

draft-ietf-lamps-pq-composite-kems & draft-ounsworth-lamps-cms-dhkem

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LAMPS 118



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SECURING A WORLD IN MOTION

draft-ietf-lamps-pq-composite-kems



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Dependency Map

draft-ietf-lamps-pq-composite-kem

Dependencies added / removed

- draft-ounsworth-pq-composite-keys

Draft no longer needed;
will be allowed to expire.

All Pub Key content folded in
to composite-kem draft.

draft-ietf-lamps-kyber-certificates

+ draft-ietf-lamps-rfc5990bis

Provides RSA-KEM

+ draft-housley-lamps-cms-sha3-hash

Provides id-sha3-256 needed
internally for RSA-KEM instantiation.
UNDER DEBATE – see slide below.

+ draft-ounsworth-lamps-cms-dhkem

Provides KEM wrappers for ECDH
and EdDH.
(ie the ECC equiv. of RFC 5990)

Changes affecting Interoperability

- Defined KeyGen(), Encaps(), and Decaps() for a composite KEM algorithm.
- Re-worked wire format and ASN.1 to remove vestiges of Generics.
 - Changed all SEQUENCE OF SIZE (2..MAX) to SEQUENCE OF SIZE (2).
 - Changed the definition of CompositeKEMPublicKey from SEQUENCE OF SubjectPublicKeyInfo to SEQUENCE OF BIT STRING since with complete removal of Generic Composites, there is no longer any need to carry the component AlgorithmIdentifiers.
 - Removed CompositeKEMParams since all params are now explicit in the OID.
- Removed the discussion of KeyTrans -> KEM and KeyAgree -> KEM promotions, and instead simply referenced [[I-D.ietf-lamps-rfc5990bis](#)] and [[I-D.ounsworth-lamps-cms-dhkem](#)].
- Made RSA keys fixed-length at 2048 and 3072
 - (Added id-MLKEM512-RSA2048-KMAC128 and id-MLKEM768-RSA3072-KMAC256)

Changes affecting Interoperability

- Re-worked section 5.1 & 5.2 (id-MLKEM512-RSA2048-KMAC128 and id-MLKEM768-RSA3072-KMAC256 instantiations) to Reference 5990bis and its updated structures.
 - Removed RSA-KEM KDF params and make them implied by the OID; ie provide a profile of 5990bis.
- Still TODO:
 - Align combiner with draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-combiners-04.

Editorial changes

- Refactored to use MartinThomson github template.
- Made this document standalone by folding in the minimum necessary content from composite-keys and dropping the cross-reference to composite-sigs.
- Added a paragraph describing how to reconstitute component SPKIs.
- Added an Implementation Consideration about FIPS validation where only one component algorithm is FIPS-approved.
- Shortened the abstract (moved some content into Intro).
- Brushed up the Security Considerations.
- Made a proper IANA Considerations section.
- Rename "Kyber" to "ML-KEM".

Open design issues



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Composite KEM construction

```
Combiner(ss1, ss2, fixedInfo) = KDF(counter || ss1 || ss2 || fixedInfo,  
                                     outputBits)
```

I ran into “deadline issues”;
Not yet aligned with
**draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-
combiners-04**

It should be
“ct1 || ss1 || ct2 || ss2”

KEM Combiner Name	KDF	outputBits
KMAC128/256	KMAC128	256
KMAC256/384	KMAC256	384
KMAC256/512	KMAC256	512

Algs list

(... spoiler: it has grown to split “RSA” into 2048 & 3072)

1. id-MLKEM512-RSA2048-KMAC128
2. id-MLKEM512-ECDH-P256-KMAC128
3. id-MLKEM512-ECDH-brainpoolP256r1-KMAC128
4. id-MLKEM512-X25519-KMAC128
5. id-MLKEM768-RSA3072-KMAC256
6. id-MLKEM768-ECDH-P256-KMAC256
7. id-MLKEM768-ECDH-brainpoolP256r1-KMAC256
8. id-MLKEM768-X25519-KMAC256
9. id-MLKEM1024-ECDH-P384-KMAC256
10. id-MLKEM1024-ECDH-brainpoolP384r1-KMAC256
11. id-MLKEM1024-X448-KMAC256

Note: The full AlgID table in the draft specifies whether each is

- KMAC128/256
- KMAC256/384
- KMAC256/512



RSA-KEM instantiations -- SHA3 or SHAKE ?

id-MLKEM512-RSA2048-KMAC128

RSA-KEM Parameter	Value
keyDerivationFunction	kda-kdf3 with id-sha3-256
keyLength	128
DataEncapsulationMechanism	kwa-aes128-wrap

id-MLKEM768-RSA3072-KMAC256

RSA-KEM Parameter	Value
keyDerivationFunction	kda-kdf3 with id-sha3-384
keyLength	256
DataEncapsulationMechanism	kwa-aes256-wrap

Reasoning: Since Kyber already needs SHA3, implementations already need it, might as well re-use it here rather than introducing another primitive (SHAKE).

Problem: NIST has assigned SHA3 OIDs, but they are not currently in any IETF CMS RFC.
– hence reviving draft-housley-lamps-cms-sha3-hash.

But RFC 8702 registers OIDs for SHAKE128, SHAKE256, which can be used as message digests. – Panos is advocating for this instead.

Need WG consensus here!

draft-ounsworth-lamps-cms-dhkem-00



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draft-ounsworth-lamps-cms-dhkem-00

- It's an -00; needs some work, but I needed something quick to point composite-kems at.

“This document defines a mechanism to wrap Ephemeral-Static (E-S) Diffie-Hellman (DH) and Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) such that it can be used in KEM interfaces within the Cryptographic Message Syntax (CMS).”

“This is a sister document to RSA-KEM [[RFC5990](#)] and simplifies future cryptographic protocol design by only needing to handle KEMs at the protocol level.”

“This draft follows the DH-Based KEM (DHKEM) construction defined in [RFC9180] whereby the Encapsulate() operation includes the generation of an ephemeral key and the usage of that key against the recipient's static public key.”

- Russ gave some initial feedback that I have not yet incorporated.
- Fingers crossed that this is straightforward once I get it written out properly.

