

From: [Moody, Dustin \(Fed\)](#)
To: [Alperin-Sheriff, Jacob \(Fed\)](#)
Subject: RE: New Draft of FAQ Update on Assembly etc and third party library usage
Date: Thursday, August 3, 2017 3:38:00 PM

I took care of that – Me and Sara manage it. I sent her an email already, and she'll probably have it updated by tomorrow. But you can post the message today and say it will soon be updated on our FAQ.

From: Alperin-Sheriff, Jacob (Fed)
Sent: Thursday, August 03, 2017 3:37 PM
To: Moody, Dustin (Fed) <dustin.moody@nist.gov>
Subject: Re: New Draft of FAQ Update on Assembly etc and third party library usage

Will do. Who do I sent this to to get it added to the FAQ?

From: "Moody, Dustin (Fed)" <dustin.moody@nist.gov>
Date: Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 3:35 PM
To: "Alperin-Sheriff, Jacob (Fed)" <jacob.alperin-sheriff@nist.gov>
Subject: RE: New Draft of FAQ Update on Assembly etc and third party library usage

Go ahead and post it. I've checked with Ray and Larry.

From: Alperin-Sheriff, Jacob (Fed)
Sent: Thursday, August 03, 2017 2:55 PM
To: internal-pqc <internal-pqc@nist.gov>
Subject: New Draft of FAQ Update on Assembly etc and third party library usage

Regarding Larry's potential concern that the other libraries may not be as readable, NTL is almost certainly more readable than whatever they'd write themselves to handle the algebra and number theory. I would say the same is probably true for GMP too.

Revised Draft

Q3: What exceptions, if any, are there to the requirement for ANSI C source code? In particular, may C++ code or assembly optimizations be used?

A3:

For both the mandatory reference implementation and the mandatory optimized implementations, all new code written by submitters for the submission should be written in as ANSI C-like a manner as possible, subject to some caveats.

In particular, implementations that use NTL (see Question and Answer 16 for details on the use of third-party open source libraries) are necessarily allowed to be written in C++. However, the original

and new code in this submission must still be as ANSI C-like as possible, and should only use C++ functionality where absolutely required in order to use NTL. In particular, as with code using any other third-party open source code, the submission must contain build scripts for both Windows and Linux that compile properly on the Intel x64 reference platform using version 6.4.0 of the GNU Compiler Collection (GCC).

Furthermore, while submitters may not write their own new and original assembly (including inline assembly) code for either the mandatory referenced implementation or the mandatory optimized implementation, we are allowing the use of third party open-source libraries that themselves rely on assembly optimizations, subject to the constraints described in Question and Answer 16.

Any optional additional implementations that submitters wish to include are subject to no constraints at all regarding the language and platform.

Q16: [Can third party open-source code be used in submissions?](#)

A16:

In both the mandatory reference implementation and the mandatory optimized implementation, submissions may use NTL Version 10.5.0 (<http://www.shoup.net/ntl/download.html>), GMP Version 6.1.2 (<https://gmplib.org>), and OpenSSL Version 1.10f (<https://www.openssl.org/source>). Submitters may assume that these libraries are installed on the reference platform and do not need to provide them along with their submissions.

If a submitter wishes to use a third-party open source library other than the ones specified above, they must send a request to NIST at pqc-comments@nist.gov by September 1st, 2017, with the name of the library and a link to the primary website hosting it from which it may be downloaded. NIST will either approve or deny this request within 2 weeks of receiving it. Should a request be approved, it will be added to the above list of acceptable third-party open source libraries provided in this FAQ.

All submission packages using third-party open source code should contain build scripts which will allow for seamless “one-stop” building of the submissions.

For example, on a Linux platform, it should require no more work to build the than running the standard

```
> ./configure [--options]
```

```
> make
```

```
> make install
```

succession of commands. In particular, the build process should be able to find the versions of these libraries specified above that will be pre-installed on the reference platform.

Separate build scripts should be included for the reference Windows platform and reference Linux platform that work using the GNU Compiler Collection version 6.4.0 and related tools as well as any platform-specific commands required.

In addition, as part of the written submission, the submitter shall describe in their own words the functionalities provided by any algorithms from third-party open-source libraries that are used in the implementations.

—Jacob Alperin-Sheriff