Quectel Cyber Security Bulletin:

Pioneering Transparency in IoT Security through SBOM and VEX Documents

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Chapter 1 Introduction

Quectel is excited to announce the release of Software Bill of Materials (SBOM) and Vulnerability Exploitability Exchange (VEX) documents for our IoT modules. As an industry-first among IoT Module Manufacturers, these resources will be made available through the Quectel “Download Zone” on our website. Our commitment to being both secure and transparent sets us apart, especially in light of recent allegations which were not substantiated. By making this information readily accessible, we aim to empower our customers to make better-informed decisions about security risk assessment and patching prioritization.

Chapter 2 Why SBOM and VEX are Important

The security landscape for IoT modules is evolving rapidly, and so is the volume of discovered vulnerabilities. Our team recognizes that addressing every vulnerability is unrealistic, hence the importance of effective vulnerability management. This involves understanding which vulnerabilities are most critical and need immediate attention. Our SBOM and VEX documents will assist our clients in this crucial task by providing machine-readable, comprehensive data.

Chapter 3 The Quectel Approach

Just as Red Hat has become an industry leader in sharing vulnerability data in various formats, Quectel aims to set new standards in the IoT sector. We have chosen to use the OWASP CycloneDX format for our SBOM and VEX documents. The format's flexibility and comprehensive nature make it ideal for complex IoT systems that often involve a myriad of software components and dependencies.

Chapter 4 What to Expect

- **SBOM Documents**: These will detail the software components and dependencies within each IoT module, along with licensing and provenance information.
- **VEX Documents**: VEX files will provide updated data on the vulnerability status of our modules, categorized into four distinct statuses:
  - Fixed
  - Known Affected
  - Known Not Affected
  - Under Investigation
Chapter 5 Significance in the IoT Ecosystem

Providing SBOM and VEX documents has a cascading effect on the entire IoT ecosystem. As a Module provider, Quectel is integral to the architecture of numerous IoT devices. Our transparency and commitment to security will thus not only benefit us but also all IoT products built on our platforms.

Chapter 6 Addressing Allegations

We understand that the recent unfounded allegations against Quectel have raised concerns. The release of SBOM and VEX documents serves as a factual rebuttal by providing a transparent view into our security practices, something that no other IoT Module Manufacturer has offered to date.

Chapter 7 Conclusion

Quectel continues to set industry standards by prioritizing both security and transparency. Our SBOM and VEX documents will serve as essential tools for all customers, providing them with the knowledge required for effective vulnerability management.
For access to these groundbreaking resources, please visit the Quectel "Download Zone" on our website.

Chapter 8 For More Information

For further inquiries, please contact our Customer Support team.