

# The strongSwan Project

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**HSR**

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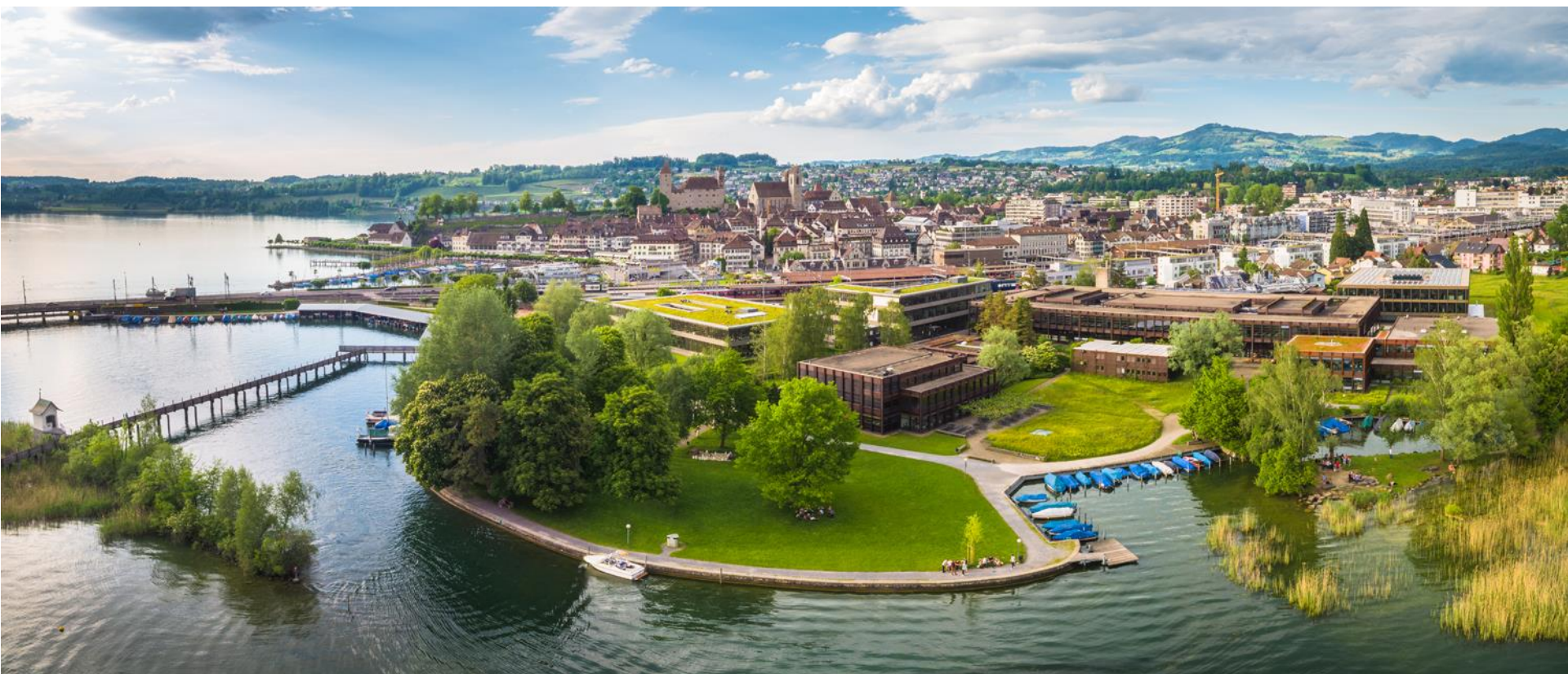
# Where the heck is Rapperswil?





# HSR - Hochschule für Technik Rapperswil

- University of Applied Sciences with about 1500 students
- Faculty of Information Technology (300-400 students)
- Bachelor Course (3 years), Master Course (+1.5 years)



# The strongSwan Project

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## Quantum-Save Key Exchange for IKEv2



# Previous Post-Quantum Crypto Work

PQC Algorithm	IKEv2	strongSwan	Date
NTRUEncrypt (IEEE 1363.1)	KE	5.1.2	Mar 2014
BLISS Signature	AUTH	5.2.2	Jan 2015
NewHope (Exp. Chrome Browser)	KE	5.5.1	Oct 2016

- All three PQC algorithms listed above are lattice-based.
- NTRUEncrypt and NewHope with increased security strength caused IP fragmentation of IKE\_SA\_INIT messages!

# Our Assumptions

- We think that when the NIST PQC finalists are going to be chosen in a 2022-2024 timeframe, we will have sufficient confidence in the selected algorithms that multiple IKEv2 Quantum-Safe Key Exchanges (QSKE) will not be needed.
- Currently we don't have multiple IKEv2 Diffie-Hellman Key Exchanges (KE) either, just because we don't trust either the American NIST or the German Brainpool curves!

## Quick summary of our prototype implementation:

- Based on the IKEv2 **AUX** (INTERMEDIATE) message defined by [draft-smyslov-ipsecme-ikev2-aux-00](#) (January 2018)
- We define a new IKEv2 **QSKE\_MECHANISM** transform type
- We define a new IKEv2 **QSKE** payload
- The **QSKE** payload is initially transported via the **AUX** message but can also be embedded into the **CREATE\_CHILD\_SA** message during rekeying or when negotiating multiple CHILD\_SAs.
- We define a new **INVALID\_QSKE\_PAYLOAD** notify [error] message
- For quantum-safe crypto we use the **liboqs** library which is a wrapper around a selection of NIST PCQ Round 1 candidates:  
<https://github.com/open-quantum-safe/liboqs/tree/nist-branch>

# New QSKE\_MECHANISM Transform Type

Description	Abbreviation	Type
Encryption Algorithm	ENCR	1
Pseudorandom Function	PRF	2
Integrity Algorithm	INTEG	3
Diffie-Hellman Group	D-H	4
Extended Sequence Numbers	ESN	5
Quantum-Safe Key Exchange Mechanism	QSKE_MECHANISM	255

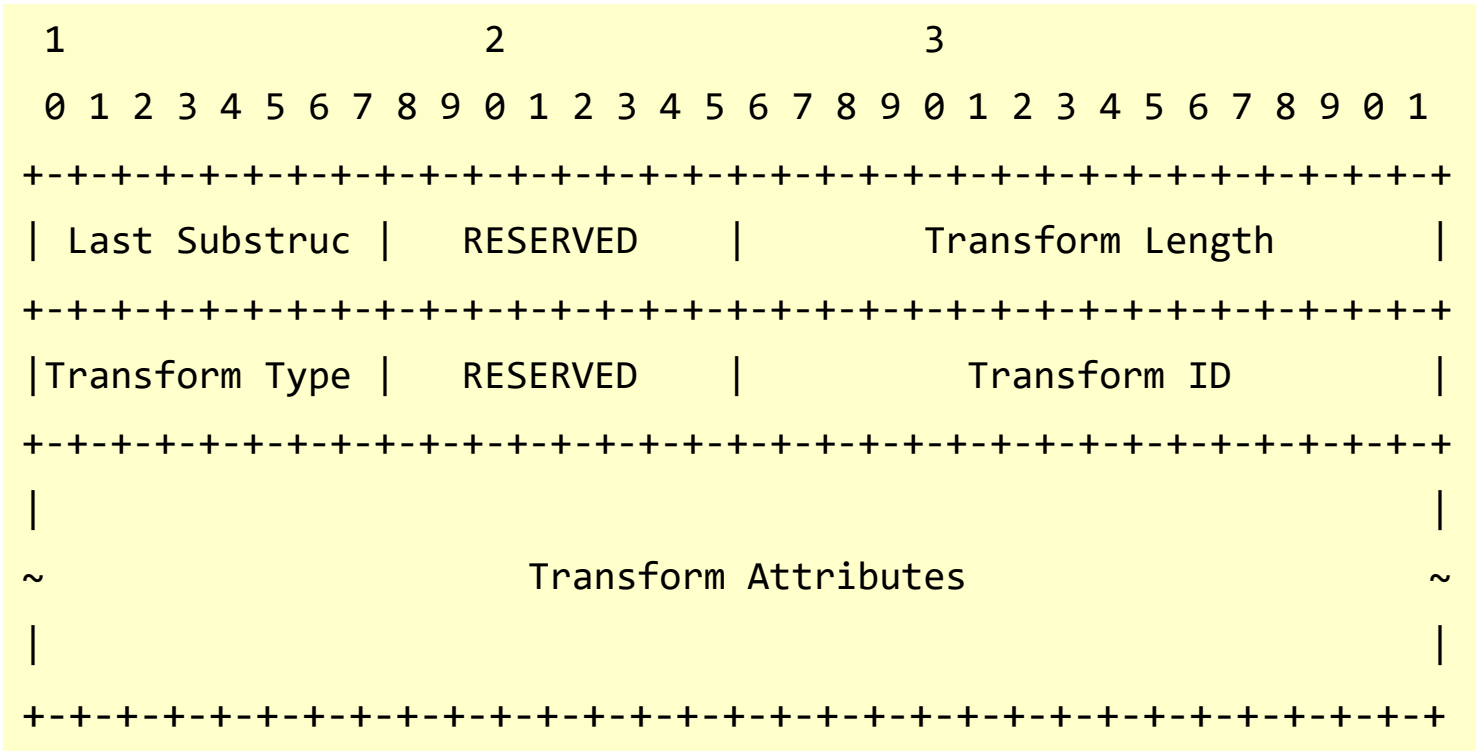


# QSKE\_MECHANISM Transform IDs

Transform ID	Type
QSKE_NEWHOPE	1
QSKE_NEWHOPE_L1	2
QSKE_NEWHOPE_L5	3
QSKE_FRODO_AES_L1	4
QSKE_FRODO_AES_L3	5
QSKE_FRODO_SHAKE_L1	6
QSKE_FRODO_SHAKE_L3	7
QSKE_KYBER_L1	8
QSKE_KYBER_L3	9
QSKE_KYBER_L5	10
QSKE_BIKE1_L1	11
QSKE_BIKE1_L3	12
QSKE_BIKE1_L5	13
QSKE_BIKE2_L1	14
QSKE_BIKE2_L3	15

Transform ID	Type
QSKE_BIKE2_L5	16
QSKE_BIKE3_L1	17
QSKE_BIKE3_L3	18
QSKE_BIKE3_L5	19
QSKE_SIKE_L1	20
QSKE_SIKE_L3	21
QSKE_SABER_L1	22
QSKE_SABER_L3	23
QSKE_SABER_L5	24
QSKE_LIMA_2P_L3	25
QSKE_LIMA_2P_L5	26
QSKE_LIMA_SP_L1	27
QSKE_LIMA_SP_L2	28
QSKE_LIMA_SP_L3	29
QSKE_LIMA_SP_L5	30

# QSKE\_MECHANISM Transform Attributes



- Currently no Transform Attributes
- Security strengths L1, L3, L5 might be encoded



# INVALID\_QSKE\_PAYLOAD Notify Message

Notify Messages – Error Type	Type
INVALID_KE_PAYLOAD	17
<b>INVALID_QSKE_PAYLOAD</b>	<b>8193</b>



# strongSwan IKEv2 QSKE Test Scenarios

[strongSwan KVM Tests](#) / swanctl

## strongSwan swanctl Tests

<b>Guest kernel</b>	4.18.11
<b>strongSwan</b>	5.7.1
<b>Date</b>	20181102-1427-33
<b>Number</b>	<b>Test</b>
1	<a href="#">rw-qske-11</a>
2	<a href="#">rw-qske-15</a>

```
graph LR; Alice[Client alice] --- eth0_10[eth0 10.1.0.10] --- umlswitch1[umlswitch1]; umlswitch1 --- eth1_10[eth1 10.1.0.1] --- Gateway[Gateway moon]; Gateway --- eth0_192[eth0 192.168.0.1] --- umlswitch0[umlswitch0]; umlswitch0 --- eth0_100[eth0 192.168.0.100] --- Roadwarrior_carol[Roadwarrior carol]; umlswitch0 --- eth0_150[eth0 192.168.0.150] --- Roadwarrior_winnetou[Webserver winnetou]; umlswitch0 --- eth0_200[eth0 192.168.0.200] --- Roadwarrior_dave[Roadwarrior dave];
```

- <https://www.strongswan.org/testing/ikev2-qske/swanctl>
- Based on virtual KVM Debian 9 hosts

# Test Scenario rw-qske-l1

The roadwarriors **caro1** and **dave** set up a connection each to gateway **moon**. The IKEv2 hybrid key exchange is using the traditional **Diffie-Hellman** groups **CURVE\_25519** and **ECP\_256\_BP**, respectively, with the **KE** payloads exchanged via **IKE\_SA\_INIT**, followed by a **Quantum-Save Key Exchange** proposing the lattice-based **QSKE\_NEWHOPE\_L1** and isogeny-based **QSKE\_SIKE\_L1** mechanisms, respectively, with the **QSKE** payloads exchanged via **IKE\_AUX**.

The first CHILD\_SA **net1** is for the remote subnet **10.1.0.0/28**.

A second CHILD\_SA **net2** for the remote subnet **10.1.0.16/28** is established using the QSKE mechanisms **QSKE\_KYBER\_L1** and **QSKE\_FRODO\_AES\_L1** by **caro1** and **dave**, respectively.

For the second CHILD\_SA **dave** proposes **QSKE\_SABER\_L1** as the preferred QSKE mechanism and includes a corresponding QSKE payload in the CREATE\_CHILD\_SA request.

**moon** replies with an **INVALID\_QSKE\_PAYLOAD** notification proposing **QSKE\_FRODO\_AES\_L1** instead.

# Configuration of Roadwarrior dave

```
connections {
  home {
    remote_addrs = 192.168.0.1
    local {
      auth = pubkey
      certs = daveCert.pem
      id = dave@strongswan.org
    }
    remote {
      auth = pubkey
      id = moon.strongswan.org
    }
    children {
      net1 {
        remote_ts = 10.1.0.0/28
        esp_proposals = aes256gcm128-ecp256bp-qsakesike1
      }
      net2 {
        remote_ts = 10.1.0.16/28
        esp_proposals = aes256gcm128-ecp256bp-qsakesaber1-qskefrodoa1
      }
    }
  }
  version = 2
  proposals = aes256-sha256-ecp256bp-qsakesike1
}
```

# Configuration of Gateway moon

```
connections {
  rw {
    local_addrs = 192.168.0.1
    local {
      auth = pubkey
      certs = moonCert.pem
      id = moon.strongswan.org
    }
    remote {
      auth = pubkey
    }
    children {
      net1 {
        local_ts = 10.1.0.0/28
        esp_proposals = aes256gcm128-x25519-ecp256bp-qskenewhope1-qskesike1
      }
      net2 {
        local_ts = 10.1.0.16/28
        esp_proposals = aes256gcm128-x25519-ecp256bp-qskekyber1-qskefrodoa1
      }
    }
  }
  version = 2
  proposals = aes256-sha256-x25519-ecp256bp-qskenewhope1-qskesike1
}
```



# dave as Initiator – First CHILD\_SA

- **IKE\_SA\_INIT** request 0

SA KE No N(NATD\_S\_IP) N(NATD\_D\_IP) N(FRAG\_SUP) N(HASH\_ALG) V

- **IKE\_SA\_INIT** response 0

SA KE No N(NATD\_S\_IP) N(NATD\_D\_IP) CERTREQ N(FRAG\_SUP) N(HASH\_ALG) V

- **IKE\_AUX** request 1 # no fragments (SIKE QSKE)

QSKE

- **IKE\_AUX** response 1 # no fragments (SIKE QSKE)

QSKE

- **IKE\_AUTH** request 2 # 2 fragments (CERT)

IDi CERT CERTREQ IDr AUTH SA TSi TSr

- **IKE\_AUTH** response 2 # 2 fragments (CERT)

IDr CERT AUTH SA TSi TSr

# dave as Initiator – Second CHILD\_SA

- **CREATE\_CHILD\_SA** request 3 # no fragments (SABER QSKE)  
SA No KE TS<sub>i</sub> TS<sub>r</sub> QSKE
- **CREATE\_CHILD\_SA** response 3 # INVALID\_QSKE\_PAYLOAD  
N(INVAL\_QSKE)
- **CREATE\_CHILD\_SA** request 4 # 8 fragments (FRODO\_AES QSKE)  
SA No KE TS<sub>i</sub> TS<sub>r</sub> QSKE
- **CREATE\_CHILD\_SA** response 4 # 8 fragments (FRODO\_AES QSKE)  
SA No KE TS<sub>i</sub> TS<sub>r</sub> QSKE

# Thank you for your attention!

## Questions?

[www.strongswan.org](http://www.strongswan.org)

