#### **Cryptography Conference**

## Is your HSM quantum-ready? Here's what you need to know!

Every currently deployed HSM must be replaced with a quantum-safe HSM. But what is a quantum-safe HSM. First, it must itself utilize quantum-safe root keys and algorithms for its processing. Second, it must support quantum-safe firmware updates to remain agile and current as algorithms and protocols evolve. Third, it must provide access to PQC algorithms for application integration. These capabilities must be bult-in not bolted-on to an existing HSM. An HSM that exposes PQC algorithms but itself uses classic algorithms is NOT quantum-safe. This talk will explore these issues in detail.



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KEŸFACTOR



#### January 15 and 16, 2025 - Austin, TX (US) | Online

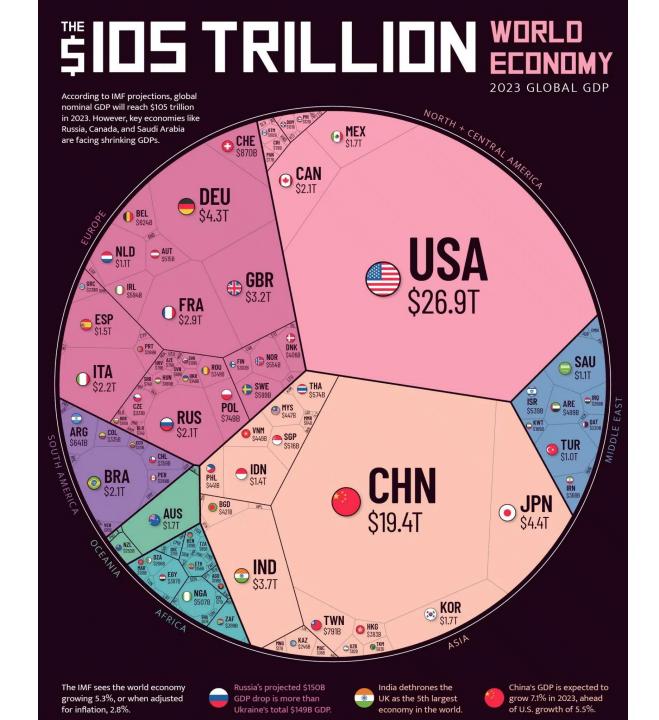
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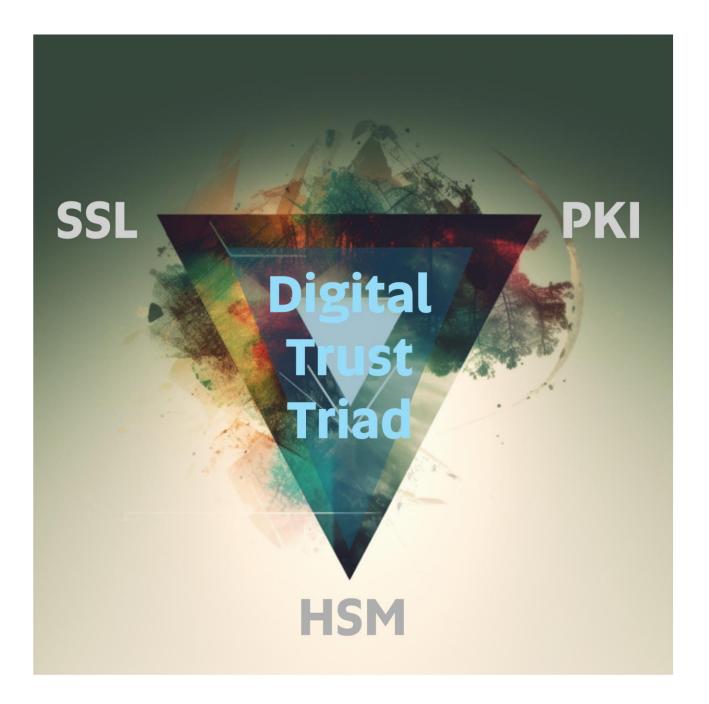
PKI Consortium Post-Quantum Cryptography Conference January 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> 2025



#### **CRYPTO4A**









#### What is an HSM?

- An HSM is Black-Box that provides:
  - Strong anti-tamper techniques to maintain the integrity of its functions
  - Mitigation services around side-channel attacks
  - Strong sources of entropy
  - Cryptographic services to external applications
  - Other ancillary services
- Used to guard private keys used to impart trusted digital identities



#### What does an HSM do?

- Key Generation, Key Storage & Key Usage
  - Crypto-Agility
- Ancillary Functions:
  - F/W Updates
  - External Key Storage (extended storage, backup, archival, etc...)
  - HSM to HSM communications
    - High-availability
    - Load-balancing
    - Geo-diversity
    - Auto-scaling/Auto-healing/Auto-rebalancing
- Attestation

## HSM is both a Crypto Supplier & Consumer

- Supplier of cryptographic services:
  - Provides key generation, management and operational usage of cryptographic services via cryptographic APIs to external applications
- Consumer of cryptographic services:
  - F/W Updates
  - External key storage (extended storage, backup, archival, etc...)
  - HSM-to-HSM communications
  - Attestation
  - Anti-tamper
  - Secure-boot



### Design Assurance/Compliance

- FIPS 140 / CAVP / NIAP / CSfC / ...
  - Cryptographic algorithm compliance
  - Entropy design
  - Physical security
- Mainly concerned about the "Supply side" of things

#### What is a Quantum-Safe HSM?

- Supplier of post-quantum cryptographic services:
  - Provides key generation, management and operational usage of both classic and post-quantum cryptographic services via cryptographic APIs to external applications
- Consumer of cryptographic services:
  - F/W Updates
  - External key storage (extended storage, backup, archival, etc...)
  - HSM-to-HSM communications
  - Attestation
  - Anti-tamper
  - Secure-boot

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#### What is not a Quantum-Safe HSM

- FIPS 140-3 validation of a classic HSM ≠ Quantum-Safe HSM
- Adding a QRNG to a classic HSM **≠** Quantum-Safe HSM
- A F/W update to a classic HSM **≠** Quantum-Safe HSM
- Adding quantum-algorithm support to a classic HSM # Quantum-Safe HSM
- Shinny marketing material claiming "quantum-safe" # Quantum-Safe HSM



#### Consider:

- FS-ISAC paper<sup>1</sup> "Building Cryptographic Agility in the Financial Sector"
  - Second vendor
- HSM Refresh Why not go with quantum-safe and crypto-agility?

1: https://www.fsisac.com/hubfs/Knowledge/PQC/BuildingCryptographicAgilityInTheFinancialSector.pdf



Thank you bruno@crypto4a.com

You can't achieve quantum readiness without Quantum-safe Crypto-agile foundations - QxHSM™

