

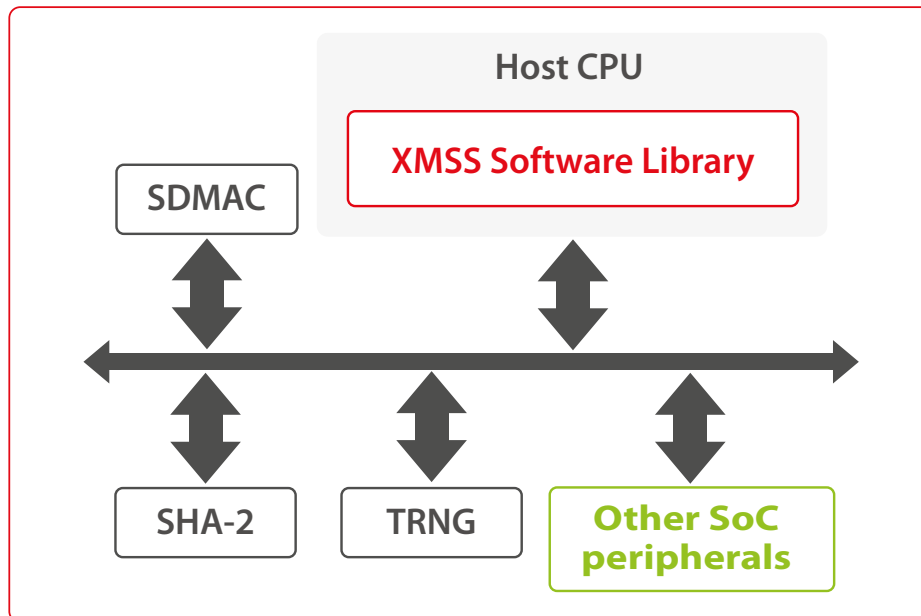
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XMSS POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY

XMSS is a Post-Quantum Cryptographic (PQC) algorithm, meaning it is mathematically designed to be robust against a cryptanalytic attack using a quantum computer. XMSS is a stateful Hash-Based Signature Scheme that has been recommended by NIST in 2020.

The XMSS IP is a software IP that may run on the Host CPU. It uses HASH IP resources, which may be implemented either in software (for a full software XMSS implementation) or in Hardware, to a mixed Hardware/Software implementation. The figure below shows the IP block diagram in its system environment, in case of an implementation using a Hardware HASH IP: the hardware SHA-2 IP, and a portable software library.

Secure-IC TRNG IP for XMSS keys generation and SDMAC IP are also used. The interconnection is ensured by an AMBA bus.



Standards

- ✓ XMSS is standardized by IRTF in RFC8391: XMSS: eXtended Merkle Signature Scheme
- ✓ It has been recommended as 'Stateful Hash-Based Signature Scheme' in SP 800-208
- ✓ The XMSS function has been implemented using only RFC8391
- ✓ The variants XMSS-SHA2_10_256 and XMSS-SHA2_16_256 have been implemented, for hybrid hardware/ software implementation based on Secure-IC HASH IP
- ✓ Key generation, Signature and Verification operations are supported. Performance depends on the system resources, in particular for Key generation and Signature

Applications

- ✓ XMSS is designed to resist cryptanalysis using either classical or quantum computers, in applications such as:
 - Secure communications systems
 - Secure Boot
- ✓ For Signature, XMSS IP ensures:
 - Key Generation
 - Signature
 - Signature verification

XMSS is recommended for Post-Quantum Firmware signature in the US National Security Agency's Commercial National Security Algorithm Suite 2.0 (CNSA 2.0) document.

Deliverables

- ✓ Specifications
- ✓ User guide
- ✓ Test report documentation
- ✓ XMSS software library

Related products (must be purchased separately)

- ✓ Secure-IC SHA IP (SCZ_IP_HMAC)
- ✓ Secure-IC TRNG IP (SCZ_IP_TRNG_DRBG)
- ✓ Secure-IC SDMAC IP (SCZ_IP_SDMAC)

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