

**DRAFT-OUNSWORTH-PQ-
COMPOSITE-
KEYS/SIGS/KEM**

**DRAFT-PALA-KLAUSSNER-
COMPOSITE-KOFN**

IETF 116 – LAMPS

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CHANGES SINCE 116

- › Major overhaul.
- › Aligned alg combinations with OpenPGP WG, resulting in:
 - › Signatures: 14 explicit + 3 generic pairings
 - › Hash-then-sign versions of generics added.
 - › KEMs: 10 explicit + 2 generic pairings
- › ASN.1 modules (mostly) complete and compiling. 🎉
- › KEM combiner function is academically-sound.
 - › I published `draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-combiners` jointly with Aron Wussler (OpenPGP) and Stavros Kousidis (BSI), and I piggy-back on that multi-KDF construction here.
- › KofN mode draft progressing (Max and Jan).

COMPOSITE DRAFTS

READY FOR ADOPTION

CFRG:
draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-combiners-03

LAMPS:
draft-ietf-lamps-cms-kemri

draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-keys-04

```
CompositePublicKey ::= SEQUENCE SIZE (2..MAX) OF  
SubjectPublicKeyInfo
```

uses

draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-sigs-08

```
CompositeSignatureValue ::= SEQUENCE SIZE  
(2..MAX) OF BIT STRING
```

extension of

draft-pala-klaussner-composite-kofn-00

Allows subset (k-threshold) signature validations.
deprecated-algorithms CRL / OCSP extension.

uses

draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-kem-01

```
CompositeCiphertextValue ::= SEQUENCE SIZE  
(2..MAX) OF OCTET STRING
```

```
KDF(counter || k_1 || ... || k_n ||  
fixedInfo, outputBits)
```

where

```
k_i = H(ss_i || ct_i)
```

SIGNATURES (17)

- id-Dilithium3-RSA-PSS
- id-Dilithium3-RSA-PKCS15-SHA256
- id-Dilithium3-ECDSA-P256-SHA256
- id-Dilithium3-ECDSA-brainpoolP256r1-SHA256
- id-Dilithium3-Ed25519
- id-Dilithium5-ECDSA-P384-SHA384
- id-Dilithium5-ECDSA-brainpoolP384r1-SHA384
- id-Dilithium5-Ed448
- id-Falcon512-ECDSA-P256-SHA256
- id-Falcon512-ECDSA-brainpoolP256r1-SHA256
- id-Falcon512-Ed25519
- id-SPHINCSplusSHA256128sSimple-ECDSA-P256-SHA256
- id-SPHINCSplusSHA256128sSimple-ECDSA-brainpoolP256r1-SHA256
- id-SPHINCSplusSHA256128sSimple-Ed25519
- id-alg-composite
- id-alg-composite-sha256
- id-alg-composite-sha512

draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-keys/sigs/kem



ENTRUST

KEMS (12)

- id-Kyber512-ECDH-P256-KMAC128
- id-Kyber512-ECDH-brainpoolP256r1-KMAC128
- id-Kyber512-X25519-KMAC128
- id-Kyber768-RSA-KMAC256
- id-Kyber768-ECDH-P256-KMAC256
- id-Kyber768-ECDH-brainpoolP256r1-KMAC256
- id-Kyber768-X25519-KMAC256
- id-Kyber1024-ECDH-P384-KMAC256
- id-Kyber1024-ECDH-brainpoolP384r1-KMAC256
- id-Kyber1024-X448-KMAC256
- id-composite-kem-KMAC128
- id-composite-kem-KMAC256

HASH-THEN-SIGN

- › Currently, PQ algorithms are used without pre-hashing.
- › There are situations where hash-then-sign is the preferred path
 - › Performance over large data / large amount of signatures
 - › Signing different data when using hybrid approaches
- › Informal conversations with NIST indicate
 - › There are no security concerns over the extra hash dependency
 - › SHA256 and SHA512 algorithms should be considered
- › We propose the definition of OIDs for hash-n-sign for PQC and Generic Composite

K-OF-N

- › Composite implements the “AND” paradigm.
- › There are situations where devices might be able to validate K signatures out of the N present in a composite situation
 - › Devices not fully upgraded (limitations)
 - › Switch to a different subset of algorithms (cyclic migration)
 - › Implementation issues for new algorithms (agile processes)
- › During a transitioning period when the confidence in one or more specific algorithms might be still strong, K of N can provide the long-term confidence
 - › Same structure as Composite Crypto, but a key parameter that is used to indicate K (Integer)

K-OF-N

› Draft available for review

› <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-pala-klaussner-composite-kofn/>

› Open Questions (need help)

› Specify only K ?

› Specify Key BitMask (i.e., BitMask w/ 1 or 0 to indicate MUST or MAY) ?

› Specify K and optionally the Key BitMask?

› Backward Compatibility considerations

› Behaves like Composite if Key Optional Params are absent

ALGORITHM REVOCATION: THE ISSUE

- ▶ When multiple algorithms are used in a PKI, there might be many situations where one or more algorithms should not be trusted anymore but others are still trusted
 - ▶ Mixed-Algorithm PKIs (e.g., Root, Intermediate, and End-Entities)
 - ▶ Hybrid PKIs (Composite or other)
- ▶ Single Algorithm PKIs are Out of Scope (crypto dependency)
- ▶ Differently from the normal revocation use-case (individual incidents)
 - ▶ algorithmic failure is a systemic issue
 - ▶ Scalability issue with the size of the certificate population
- ▶ We suggest a compact way to provide efficient mass-revocation

ALGORITHM REVOCATION: APPROACH

- ▶ A new system could be deployed to deal with algorithm revocation, or
- ▶ We can extend the revocation system in a backward compatible fashion
 - ▶ Add algorithm-based revocation alongside individual serial-number revocation
- ▶ An extension for CRLs and OCSP responses can be defined
 - ▶ A list of revoked algorithms identifiers, or
 - ▶ A list of revoked algorithms identifiers and associated start invalidity date, or
 - ▶ More complex structures
- ▶ No extra procedures needed for distributing the information
- ▶ Integrates in today's processes and fit automation requirements

ALGORITHM REVOCATION: CALL TO ACTION

- › Scalable, Simple, and Cost-Effective Algorithm revocation procedures are needed to provide algorithm management over time
- › The proposed approach provides a mass-revocation mechanism
 - › Scalable – Independent from the certificates' population size
 - › Simple – Integrates with current revocation checking procedures
 - › Cost-effective – Short crypto-periods suggests multiple migrations
- › Call to Actions
 - › Looking for Collaborators
 - › Looking for Use-Cases that might require more complex solution (did we miss something here?)
- › Looking forward to future discussions

OPEN DESIGN QUESTIONS

- › Combine into one draft?
- › 17 Sigs, 12 KEMs. Too many? Not enough? Debate! GO!
- › ASN.1 problems (we need an adult):
 1. How to carry EC P256 / brainpoolp256 params?
 2. We need KEM wrapped versions of ECDH-ES (ex.: `kema-ECDH`, `kema-x25519`, etc), but they don't exist. With more protocols only supporting KEM interfaces (ex.: HPKE RFC9180), it probably makes sense to define these separately from the composite stuff. I'm happy to co-author if someone else volunteers 🙈
- › Discussion on the details of hash-then-sign and K-of-N

Adoption?

[draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-keys/sigs/kem](#)