

ID Quantique and SK Telecom Lead International Standardization of Quantum-Safe Technology

Their joint technical report has received final approval from ITU-T, the telecommunications standardization sector of the International Telecommunication Union.

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, April 3, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- ID Quantique (IDQ) and SK Telecom (NYSE:SKM) today announced that their technical report titled 'Security Considerations for Quantum Key Distribution Network' has received final ITU-T approval at ITU-T Study Group 17 (SG17) e-meeting held from March 17 to 26, 2020.



This marks the first-ever quantum key distribution (QKD)* – related standardization work completed by SG 17, which coordinates security-work across all ITU-T Study Groups.

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The technical report provides security matters to be considered when applying QKD to telecommunications networks, including the required security level for network nodes that manages the distribution of quantum keys, and security requirements for transmission of quantum keys between distantly located network nodes.

ID Quantique and SK Telecom have been leading global

standardization efforts for quantum technologies, including QKD and quantum random number generator (QRNG).

On November 13, 2019, the two companies announced that their recommendation titled 'Quantum Noise Random Number Generator Architecture' received final approval as an ITU-T standard (X.1702) at ITU-T Study Group 17, marking the first international QRNG standard.

Meanwhile, SK Telecom has been cooperating with companies including Telecom Italia, Telefonica and Ericsson on GSMA's new work item 'Quantum Computing, Networking and Security' since March 3, 2020. The companies are currently studying the future perspectives for quantum technology for mobile operators, and plan to publish a white paper within this year.

"This important standardization milestone comes as a result of long-term joint efforts of SK Telecom and ID Quantique in developing cutting-edge quantum cryptography communication technologies for safe and secure 5G services," said Kim Yoon, Chief Technology Officer of SK Telecom. "Going forward, SK Telecom will further strengthen its leadership in quantum technologies by expanding its global partnership ecosystem and spearheading standardization efforts."

*Quantum Key Distribution technologies generate and distribute symmetrical cryptographic keys with information theoretic security based on quantum information theory between a sender and a receiver. If any adversary tries to intercept a single photon during quantum key distribution process, this observation causes errors in the sequence of bits exchanged by the sender and the receiver and these errors reveal an eavesdropping.

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