GEANT QUANTUM SOLUTIONS



QKD as a Stepping Stone to the Quantum Internet

Ingrid Romijn – co-founder Q*Bird

We are Q*Bird

- Originally a group inside QuTech / TUDelft, researching and developing Quantum Key Distribution devices
- ★ Spun out of QuTech in 2022
- ★ Team growth from $3 \rightarrow 11$ in 2023
- EU and NL subsidies to develop strategic quantum communication technology
- Our goal: To provide hardware and software for the future quantum networks



The Need for Quantum Networks

Connecting Quantum Devices:

- To scale quantum computing power, links based on entanglement are needed → distributed quantum computing
- To connect quantum sensors, the same quantum links are necessary

Democratize Quantum Technology:

- Quantum link to communicate quantum data
- Enable users to connect to powerful (and expensive!) quantum computers in an easy and cheap way

Provide Secure Connectivity:

- In the current geopolitical climate, secure communications is becoming ever more important
- Protecting governmental communications, critical infrastructures, financial and military data is crucial

IBM unveils world's largest quantum computer at 433 qubits

 $\mathsf{IBM}\mathsf{'s}$ new quantum computer, <code>Osprey</code>, is more than triple the size of its previous record-breaking <code>Eagle</code> processor



DECLARATION ON A QUANTUM COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EU

All 27 EU Member States

have signed a declaration agreeing to work together to explore how to build a quantum communication infrastructure (QCI) across Europe, boosting European capabilities in quantum technologies, cybersecurity and industrial competitiveness.





China Expands Quantum Computing Development Push says Report By John Russell

October 6, 2022

The drumbeat around development of quantum computing continues to grow in mainstream media, as evidenced by a report in today's Wall Street Journal (*China Seeks a Quantum Leap in Computing*). While timelines for practical deployment remain uncertain expectations for quantum computing continue



Secure Quantum Connectivity with Q*Bird

Today, we build devices for quantum secured data communications:

- Key distribution systems for secure data transfer, safe against even the most powerful computers
- Qubit Transmitting End Nodes
- Entanglement generating Center Hubs
- Scalable multipoint-to-multipoint connectivity
- Higher intrinsic security compared to other QKD sytems

Tomorrow we will enable general purpose quantum connectivity

- The same central hub technology connects
 quantum processing nodes and quantum sensors
- Upgradable for future quantum internet







QKD until now:



Q*Bird's QKD solution







Key Features Q*Bird's QKD solution



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Multipoint-to-multipoint connectivity: Any user can generate key with any other user. New users can connect to all the other users.

Cost-effective scaling: User devices are small, cost-effective, and don't require cooling. New locations only need an End Node.

Improved security: Confidential key information is only present at the End Nodes / User Devices. Keys cannot be tapped by Hubs.

Long distance: up to 45 dB possible between end nodes

Future proof: Technology and networks are designed to be upgradable to the most advanced quantum network technology.

Field Tested: Our technology has been deployed in multiple field environments with industry partners.

Field Setups and Integrations

Multiple Field Setups in Between Various Cities around the Netherlands

CISCO Integration and Setups (SKIP)

MACSec line encryption IPsec encryption Key Rollover (AES256) every 30 seconds

Juniper Integration and Setups (ETSI 014)

MACSec line encryption Key Rollover (AES256) every 30 seconds

DWDM Integration with 10 gpbs channels Functional with CISCO ROADMs & Amplifers (White paper available)

Free-Space PoC with Optical SatComm Company Banking PoC with ABN-AMRO Servers

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eurofiber

2 Sites & variable Fiber Segment lengths

NIEUWEGEIN

Current QKD testbed





20 KM

35 KM

CENTRAL NODE

20 KM



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Multi-user QKD protecting the Port of Rotterdam







MDI-QUEEN consortium working on next gen QKD





MDI QUEEN project objectives:

- 1. Develop and industrialize next-generation QKD devices
- 2. Strengthen the European ecosystem by building a resilient value chain
- 3. Certification and deployment in operational environments







- ★ We are building the next generation digital infrastructure
- ★ Today, we build devices for quantum secured data communications
- ★ Tomorrow, we will enable general purpose quantum connectivity
- ★ We are ready to install our QKD systems in your networks; Join us in the quantum revolution!



Thank You!

More information and connect: ingrid@q-bird.nl