordinate, each in a little-endian representation. The size of each coordinate is determined by the size of the used curve and is either 256 or 512 bits, so that the size of the Key Exchange Data field in the KE payload is either 64 or 128 octets.

### **6.1. Recipient Tests**

Upon receiving peer's public key implementations MUST check that the key is actually a point on the curve, otherwise the exchange fails. Implementations MUST check that the calculated public value S is not an identity element of the curve, in which case the exchange fails.

## **7. Authentication**

GOST digital signatures algorithm GOST R 34.10-2012 is defined in [[RFC7091](#)][GOST3410-2012]. There are two variants of GOST signature algorithm - one over 256-bit elliptic curve and the other over 512-bit key elliptic curve.

When GOST digital signature is used in IKEv2 for authentication purposes, an Authentication Method "Digital Signature" (14) MUST be specified in the AUTH payload. The AlgorithmIdentifier ASN.1 objects for GOST digital signature algorithm are defined in [Section 7.2](#).

The signature value, as defined in [[RFC7091](#)][GOST3410-2012], consists of two integers r and s. The size of each integer is either 256 bit or 512 bit depending on the used elliptic curve. The content of the Signature Value field in the AUTH payload MUST consist of s immediately followed by r, each in a big-endian representation, so that the size of the field is either 64 or 128 octets.

### **7.1. Hash Functions**

GOST digital signatures algorithm uses GOST hash functions GOST R 34.11-2012 ("Streebog") defined in [[RFC6986](#)][GOST3411-2012]. There are two "Streebog" hash functions - one with 256-bit output length and the other with 512-bit output length.

This specification defines two new values for IKEv2 Hash Algorithms registry: STREEBOG\_256 (6) for GOST hash function with 256-bit output length and STREEBOG\_512 (7) for the 512-bit length output. These values MUST be included in the SIGNATURE\_HASH\_ALGORITHMS notify if a

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corresponding GOST digital signature algorithm is supported by the sender.

## **7.2. ASN.1 Objects**

This section lists GOST signature algorithm ASN.1 AlgorithmIdentifier objects in binary form. These objects are defined in [\[I-D.deremin-rfc4491-bis\]](#) [USING-GOST-IN-CERTS] and are provided here for convenience.

### **7.2.1. id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-256**

```
id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-256 OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ iso(1)
  member-body(2) ru(643) rosstandart(7) tc26(1) algorithms(1)
  signwithdigest(3) gost3410-12-256(2) }
```

Parameters are absent.

```
Name = id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-256
OID = 1.2.643.7.1.1.3.2
Length = 12
0000: 300a 0608 2a85 0307 0101 0302
```

### **7.2.2. id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-512**

```
id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-512 OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ iso(1)
  member-body(2) ru(643) rosstandart(7) tc26(1) algorithms(1)
  signwithdigest(3) gost3410-12-512(3) }
```

Parameters are absent.

```
Name = id-tc26-signwithdigest-gost3410-12-512
OID = 1.2.643.7.1.1.3.3
Length = 12
0000: 300a 0608 2a85 0307 0101 0303
```

## **8. Security Considerations**

The security considerations of [\[RFC7296\]](#) apply accordingly.

The security of GOST elliptic curves is discussed in [\[GOST-EC-SECURITY\]](#). The security of "Streebog" hash function is discussed in [\[STREEBOG-SECURITY\]](#). A second preimage attack on "Streebog" is described in [\[STREEBOG-PREIMAGE\]](#) if message size exceeds  $2^{259}$  blocks. This attack is not relevant to how "Streebog" is used in IKEv2.

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## 9. IANA Considerations

IANA has assigned one Transform ID in the "Transform Type 2 - Pseudorandom Function Transform IDs" registry (where RFCXXXX is this document):

Number	Name	Reference
9	PRF_HMAC_STREEBOG_512	[RFCXXXX]

IANA has assigned two Transform IDs in the "Transform Type 4 - Diffie-Hellman Group Transform IDs" registry (where RFCXXXX is this document):

Number Reference	Name	Recipient Tests
33 [RFCXXXX]	GOST3410_2012_256	[RFCXXXX] Sec. 6.1
34 [RFCXXXX]	GOST3410_2012_512	[RFCXXXX] Sec. 6.1

IANA has assigned two values in the "IKEv2 Hash Algorithms" registry (where RFCXXXX is this document):

Number	Hash Algorithm	Reference
6	STREEBOG_256	[RFCXXXX]
7	STREEBOG_512	[RFCXXXX]

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[RFC8891] Dolmatov, V., Ed. and D. Baryshkov, "GOST R 34.12-2015: Block Cipher "Magma"", [RFC 8891](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC8891, September 2020, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8891>>.

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