Post-Quantum Internet Browsing

Nouman Khan, Akif Mehmood, Francesco Rollo, Nicola Tuveri Network and Information Security Group (NISEC) Tampere University, FINLAND



Quantum-oriented Update to Browsers and Infrastructure for the PQ Transition

Why The Quantum Threat Is a Problem Worth Solving?

CNSA 2.0 Timeline

2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 Software/firmware signing Web browsers/servers and cloud services Traditional networking equipment A STATISTICS **Operating systems** Niche equipment Custom application and legacy equipment

> CNSA 2.0 added as an option and tested CNSA 2.0 as the default and preferred

The rise of cryptographically relevant quantum computers (CRQCs) will ultimately break the traditional cryptographic algorithms which secure our communications today. Current policies mandate a transition to **post-quantum cryptog**raphy (PQC) now, not later: examples include NSA CNSA 2.0, **B**SI TR-02102-1, guidance from **I** ANSSI, and the PQC roadmap of the EU Commission.

But this shift is far from simple. A widespread adoption remains technically challenging due to the complexity of cryptography stacks and their integration across heterogeneous systems.

Shallow Modules: A Plug-and-Play Architecture

Instead of patching PQ cryptography into existing stacks, what if we could pull it out entirely?

Our proposal introduces **shallow modules**, lightweight, modular adapters that decouple cryptographic libraries from the rapidly evolving ecosystem of state-of-the-art PQ implementations and avoid invasive changes in the codebase of existing applications. They give us the freedom to experiment with PQ algorithms and implementations, iterate quickly, test different tradeoffs, and transparently reach most of the existing critical infrastructure.



Results

Key achievements in **OpenSSL**:

- OpenSSL v3.2 resolved key blockers. v3.5 delivered native PQC support.
- Released aurora, A Rust-based **Provider** which easily interfaces with various PQC implementations. Released openssl-provider-forge, a support crate to build Rust Providers Key achievements in **Firefox/NSS**: • Released **qryptotoken**, a Rust-based PKCS#11 token supporting: ML-KEM-768 via NSS KEM interface ML-DSA via NISEC extension • Released an experimental build of Firefox supporting PQC key exchange and authentication in TLS 1.3.

About Us

🛗 Start: September 2023 🛛 Duration: 3 years Type: Horizon Innovation Action (IA) 🔁 Topic: HORIZON-CL3-2022-CS-01-03



QUBIP is a European project that leads the integration of PQ algorithms into the **pro**tocols, networks, and sys**tems** we use today.

We are a multi-disciplinary team of experts from different countries, connecting academia, industry, and endusers..

Our goal is to design and evaluate a reference and replicable post-quantum transition process.



Scan the QR code on the left to know more. Want to see it in action? Ask us how. We'll show you.

The QUBIP project is funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe framework programme [Grant Agree-

Tampere University

ment No. 101119746].