

Aionda Mail Security Whitepaper

Zero-Knowledge · Post-Quantum · Made in Germany

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1. Resumo executivo

A Aionda Mail é um serviço de e-mail encriptado zero-knowledge e pós-quântico, operado pela Aionda GmbH em Estugarda, Alemanha. O serviço combina endereços de e-mail descartáveis (DEAs) com uma caixa de correio totalmente encriptada — uma combinação que nenhum outro fornecedor oferece.

Propriedades centrais de segurança:

- **Arquitetura Zero-Knowledge:** Toda a encriptação e decifragem acontece exclusivamente no navegador do utilizador. O servidor nunca tem acesso ao conteúdo em claro de e-mails na caixa de correio segura, nem às palavras-passe ou chaves de encriptação.
- **Segurança pós-quântica:** O Hybrid Key Encapsulation Mechanism (X25519 + ML-KEM-1024) protege todos os dados contra ataques clássicos e contra ataques de computadores quânticos.
- **Autenticação Zero-Knowledge:** O protocolo OPAQUE (RFC 9807) garante que as palavras-passe nunca são transmitidas ao servidor nem aí armazenadas — nem sequer como hashes.
- **Shamir Secret Sharing (2 em 3):** A chave mestra do cofre é dividida em três partes protegidas por palavra-passe, passkey e chave de recuperação. Quaisquer duas partes reconstroem a chave mestra.
- **Perfect Forward Secrecy:** Cada pedido à API utiliza um par de chaves criptográficas único e descartável. Comprometer um pedido não afeta nenhum outro.
- **Proteção MITM (Guardian):** A extensão de navegador verifica de forma independente todas as respostas do servidor via assinaturas Ed25519 e deteta ataques man-in-the-middle através da verificação do certificado TLS — mesmo contra proxies empresariais e CDNs comprometidas.
- **Arquivo de e-mail conforme GoBD:** Contas Enterprise beneficiam de uma cadeia de hash anti-falsificação (blockchain SHA3-256) com conteúdo encriptado de ponta a ponta (Hybrid KEM), trilho de auditoria completo, retenção legal e prazos de retenção configuráveis — conforme à regulamentação alemã GoBD.
- **Sem recuperação de palavra-passe:** Se a palavra-passe e todos os métodos de recuperação forem perdidos, os dados ficam irrecuperáveis. Isto é intencional — prova que o servidor não consegue aceder aos dados do utilizador.

Jurisdição: Direito alemão (DSGVO/GDPR), sem partilha de dados com serviços de informação estrangeiros.

2. Modelo de ameaças

2.1 Aquilo contra que a Aionda Mail protege

Ameaça	Proteção
Comprometimento do servidor (fuga de base de dados, acesso interno)	Todo o conteúdo de e-mail encriptado com chaves que o servidor nunca possui
Espionagem de rede (ISP, Wi-Fi, CDN)	Transporte API encriptado de ponta a ponta via Hybrid KEM

Ameaça	Proteção
Inspeção CloudFlare	Os pedidos à API são encriptados antes de sair do navegador; a CloudFlare vê apenas ciphertext. A extensão Guardian deteta adulteração de respostas via assinaturas Ed25519
Proxies MITM corporativos (ZScaler, Fortinet, etc.)	A extensão Guardian deteta certificados de proxy via lista de bloqueio de emissores (Firefox)
Ataques de computadores quânticos (“recolher agora, decifrar depois”)	ML-KEM-1024 (NIST FIPS 203) oferece resistência pós-quântica
Roubo da base de dados de palavras-passe	O OPAQUE armazena apenas registos criptográficos, não hashes de palavras-passe
Ataques de força bruta offline a palavras-passe	O OPAQUE impede ataques offline; o rate limiting do lado do servidor impede ataques online
Análise de tamanho de e-mail	O bucket padding oculta os tamanhos reais dos e-mails
Canais auxiliares de compressão (CRIME/BREACH)	Bucket padding aplicado após a compressão
Enumeração de utilizadores	Respostas falsas determinísticas para contas inexistentes

2.2 Aquilo contra que a Aionda Mail NÃO protege

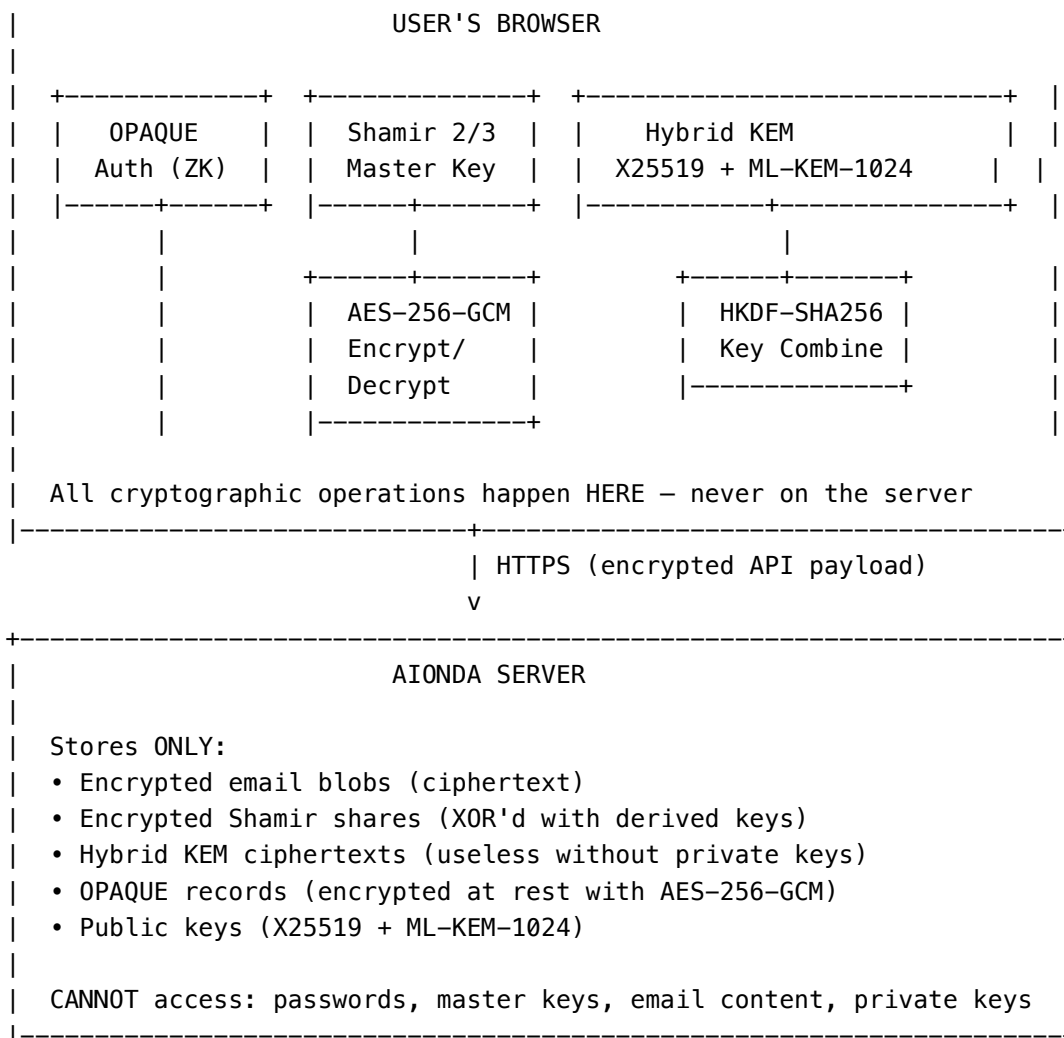
Limitação	Explicação
Dispositivo comprometido	Se o malware controlar o navegador, pode ler o conteúdo já decifrado
Metadados para destinatários externos	E-mails para Gmail/Outlook circulam em claro depois de saírem dos nossos servidores (a menos que se use PGP)
Metadados de e-mail nos nossos servidores	Timestamps, endereços IP e tamanhos de e-mails encriptados são visíveis para o servidor
Confiança na entrega web	O navegador transfere JavaScript dos nossos servidores em cada visita (ver Secção 18 para mitigações)
Criptoanálise sob coação física	Nenhum sistema criptográfico protege contra coerção física

2.3 Princípio de design

A Aionda Mail segue o **modelo do “servidor honesto”**: o sistema é concebido para que mesmo um servidor totalmente comprometido — ou um operador malicioso — não consiga decifrar os dados do utilizador. A segurança não depende de confiar em nós. Depende de matemática.

3. Visão geral da arquitetura

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3.1 Visão geral dos componentes

Componente	Função	Localização
OPAQUE (RFC 9807)	Autenticação de palavra-passe zero-knowledge	Cliente + Servidor
Shamir Secret Sharing	Proteção da chave mestra do cofre (limiar 2 em 3)	Apenas cliente
Hybrid KEM (X25519 + ML-KEM-1024)	Encapsulação de chave pós-quântica para e-mails	Cliente + Servidor
AES-256-GCM	Encriptação simétrica autenticada	Cliente + Servidor
HKDF-SHA256	Derivação de chave a partir de segredos partilhados híbridos	Cliente + Servidor
BIP39	Codificação da chave de recuperação (mnemónica de 24 palavras)	Apenas cliente

Componente	Função	Localização
WebAuthn PRF	Desbloqueio do cofre baseado em passkey	Apenas cliente
Bucket Padding	Proteção contra canais auxiliares	Cliente + Servidor

4. Autenticação Zero-Knowledge (OPAQUE)

4.1 Porque não hash de palavras-passe?

Os serviços tradicionais armazenam hashes de palavras-passe (bcrypt, Argon2). Embora melhor que texto em claro, esta abordagem tem fragilidades fundamentais:

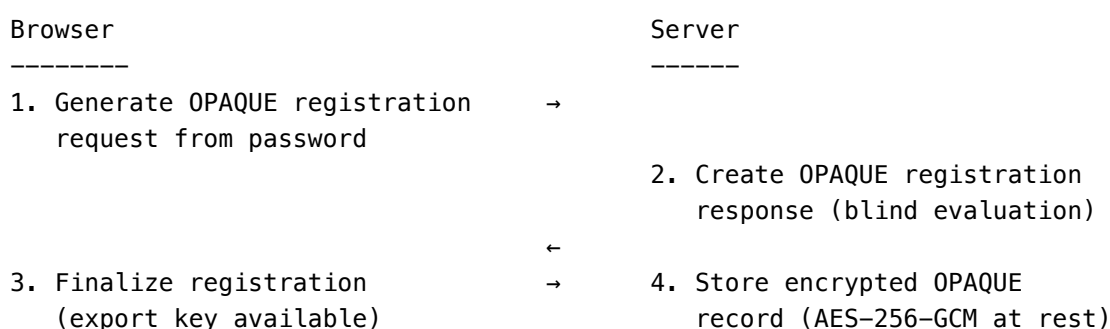
- O servidor vê a palavra-passe durante o login (mesmo que apenas brevemente em RAM)
- Os hashes de palavras-passe podem ser atacados por força bruta offline se a base de dados for roubada
- O servidor pode ser modificado para registrar palavras-passe

O OPAQUE elimina os três problemas. A palavra-passe nunca sai do navegador — nem em claro, nem como hash, nem em qualquer forma.

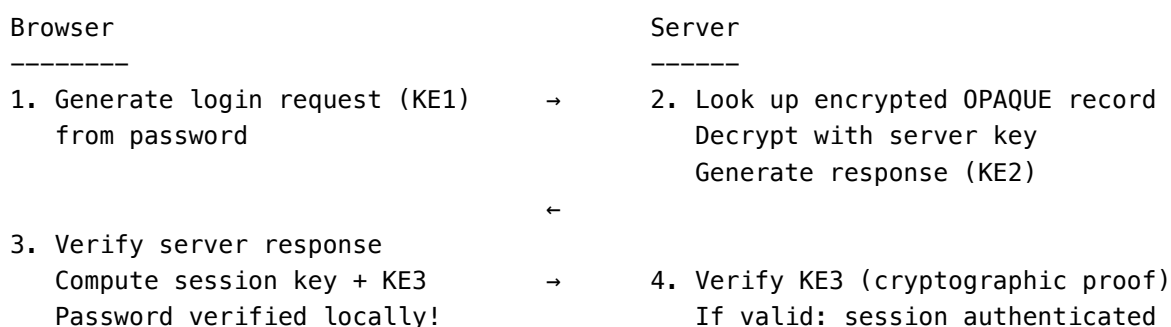
4.2 Como funciona o OPAQUE

O OPAQUE (RFC 9807) é um protocolo aPAKE (Asymmetric Password-Authenticated Key Exchange). Utiliza um mecanismo criptográfico de challenge-response onde o servidor consegue verificar que o utilizador conhece a palavra-passe correta sem nunca saber qual é essa palavra-passe.

Registo (uma única vez):



Login (em cada sessão):



If invalid: reject (max 3 attempts)

Propriedades centrais:

- A palavra-passe é verificada **no lado do cliente** no passo 3 — o servidor nunca a vê
- O servidor armazena um **registo OPAQUE**, que não é um hash de palavra-passe e não pode ser atacado offline
- Os registos OPAQUE são ainda **encriptados em repouso** com AES-256-GCM usando uma chave do lado do servidor
- **Proteção contra enumeração de utilizadores:** Contas inexistentes recebem respostas falsas determinísticas com timing idêntico
- **Rate limiting:** Máximo 3 tentativas de autenticação por sessão, timeout de sessão de 120 segundos

4.3 Implementação

- **Biblioteca:** @serenity-kit/opaque (baseada em WASM, qualidade de produção)
- **Componente do servidor:** Microsserviço dedicado para operações criptográficas OPAQUE
- **Formato Base64:** base64url (URL-safe, sem padding) para compatibilidade do protocolo
- **Registo de auditoria:** Todos os eventos de autenticação são registados com timestamps e endereços IP

4.4 Migração SRP

Legacy accounts using SRP-6a are automatically migrated to OPAQUE upon next login. After migration, the SRP verifier is permanently deleted. Migration is one-way — accounts cannot revert to SRP.

5. Chave mestra do cofre & Shamir Secret Sharing

5.1 Geração da chave mestra

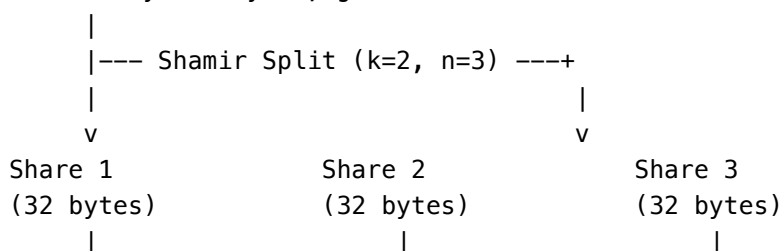
When a user activates the encrypted mailbox, a **256-bit (32-byte) master key** is generated using the browser's cryptographically secure random number generator (`crypto.getRandomValues`).

Esta chave mestra é a raiz de toda a encriptação. Nunca sai do navegador em claro. Nunca é armazenada em lado nenhum — nem no navegador, nem no servidor, nem em qualquer forma.

5.2 Shamir Secret Sharing (2 em 3)

A chave mestra é dividida em três partes usando o esquema **Shamir's Secret Sharing** sobre o corpo de Galois $GF(2^8)$ com o polinómio irreduzível do AES ($x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$).

Master Key (32 bytes, generated once)



6.2 Abordagem híbrida

A Aionda Mail utiliza um **Hybrid Key Encapsulation Mechanism** que combina:

- **X25519** (Curve25519 ECDH) — proven classical security, 128-bit security level
- **ML-KEM-1024** (NIST FIPS 203, formerly Kyber-1024) — post-quantum security, NIST Security Level 5

A abordagem híbrida fornece **defesa em profundidade**: a chave combinada é segura desde que **pelo menos um** dos dois algoritmos permaneça intacto.

6.3 Processo de encapsulação

Sender (encrypting an email):

1. Generate ephemeral X25519 keypair
2. X25519 key agreement with recipient's public key
→ x25519SharedSecret (32 bytes)
3. ML-KEM-1024 encapsulation with recipient's public key
→ mlKemSharedSecret (32 bytes) + mlKemCiphertext (1568 bytes)
4. Combine secrets:
combinedSecret = x25519SharedSecret || mlKemSharedSecret (64 bytes)
5. Derive final key:
sharedSecret = HKDF-SHA256(
 ikm = combinedSecret,
 salt = nil,
 info = "trashmail-hybrid-kem-v1",
 length = 32
)
6. Use sharedSecret to wrap the email's ephemeral AES-256 key

6.4 Processo de decapsulação

Recipient (decrypting an email):

1. X25519 key agreement:
x25519Shared = X25519(recipientPrivateKey, ephemeralPublicKey)
2. ML-KEM-1024 decapsulation:
mlKemShared = ML-KEM-1024.Decapsulate(mlKemCiphertext, recipientPrivateKey)
3. Combine and derive (identical to sender):
sharedSecret = HKDF-SHA256(x25519Shared || mlKemShared, "trashmail-hybrid-kem-v1")
4. Unwrap email's ephemeral AES-256 key using sharedSecret
5. Decrypt email content with ephemeral key

6.5 Tamanhos das chaves


```

| Nonce: 12 bytes random per field |
| Tag: 16 bytes authentication |
| Format: nonce(12) || tag(16) || ciphertext |
+-----+
|                                     v                                     |
+-----+
| Step 6: Hybrid KEM Key Wrapping |
| Ephemeral key wrapped with recipient's public keys: |
| X25519 + ML-KEM-1024 → shared secret |
| AES-256-GCM(ephemeral_key, shared_secret) |
| Format: version(1) || x25519_ct(32) || mlkem_ct(1568) |
| || wrap_iv(12) || encrypted_key(48) |
+-----+
|                                     v                                     |
+-----+
| Step 7: Secure Erasure |
| sodium_memzero() clears ephemeral key from RAM |
| Only encrypted blobs remain |
+-----+
|                                     v                                     |
+-----+
| Step 8: Database Storage |
| Stored in vault_emails table: |
| encrypted_subject, encrypted_from, encrypted_to, |
| encrypted_body, encrypted_body_text, |
| encrypted_headers, wrapped_ephemeral_key |
| Threading: SHA-256 hashes of Message-ID/In-Reply-To |
| (not plaintext – zero-knowledge threading) |
+-----+

```

7.2 Leitura de e-mail (decifragem no navegador)

O processo inverso acontece inteiramente no navegador:

1. Obter o e-mail encriptado do servidor via API encriptada
2. Analisar a chave efémera encapsulada (extrair ciphertext X25519 + ciphertext ML-KEM)
3. **Decapsulação Hybrid KEM** usando as chaves privadas do cofre ☐ segredo partilhado
4. Desencapsular a chave efémera AES-256
5. **Decifragem AES-256-GCM** de cada campo (assunto, de, para, corpo, cabeçalhos)
6. Reordenar bytes: formato do servidor (nonce || tag || ct) ☐ formato WebCrypto (nonce || ct || tag)
7. Remover bucket padding (detetar magic bytes 0xDEAD)
8. Descomprimir se for gzip (detetar magic bytes 0x1F8B)
9. Decodificar UTF-8 para texto em claro

7.3 Envio de e-mail

Ao redigir e enviar um e-mail:

1. O cliente encripta o conteúdo do e-mail com um protocolo de challenge-response
2. O servidor recebe o payload encriptado, decifra-o efemeramente (apenas em memória),

envia via SMTP

3. O servidor devolve os cabeçalhos MIME gerados ao cliente (encriptados)
4. O cliente encripta uma cópia com a chave mestra do cofre e armazena na pasta Enviados
5. O texto em claro efêmero do lado do servidor é imediatamente descartado — nunca escrito no disco

7.4 Anexos

Cada anexo é encriptado independentemente:

- Chave efêmera AES-256 separada por anexo
- Encapsulação Hybrid KEM separada por anexo
- Nome do ficheiro e tipo MIME encriptados separadamente
- Sem compressão para formatos já comprimidos (JPEG, ZIP, PDF, etc.)

7.5 Threading de e-mails (Zero-Knowledge)

O threading de e-mails (agrupar e-mails relacionados) usa apenas **hashes SHA-256** dos cabeçalhos Message-ID e In-Reply-To. O servidor nunca vê as strings reais dos Message-ID — pode agrupar e-mails por igualdade de hash sem conhecer o conteúdo.

8. Camada de transporte API encriptada

8.1 Problema

Mesmo com HTTPS, certos intermediários podem inspecionar tráfego:

- A **CloudFlare** (CDN/proteção DDoS) termina o TLS e pode ver pedidos em claro
- **Proxies empresariais** podem realizar inspeção TLS
- **Parâmetros de API** (como `?cmd=read_email&id=123`) revelam metadados

8.2 Solução: API encriptada de ponta a ponta

Toda a comunicação de API é adicionalmente encriptada de ponta a ponta entre o navegador e o servidor de aplicação, dentro do túnel HTTPS:

Browser -----		Server -----
Phase 1: Key Exchange (once per session)		

GET /get_encryption_keys	→	Return 20 pre-generated Hybrid KEM keypairs
	←	{uuid, x25519_pub, mlkem_pub}

Phase 2: Encrypted Request (every API call)

-
1. Pick random keypair from cache
 2. Hybrid KEM encapsulate → shared secret
 3. gzip compress request payload
 4. Bucket-pad compressed data
 5. AES-256-GCM encrypt with shared secret

6. Generate ephemeral response keypair
7. POST /e {
 - encrypted_payload,
 - key_uuid,
 - x25519_ciphertext,
 - mlkem_ciphertext,
 - response_x25519_pub,
 - response_mlkem_pub
8. Validate key ownership
9. Hybrid KEM decapsulate
10. AES-256-GCM decrypt
11. Decompress
12. Route to API controller
13. Execute business logic
14. Encrypt response with client's response keys
15. Return encrypted response
16. Hybrid KEM decapsulate response
17. AES-256-GCM decrypt
18. Decompress → plaintext response

8.3 Propriedades centrais

- **One-time use:** Each API keypair is used exactly once, then permanently invalidated
- **Perfect Forward Secrecy:** Compromising one request key does not affect any other request
- **Session-bound:** Keys are claimed by a specific session and cannot be reused by another
- **Key pool:** Server maintains approximately 100,000 pre-generated keypairs
- **Auto-refetch:** Client automatically requests new keys when cache drops below 10
- **Key TTL:** Claimed keys expire after 24 hours
- **Bidirectional:** Both request AND response are encrypted — the server never returns plaintext

8.4 O que a CloudFlare vê

With this architecture, CloudFlare (or any TLS-terminating proxy) sees only:

- POST /e — a single, opaque endpoint
- A binary blob of encrypted data
- No API command names, no parameters, no email IDs, no user data

9. Criptografia da partilha de pastas

9.1 Modelo de partilha

Users can share encrypted folders with other Aionda Mail users. The sharing mechanism uses the Hybrid KEM to encrypt a folder-specific key for each recipient.

9.2 Fluxo de partilha

Folder Owner

Recipient

1. Derive folder key from master key:
folderKey = HKDF-SHA256(masterKey, folderUuid)
2. Fetch recipient's public keys:
recipient.x25519_pub (32 bytes)

recipient.mlkem_pub (1568 bytes)

3. Hybrid KEM encapsulate:

```
hybridEncapsulate(recipient.x25519_pub, recipient.mlkem_pub)
→ {x25519Ciphertext, mlKemCiphertext, sharedSecret}
```

4. Encrypt folder key:

```
wrappedKey = AES-256-GCM(folderKey, sharedSecret, nonce)
```

5. Store on server:

```
{x25519_ct, mlkem_ct, nonce, wrappedKey, permissions}
```

6. Fetch sharing record from server

7. Hybrid KEM decapsulate:

```
hybridDecapsulate(x25519_ct, mlkem_ct,
  own_x25519_priv, own_mlkem_priv)
→ sharedSecret
```

8. Decrypt folder key:

```
folderKey = AES-GCM-decrypt(
  wrappedKey, sharedSecret, nonce)
```

9. Decrypt emails in folder using folderKey

9.3 Modelo de permissões

Permission	Capability
readonly	Read folder emails (decrypt only)
einliefern	Submit new emails into folder
bearbeiten	Edit folder contents
antworten	Reply to emails within folder
vollzugriff	Full access including ownership transfer

9.4 Cópia entre cofres (re-encapsulação)

When a recipient copies an email from a shared folder to their own vault, the email key must be **re-wrapped** for their own Hybrid KEM keypair. This is performed entirely client-side:

1. Decrypt shared folder key using recipient's private keys
2. Decrypt email's ephemeral key using folder key
3. Re-encapsulate ephemeral key with recipient's own public keys
4. Store re-wrapped copy in recipient's vault

O servidor facilita a transferência mas nunca vê material de chave em claro.

10. Vault Drive — Armazenamento de documentos encriptado

Vault Drive is the zero-knowledge document storage of Aionda Mail. Unlike emails, which use per-message ephemeral keys, Drive uses a **per-file-key architecture**: every document receives its own 32-byte AES-256-GCM key, generated client-side and wrapped with the master key.

10.1 Porquê chaves por ficheiro?

A arquitetura de chave por ficheiro oferece três vantagens fundamentais:

1. **Granular sharing:** Individual documents can be shared without exposing the master key. The server simply re-wraps the file key for the recipient — the content remains unchanged.
2. **Compromise isolation:** If a single file key is compromised (e.g. via a shared link), all other documents remain protected.
3. **Efficient sharing without re-encryption:** When sharing, the content does not need to be re-encrypted — all recipients read the same ciphertext with a re-wrapped key.

10.2 Fluxo de carregamento

Client

Server

1. Generate random file key:
`fileKey = randomBytes(32)`
2. Encrypt content, name, MIME type:
`encContent = AES-256-GCM(content, fileKey, nonce1)`
`encName = AES-256-GCM(name, fileKey, nonce2)`
`encMime = AES-256-GCM(mime, fileKey, nonce3)`
3. Wrap file key with master key:
`wrappedKey = AES-256-GCM(fileKey, masterKey, nonce4)`
4. Send encrypted package:

```
POST /e {
  encContent, encName, encMime,
  wrappedKey, wrappedKeyNonce
}
```
5. Store in `vault_files + vault_file_chunk`
 (pure ciphertexts, no key material)

10.3 Fluxo de transferência

1. Fetch chunk + wrapped_key from server
2. Unwrap file key:
`fileKey = AES-256-GCM-decrypt(wrappedKey, masterKey, nonce)`
3. Decrypt content, name, MIME:
`content = AES-256-GCM-decrypt(encContent, fileKey, nonce1)`

Decryption happens inside a **Web Worker** that holds the master key only temporarily in memory. After the operation, the memory is overwritten.

10.4 Partilha — apenas re-encapsulação de chave

A vantagem central das chaves por ficheiro mostra-se na partilha: o conteúdo **não** é re-encryptado. Apenas a chave de ficheiro de 32 bytes é re-encapsulada usando a Hybrid KEM do destinatário.

Owner

Recipient

1. Unwrap file key:

```
fileKey = AES-GCM-decrypt(wrappedKey, masterKey)
```
2. Fetch recipient's public keys:

```
recipient.x25519_pub, recipient.mlkem_pub
```
3. Hybrid KEM encapsulation:

```
hybridEncapsulate(recipient.x25519_pub,
                  recipient.mlkem_pub)
→ {x25519_ct, mlkem_ct, sharedSecret}
```
4. Wrap file key with sharedSecret:

```
shareWrappedKey = AES-256-GCM(fileKey,
                              sharedSecret, nonce)
```
5. Store share record:

```
INSERT INTO vault_file_shares {
  file_uuid, recipient_account_id,
  x25519_ephemeral, mlkem_ciphertext,
  share_wrapped_key, permissions
}
```
6. Fetch share record + chunk
7. Hybrid KEM decapsulation:

```
hybridDecapsulate(x25519_ct, mlkem_ct,
                  own_x25519_priv, own_mlkem_priv)
→ sharedSecret
```
8. Unwrap file key:

```
fileKey = AES-GCM-decrypt(
  shareWrappedKey, sharedSecret)
```
9. Decrypt SAME ciphertext:

```
content = AES-GCM-decrypt(
  encContent, fileKey)
```

O proprietário não precisa da chave mestra do destinatário — apenas das chaves públicas Hybrid KEM, que o servidor armazena em claro.

10.5 Partilha de pastas (recursiva)

When a folder is shared, the client processes all contained documents and subfolders recursively. Each file receives its own share record containing the respective document's file key, re-wrapped for the recipient. The folder itself has no folder key — the structure is linked via parent UUIDs.

Important: The KEM encapsulation step is performed **per operation**, not per file. All files in a batched share use the same `sharedSecret` — making the operation efficient without reducing security (each file still has its own file key).

10.6 Modelo de permissões

Permission	Can perform
Read	Download, preview, read metadata
Full access	+ rename, upload new version, move inside the shared folder, upload new documents
Not possible	Delete (owner only), move out of shared folder (owner only)

Permissions are stored in the `vault_file_shares` record and enforced server-side. Cryptography protects the content — access control protects the operations.

10.7 Renomeação, sobrescrita e atualização de metadados

For shared documents, rename and overwrite operations are performed directly on the `vault_files` record — not on individual share records. All recipients immediately see the new name or content, as they reference the same ciphertext.

On **overwrite** (new version), a **new file key** is generated, the old ciphertext is replaced, and all existing share records are re-wrapped client-side with the new key. The owner must load the public keys of all recipients for this operation.

10.8 Pré-visualização e decifragem em memória

Images, PDFs and other documents are decrypted **exclusively in memory** for preview. There is no disk cache with plaintext data. The client uses the **VaultDataLayer**, an encrypted IndexedDB cache that persistently stores ciphertexts and only decrypts them on demand.

Thumbnails are **never** generated server-side — the server never sees content. Thumbnails are generated client-side from the decrypted original and cached encrypted as well.

10.9 O que o servidor vê

Visible to server	Not visible
Encrypted content (random bytes)	Plaintext content
Encrypted filename (random bytes)	Plaintext filename
Encrypted MIME type (random bytes)	File type (image, PDF, text...)
File size (padded to bucket boundaries)	Actual original size
Upload timestamp	File key, master key
Owner account ID	Contents of subfolders
Parent folder UUID (for structure)	Folder names (also encrypted)
Share records with KEM ciphertexts	Recipient master key, unwrapped file key

10.10 Aplicação de quota

Quota enforcement happens server-side based on the **encrypted file size** (including bucket padding). The server does not know the actual plaintext size — the padding overhead is intentionally paid by the user to prevent size leakage.

Limits: - **Free**: 100 MB total storage, max. 10 MB per document - **Plus**: 1 GB total storage, max. 100 MB per document

10.11 Partilha externa — ligações públicas

Vault Drive documents can be shared with recipients who **do not have an Aionda Mail account** via public share links served from the isolated domain `mail.aionda.com`. The feature preserves zero-knowledge by treating each share as an **independent crypto envelope**, decoupled from the owner's vault master key.

Protection modes:

Mode	Trust factor	Use case
link_only	URL fragment (never sent to server)	Convenience — anyone with the link can access
password	Argon2id-derived key	Out-of-band password transfer (SMS, phone call)
recipient_pubkey	Hybrid KEM (X25519 + ML-KEM-1024)	Post-quantum secure when recipient has pre-registered public keys

10.11.1 Share creation (owner client)

1. `fileKey := AES-GCM-decrypt(vault_files.wrapped_key, masterKey)`
2. `shareKey := randomBytes(32)` // ephemeral, per share
3. `wrappedFileKey := AES-GCM(fileKey, shareKey)` // new envelope
4. `unlockVerifier := HMAC-SHA256(shareKey, "unlock:" || shareUuid)` // proof-of-knowledge
5. If password protection:
 - `salt := randomBytes(16)`
 - `pwKey := Argon2id(password, salt, t=3, m=64MB, p=1)`
 - `wrappedShareKey := AES-GCM(shareKey, pwKey)`
 - Link: `https://mail.aionda.com/s/<shareUuid>`
 Else (link_only):
 - Link: `https://mail.aionda.com/s/<shareUuid>#<base64(shareKey)>`
(URL fragment – browsers never transmit fragments to the server)
6. Encrypted metadata (per-share, with shareKey):
 - `encFilename, encMime, encMessage` // all AES-GCM
7. POST /e (encrypted API transport, see §8)
 - server stores share record – never sees plaintext

Link delivery is user-chosen, not routed through Aionda Mail. After creation, the owner decides which channel transports the link: copy-to-clipboard, QR code, a pre-filled `mailto:` draft opened in the user's own mail client, Signal, SMS, AirDrop, or any other out-of-band channel. Aionda Mail never sees, sends, or logs the outgoing delivery — the server only learns which

share-UUIDs exist. This matters for two reasons: (a) the owner can select the most trusted channel available to them (a corporate compliance policy, a preferred messenger, a verified face-to-face QR scan), and (b) for password-protected shares it enables **channel separation** — link via channel A, password via channel B — so a single compromised channel never grants access on its own.

10.11.2 Share access (recipient, no account required) The recipient visits `https://mail.aionda.com/s/<share_uuid>`. The Share Page is a **separate bundle** from the Manager, with its own reproducible build, Sub-resource Integrity manifest, and a `/.well-known/integrity.json` endpoint for offline verification.

1. Share Page bootstrap (client generates ephemeral hybrid KEM keypair)
2. `share_fetch_meta` → { `wrapped_file_key`, `salt?`, `encrypted_message`, ... }
3. Unlock phase — produces a one-time `unlock_token`:
 - `password mode`: server verifies Argon2id derivation → `unlock_token`
 - `link_only mode`: client computes `HMAC-SHA256(shareKey, "unlock:" || uuid)`
server verifies against stored `unlockVerifier`
→ `unlock_token`
4. `fileKey := AES-GCM-decrypt(wrappedFileKey, shareKey)`
5. `share_download_chunk` (per chunk, `unlock_token` required)
6. Client hashes plaintext, calls `share_confirm_download`

The `unlock_token` unifies the flow across all three protection modes and enables centralized rate-limiting and audit-logging — link-only access requires proof of knowledge of the fragment, so bots and crawlers without the fragment cannot issue downloads.

10.11.3 Enforced policies Every share must declare the following at creation time (all enforced server-side):

- **expires_at** — mandatory, default 7 days, maximum 90 days
- **max_downloads** — mandatory counter, default 10
- **Rate limiting** — Argon2 attempts on password shares are throttled per IP hash and per share
- **revoked_at** — the owner can revoke any share with a single click; future unlock attempts and downloads return a unified “share unavailable” response (same error as expired or exhausted — no enumeration oracle)

10.11.4 Tamper-evident audit chain All relevant access events are appended to the existing `enterprise_audit_log` hash chain (SHA3-256, see §17.2). The following action types are reserved for external sharing:

`EXT_SHARE_CREATED`, `EXT_SHARE_EMAIL_SENT`, `EXT_SHARE_VIEWED`, `EXT_SHARE_UNLOCKED`, `EXT_SHARE_PREVIEWED`, `EXT_SHARE_DOWNLOAD_STARTED`, `EXT_SHARE_DOWNLOAD_CONFIRMED`, `EXT_SHARE_INTEGRITY_BROKEN`, `EXT_SHARE_PASSWORD_FAIL`, `EXT_SHARE_REVOKED`, `EXT_SHARE_ROTATED`, `EXT_SHARE_EXPIRED`.

IP and user-agent hashes use a **daily rotating salt** (`vault_drive_external_share_daily_salts`, pruned after 30 days) — historical hashes become non-reversible after salt rotation for GDPR compliance, while short-term correlation remains available for the owner.

10.11.5 Key rotation (share rewrap) The owner can rotate a share at any time without re-uploading the content:

1. `new_shareKey := randomBytes(32)`
2. `new_wrappedFileKey := AES-GCM(fileKey, new_shareKey)`
3. `INSERT new share row; old.linked_to_uuid := new.share_uuid`
4. `old.revoked_at := NOW()`

Recipients using the old link receive “share unavailable”. The owner forwards the new link. All access events from both shares remain linked via `linked_to_uuid` in the audit chain.

10.11.6 What revocation does — and does not Revocation **stops future server-side delivery** of the share. It does **not** retroactively revoke share keys, file keys, or chunks already delivered. A recipient who has already downloaded the plaintext — or who captured the link fragment — can continue to use that material locally. For use cases with higher assurance requirements, combine: short `expires_at`, low `max_downloads`, password protection, and the Guardian browser extension for the recipient.

10.11.7 What the server sees

Visible to server	Not visible
<code>share_uuid, file_uuid, account_id</code> (owner)	Plaintext filename, MIME type, content, message
<code>wrapped_file_key, wrapped_share_key</code> (ciphertexts)	<code>share_key</code> (link-only: lives only in the URL fragment, client-side)
<code>unlock_verifier</code> (HMAC output, not reversible)	Password, Argon2-derived key
<code>protection_mode, expires_at, max_downloads, allow_preview</code>	Recipient identity (only salted IP/UA hash, pruned after 30 days)
<code>encrypted_filename, encrypted_mime, encrypted_message</code> (ciphertexts)	Their plaintexts
Plaintext <code>sender_display_name</code> (recipient sees it before unlock)	
Audit-chain entries for every access event	

11. Aionda Chat — Mensagens E2EE pós-quânticas

O Aionda Chat é a superfície integrada de mensagens em tempo real da Aionda Mail. Ao contrário do e-mail — que utiliza chaves efêmeras de uso único por mensagem — as conversas de chat são de longa duração e requerem **forward secrecy** e **post-compromise security** para cada mensagem individual. Para isso projetamos um protocolo dedicado: **AAR (Aionda Async Ratchet)** — uma variante pós-quântica do X3DH + Double Ratchet do Signal, onde cada passo Diffie-Hellman é substituído por uma KEM híbrida (X25519 + ML-KEM-1024).

11.1 Porquê um protocolo dedicado?

O e-mail e o chat têm perfis de segurança fundamentalmente diferentes:

Property	Email	Chat
Cadence	Bursty (minutes/hours apart)	Real-time (seconds apart)
Session length	Single message	Continuous, days to years
Forward secrecy unit	Per message	Per message within a long session
Post-compromise recovery	Not required (one-shot key)	Required — each new message heals from past compromise
Asynchrony	High (recipient often offline)	High (recipient often offline)
Group dynamics	Static recipient list	Dynamic add/remove members

A chat conversation that simply re-used the email pipeline would either (a) burn a fresh ephemeral keypair every keystroke (unacceptably slow), or (b) share a single static conversation key (no forward secrecy). Neither is acceptable. AAR resolves this by maintaining a continuously ratcheting key state per peer — every message advances the state irrevocably.

11.2 Blocos de construção

AAR uses exactly four primitives:

Hybrid KEM	X25519 + ML-KEM-1024	(key encapsulation)
AEAD	AES-256-GCM	(message encryption)
KDF	HKDF-SHA256	(key derivation)
Signatures	Ed25519	(identity-key binding, SPK signing)

No new cryptographic assumptions are introduced — every primitive is also used elsewhere in the system and has been independently audited.

11.3 KeyBundle — o material de handshake assíncrono

Cada utilizador publica um **KeyBundle** no servidor quando o chat é activado pela primeira vez. O bundle permite aos pares começar a enviar mensagens mesmo enquanto o utilizador está offline.

KeyBundle (per account, hybrid throughout):

Identity Key (IK)	— long-lived
-- IK.x25519_pub	
-- IK.mlkem_pub	
-- IK.ed25519_pub	— used to sign the SPK
Signed Pre-Key (SPK)	— rotated weekly
-- SPK.x25519_pub	
-- SPK.mlkem_pub	
-- Ed25519 signature	— signs the concatenation, binds SPK to IK

One-Time Pre-Keys (OPK) – pool of ~100, consumed atomically
 |-- OPK.x25519_pub
 |-- OPK.mlkem_pub

Server storage: Only public halves of each key are stored, plus signatures and metadata. Private halves never leave the originating browser. The server enforces an atomic UPDATE ... LIMIT 1 SET consumed_ts = NOW() when an OPK is fetched, guaranteeing single-use semantics under concurrent requests.

When the OPK pool falls below 20, the client tops up the pool with a fresh batch — this prevents the asynchronous handshake from degrading to a degenerate mode lacking one-time entropy.

11.4 Handshake estilo PQXDH (X3DH-PQ)

To start a new conversation with Bob, Alice fetches Bob's bundle (IK_B, SPK_B, one OPK_B) and Bob's Ed25519 signature on SPK_B. Alice verifies the signature, then performs four hybrid KEM encapsulations:

1. Verify Ed25519 signature on SPK_B – binds SPK to long-term identity
2. Generate ephemeral Alice key (EK_A):
 EK_A.x25519, EK_A.mlkem (one-time, discarded immediately after handshake)
3. Four hybrid KEM encapsulations:

ss1 = HKEM(IK_A_priv ⊗ SPK_B_pub)	– Alice identity → Bob SPK
ss2 = HKEM(EK_A_priv ⊗ IK_B_pub)	– Alice ephemeral → Bob identity
ss3 = HKEM(EK_A_priv ⊗ SPK_B_pub)	– Alice ephemeral → Bob SPK
ss4 = HKEM(EK_A_priv ⊗ OPK_B_pub)	– Alice ephemeral → Bob OPK

(each ss_i is itself the HKDF combination of an X25519 secret AND an ML-KEM secret – see Section 6.4)

4. Root key derivation:


```
SK = HKDF-SHA256(
  IKM = ss1 || ss2 || ss3 || ss4,
  info = "AAR-X3DH-v1" || consumed_OPK_id
)
```

5. Forget every private piece of ephemeral material; SK seeds the ratchet.

A construção garante:

- **Mutual authentication** via the Ed25519-signed SPK_B and IK_A binding
- **Forward secrecy** even if IK_B is later compromised — ss3 and ss4 use ephemeral keys on both sides
- **Post-quantum security** because every ss_i includes an ML-KEM term — an attacker harvesting today's traffic for a future quantum computer still cannot reconstruct any of the four secrets
- **Replay resistance** through atomic OPK consumption — Bob's server-side trigger refuses to release the same OPK twice

O OPK ID consumido pela Alice é ligado ao parâmetro info do HKDF — o lado do Bob só pode portanto reproduzir a mesma chave raiz com o mesmo OPK, e apenas uma vez.

de visualização do remetente, e qualquer contexto de resposta citada. A base de dados da Aionda armazena o conteúdo tal qual em `chat_events.payload`.

11.7 Conversas em grupo — Sender Keys por destinatário

For room conversations (3+ participants), AAR uses a **per-recipient fan-out** model. The sender derives one sender-key chain per peer pair and encrypts a message once per recipient. Each recipient therefore receives a personally-addressed ciphertext, decryptable only with the keys derived from their own AAR session with the sender.

Trade-off: Fan-out cost is $O(N)$ in recipients — acceptable for typical team sizes (≤ 25 participants). For larger groups a future MLS-based mode is planned (see Roadmap). The current model is preferable to a single shared group key because: (a) it preserves forward secrecy on a per-pair basis, (b) it does not require key-rotation on member removal beyond the bilateral level, and (c) it inherits the post-quantum guarantees of pairwise AAR without modification.

11.8 Conteúdo de conversa inicial

When Alice starts a new room with Bob, Carol, and Dan, the first message to each participant is wrapped as an **initial-handshake container** that carries (a) the X3DH handshake material consumed against that participant's bundle and (b) the first message itself. The receiver dispatches on the discriminator field:

```
{
  "type": "initial",
  "initialMessage": { /* handshake metadata, OPK id consumed */ },
  "encryptedMessage": "<base64 MessageContainer>"
}
```

Subsequent messages in the same room reuse the established AAR session and only contain the encryptedMessage portion.

11.9 Transporte — API encriptada + Mercure SSE + WebSocket

O plano do chat utiliza três canais ortogonais:

Channel	Direction	Purpose	Plaintext seen by server
/e Encrypted API	Client → Server	Send message, fetch history, key-bundle ops (11 endpoints)	None — all 11 chat endpoints use the same hybrid-KEM transport documented in Section 8
Mercure SSE	Server → Client	Push delivery of new events	None — the server pushes the same opaque MessageContainer it stored (<code>chat.event_received</code> , <code>chat.read_receipt</code>)
WebSocket /chat/ws	Bi-directional	Reconnect backfill (<code>sync_request</code>), heartbeat, presence	Presence boolean (online/offline) and login-string only — never message content

Presence is held in an in-memory map on `aionda_chat_realtime`; a single intranet-only HTTP endpoint exposes a `login` → online lookup for the team picker so users can see whether a peer is reachable. No history, no read state, no content ever traverses the presence channel.

11.10 Confirmações de leitura

As confirmações de leitura são uma definição opt-in por conta (`chat_participants.send_read_receipts`). Quando ativadas, marcar uma mensagem como lida publica um evento `chat.read_receipt` que contém:

```
{ conversation_uuid, last_read_event_uuid, account_login }
```

Note that `last_read_event_uuid` is **not** the message content — it is a server-allocated identifier already known to the server. No additional information leaks beyond “Alice has now seen messages up to event X.” Recipients who disable read receipts (`send_read_receipts = false`) never emit such events, and the server enforces the toggle.

11.11 Integração na cadeia de auditoria

Para contas Enterprise, cada operação de chat é adicionada ao log de auditoria infalsificável existente (`enterprise_audit_log`, cadeia de hash SHA3-256 — ver §17). Os tipos de ação reservados são:

```
CHAT_CONVERSATION_CREATED, CHAT_PARTICIPANT_ADDED, CHAT_PARTICIPANT_REMOVED, CHAT_MESSAGE_SENT,
CHAT_MESSAGE_READ, CHAT_KEYBUNDLE_PUBLISHED, CHAT_KEYBUNDLE_ROTATED, CHAT_OPK_TOPPED_UP,
CHAT_CONVERSATION_LEFT.
```

O registo de auditoria contém apenas o UUID da conversa, o login do actor, e um timestamp — **nunca** o payload encriptado, as chaves de ratchet, ou os conteúdos das mensagens.

11.12 O que o servidor vê

Visible to server	Not visible
<code>conversation_uuid</code> , list of participants (by <code>mail_account.name</code>)	Plaintext message content
Encrypted <code>MessageContainer</code> payloads (opaque ciphertexts)	Ratchet keys, chain keys, message keys
Public halves of IK, SPK, OPK; Ed25519 signatures on SPK	Private halves of any keypair
OPK consumption counter and timestamp	Which OPK was consumed for which conversation (correlation prevented by HKDF-info binding only existing client-side)
Conversation cadence (timestamps of <code>chat_events</code> rows)	Quoted reply chains, file attachments inside the container
Presence boolean (online/offline)	Typing indicators (peer-to-peer only, never reach the server)
Audit-chain entries for Enterprise accounts	Plaintext content of audit entries

11.13 Auditorias criptográficas

O protocolo AAR foi implementado de raiz em TypeScript e passou por três auditorias independentes assistidas por IA, documentadas em `typescript/manager/chat/crypto/AUDIT.md`, `AUDIT_SECOND_OPINION.md` e `AUDIT_THIRD_OPINION.md`. As conclusões de cada ronda foram

integradas antes do deployment público. As principais superfícies auditadas foram: simetria do handshake, reserva de OPK sob concorrência, deep-cloning do estado imutável do ratchet, e o framing AEAD do MessageContainer.

11.14 Limites de implementação

The chat code base lives in `typescript/manager/chat/` (~9,000 lines of TypeScript) and `includes/classes/Api` (PHP service layer). Key audit artifacts:

<code>crypto/aar-types.ts</code>	– type-only declarations, no logic
<code>crypto/aar-keybundle.ts</code>	– KeyBundle creation, rotation, serialization
<code>crypto/aar-x3dh.ts</code>	– Handshake (initiator + responder paths)
<code>crypto/aar-double-ratchet.ts</code>	– Root chain, sending chain, receiving chain

The clean separation between protocol logic (`crypto/`) and transport/UI (`chat-store.ts`, `chat-panel.ts`, ...) ensures that the cryptographic core can be re-audited without UI scope creep.

12. Proteções contra canais auxiliares

12.1 Bucket Padding

Problema: Os tamanhos de e-mails encriptados podem revelar informação. Um atacante que observe os comprimentos dos ciphertexts pode inferir o conteúdo (por exemplo, um e-mail de 50 bytes é provavelmente “OK, obrigado” enquanto um e-mail de 500 KB contém anexos).

Solução: Todos os dados são alinhados para “buckets” de tamanho fixo antes da encriptação:

Bucket sizes: 256B, 512B, 1KB, 2KB, 4KB, 8KB, 16KB, 32KB,
64KB, 128KB, 256KB, 512KB, 1MB, 2MB, 4MB, 8MB, 16MB

Format: `[0xDEAD magic][4-byte length][actual data][random padding to bucket boundary]`

Exemplo: Um e-mail de 523 bytes é alinhado para 1.024 bytes. Um observador vê apenas “e-mail de 1KB” — não o tamanho real de 523 bytes.

12.2 Compressão antes da encriptação

Os dados são comprimidos com gzip (nível 6) **antes** da encriptação. Esta é a única ordem correta:

- A compressão após encriptação falharia (dados encriptados têm entropia máxima)
- O bucket padding após a compressão previne ataques tipo CRIME/BREACH que exploram rácios de compressão

12.3 Privacidade do threading

Os threads de e-mail usam hashes SHA-256 dos cabeçalhos Message-ID em vez de identificadores em claro. O servidor pode agrupar e-mails relacionados por igualdade de hash sem saber os identificadores reais das mensagens.

13. Gestão e ciclo de vida das chaves

13.1 Hierarquia de chaves

Vault Master Key (32 bytes, generated once per account)

```

|
|--- Vault Keypair (Hybrid KEM)
|   |-- X25519 public key (32 bytes) – stored plaintext on server
|   |-- X25519 private key (32 bytes) – encrypted with master key
|   |-- ML-KEM-1024 public key (1568 bytes) – stored plaintext on server
|   |-- ML-KEM-1024 private key (3168 bytes) – encrypted with master key
|
|--- Per-Email Ephemeral Keys (32 bytes each)
|   |-- Wrapped with recipient's Hybrid KEM public keys
|
|--- Per-Attachment Ephemeral Keys (32 bytes each)
|   |-- Wrapped independently per attachment
|
|--- Folder Keys (derived via HKDF per folder)
|   |-- Shared via Hybrid KEM encapsulation per recipient
|
|--- Signature Encryption Key (derived from master key)
|   |-- Encrypts email signature templates

```

13.2 Armazenamento de chaves

Key	Storage Location	Protection
Master Key	Nowhere (reconstructed on-demand from Shamir shares)	Shamir 2-of-3
Vault private keys	Server (encrypted)	AES-256-GCM with master key
Vault public keys	Server (plaintext)	Not sensitive — public by definition
Email ephemeral keys	Server (wrapped)	Hybrid KEM encapsulation
OPAQUE records	Server (encrypted at rest)	AES-256-GCM with server key
Encrypted Shamir shares	Server	XOR with password/passkey/recovery derived keys
API transport keys	Server (pre-generated pool)	One-time use, 24h TTL

13.3 Fingerprints de chaves

Each vault keypair has a SHA-256 fingerprint stored on the server. This allows:

- Audit trail of key rotations
- Detection of unauthorized key changes
- Client-side verification of key integrity

14. Mecanismo de recuperação

14.1 Chave de recuperação (mnemónica BIP39)

Durante a configuração do cofre, o utilizador recebe uma **frase de recuperação de 24 palavras** gerada a partir de 256 bits de entropia, codificada usando a norma BIP39:

Example: apple river mountain sunset golden bridge falcon ocean
crystal thunder meadow silver dolphin forest marble castle
velvet compass harbor window ancient pepper rocket shield

14.2 Derivação da chave de recuperação

1. Generate: 256 bits random entropy
2. Encode: BIP39 mnemonic (24 words, 11 bits per word)
3. Derive: `verificationKey = HKDF-SHA3-256(entropy, salt = accountId, info = "trashmail-recovery-verify")`
4. Hash: `verificationHash = SHA3-256(verificationKey)`
5. Store: Server stores ONLY verificationHash (32 bytes)

14.3 O que o servidor armazena

O servidor armazena **apenas o hash SHA3-256** de uma chave de verificação derivada. Não armazena:

- As palavras de recuperação
- A entropia
- A própria chave de verificação

14.3.4 Recovery Flow

1. User enters 24-word recovery phrase
2. Client derives entropy \square HKDF-SHA3-256 \square SHA3-256 \square verification hash
3. Client sends verification hash to server (never the plaintext key)
4. Server compares with stored hash
5. If match: All 2FA methods are disabled, user sets up fresh authentication
6. Recovery key is revoked after single use

14.3.5 Rate Limiting

- Maximum 3 verification attempts per hour
- 60-minute lockout after exceeding limit
- One-time use: recovery key is permanently revoked after successful use

14.3.6 No Password Recovery

Não existe reposição de palavra-passe via e-mail. Se um utilizador perde a sua palavra-passe E todos os outros factores de autenticação (passkey + chave de recuperação), os seus dados ficam permanentemente inacessíveis. Esta é a prova fundamental de que o zero-

knowledge funciona — se o serviço pudesse recuperar dados do utilizador, também os poderia ler.

15. Autenticação sem palavra-passe (Passkeys)

15.1 Extensão WebAuthn PRF

A Aionda Mail suporta passkeys FIDO2 (chaves de segurança em hardware, autenticadores biométricos) para login sem palavra-passe e desbloqueio do cofre.

A **extensão WebAuthn PRF (Pseudo-Random Function)** fornece uma saída determinística de 32 bytes ligada à passkey e credencial específicas. Esta saída é usada para proteger a Parte 2 do Shamir.

15.2 Como funciona

1. Registration:

- User creates passkey via `navigator.credentials.create()`
- PRF extension generates hardware-bound output
- Output XOR'd with Shamir Share 2 → encrypted share stored on server

2. Authentication:

- User authenticates with passkey (biometric/PIN)
- PRF extension reproduces same 32-byte output
- Output XOR'd with encrypted share → Shamir Share 2 recovered
- Combined with Share 1 (password) → Master Key reconstructed

3. Vault Unlock (passwordless):

- If both passkey (Share 2) and password (Share 1) available → immediate unlock
- Password verified via OPAQUE (separate from passkey auth)

15.3 Múltiplas passkeys

Os utilizadores podem registar várias passkeys (por exemplo, MacBook Touch ID, iPhone Face ID, YubiKey). Cada passkey protege independentemente a sua própria cópia da Parte 2. Qualquer passkey combinada com a palavra-passe é suficiente para desbloquear o cofre.

16. Guardian: Proteção MITM & assinatura de respostas

16.1 O problema com aplicações web

Every web application has an inherent trust problem: the browser downloads JavaScript from the server on every visit. A man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacker — whether a compromised CDN, corporate proxy, or rogue ISP — could theoretically inject modified code that exfiltrates encryption keys.

Aionda Mail addresses this with the **Guardian module**, a browser extension component (available for Chrome and Firefox) that independently verifies server integrity.

- **Environment separation:** Dev keys (dev-2026-01) cannot be used on production URLs and vice versa

16.4 Gestão da chave pública Ed25519

Public keys are shipped with the browser extension in `public_key.json`:

```
{
  "keys": {
    "prod-2026-01": {
      "algorithm": "Ed25519",
      "public_key": "<base64 SPKI DER>",
      "valid_from": "2026-01-13T00:00:00Z",
      "valid_until": "2027-01-13T00:00:00Z"
    }
  }
}
```

- **Key format:** SPKI DER (Subject Public Key Info, Distinguished Encoding Rules)
- **Tamanho da chave:** 32 bytes (256-bit Ed25519 public key)
- **Signature size:** 64 bytes (fixed)
- **Rotation:** New keys are added before old keys expire; extension updates deliver new keys
- **No server trust:** Keys are embedded in the extension binary, not fetched from the server

16.5 Verificação do certificado TLS (Firefox)

On Firefox, the Guardian module performs additional TLS certificate verification using the `browser.webRequest.getSecurityInfo()` API (not available in Chrome due to Manifest V3 limitations).

Verification flow:

1. Browser extension intercepts HTTPS response
2. Extract TLS certificate chain from browser's security info:
 - Leaf certificate fingerprint (SHA-256)
 - Issuer Distinguished Name (O=, CN=)
 - Subject (CN=)
3. Check against known MITM issuers (hardcoded blacklist): ZScaler, Netskope, Fortinet, Palo Alto, Blue Coat, Check Point, Barracuda, Sophos, WatchGuard, Cisco Umbrella
 - If match: MITM detected, show warning
4. Check against trusted issuers: Google Trust Services, Cloudflare, Let's Encrypt, DigiCert, Sectigo
 - If match AND subject matches expected domain: OK
5. If unknown issuer: Fetch server's own certificate fingerprint
 - Server connects to itself via external routing (prevents spoofing)
 - Response is Ed25519 signed (prevents MITM from lying about cert)
 - Compare issuer organization with browser's certificate issuer

→ If mismatch: MITM suspected, show warning

Why issuer-based validation instead of pinning? CloudFlare (used as CDN) rotates leaf certificates across edge servers. Traditional certificate pinning (matching exact fingerprints) would cause false positives. Issuer-based validation is more robust: the issuing CA is stable even when leaf certificates change.

16.6 Self-Certificate Fetching (anti-spoofing)

The server’s certificate endpoint uses a clever anti-spoofing technique:

Server connects to cert.trashmail.com (or cert-subdomain.domain) with SNI = mail.aionda.com

- Forces external routing through CloudFlare
- Receives the actual certificate that users see
- Prevents localhost spoofing
- Response signed with Ed25519 to prevent tampering

The server essentially asks “what certificate does the outside world see for my domain?” — and signs the answer so the extension can trust it.

16.7 Indicadores de estado de segurança

The extension displays a badge on the browser toolbar:

Badge	Color	Meaning
✓	Green	All responses verified — signatures valid
!	Orange	Using deprecated signing key (rotation pending)
×	Red	MITM detected — signature verification failed
!	Red	Missing signatures — responses not signed
[Shield]	Blue	Protected mode — no verification performed yet

16.8 Cobertura de ameaças

Attack	Detection Method	Browser
Corporate MITM proxy (ZScaler, Fortinet)	Certificate issuer blocklist	Firefox
Modified API responses	Ed25519 signature verification	Chrome + Firefox
Replay attacks	5-minute timestamp window	Chrome + Firefox
CDN compromise (CloudFlare)	Response signature mismatch	Chrome + Firefox
Certificate substitution	Issuer comparison + server self-check	Firefox
Dev/prod key confusion	Environment-bound key IDs	Chrome + Firefox

16.9 Limitações

- **Chrome Manifest V3:** Cannot inspect TLS certificates — only response signature verification is available
- **Extension required:** Users without the extension do not benefit from Guardian protections
- **Ed25519 is not post-quantum:** Signature verification uses classical cryptography. A sufficiently powerful quantum computer could theoretically forge Ed25519 signatures.

17. Arquivo empresarial de e-mail (Blockchain)

17.1 Visão geral

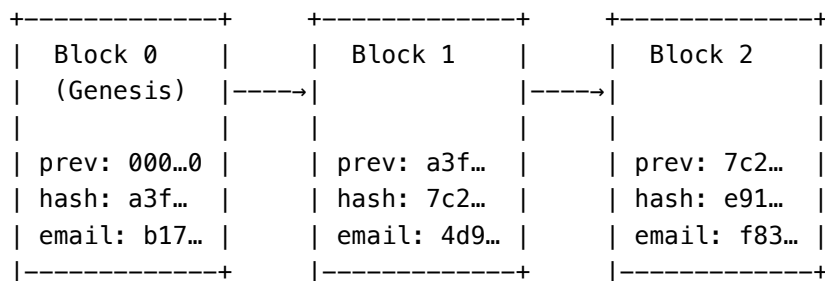
Aionda Mail’s Enterprise plan includes a **GoBD-compliant email archive** secured by a cryptographic hash chain (blockchain). Every archived email becomes an immutable block in a per-company chain. Any tampering — modification, deletion, or insertion of blocks — is cryptographically detectable.

The archive combines two independent security layers:

1. **Hash chain (SHA3-256):** Guarantees integrity and immutability — proves no email was altered or removed after archival
2. **Hybrid KEM encryption (CAK):** Guarantees confidentiality — the server cannot read archived email content

17.2 Arquitetura da cadeia de hash

Each archived email becomes a block in a sequential, tamper-evident chain:



Block hash calculation:

```

block_hash = SHA3-256(
    prev_block_hash || "|" ||
    timestamp       || "|" ||
    email_hash      || "|" ||
    direction       || "|" ||
    sender_domain   || "|" ||
    recipient_domain
)
    
```

Properties:

- **Hash algorithm:** SHA3-256 (NIST FIPS 202)
- **Genesis block:** prev_block_hash = 64 zeros, block_number = 0

- **Sequential numbering:** Enforced by database UNIQUE KEY (company_uuid, block_number)
- **One chain per company:** Complete isolation between enterprises
- **Email hash:** SHA3-256(sender || recipient || timestamp || size) — integrity proof of the original email data

17.3 Detecção de adulteração

The chain verification algorithm detects any form of tampering:

For each block (ordered by block_number ASC):

1. Verify link: `block.prev_block_hash == expected_prev_hash`
2. Recalculate: `expected = SHA3-256(prev_hash | timestamp | email_hash | ...)`
3. Verify content: `block.block_hash == expected`
4. Advance: `expected_prev_hash = block.block_hash`

If ANY check fails → chain is broken at block N

Tampering Attempt	Detection
Modify email content	email_hash changes ☐ block_hash recalculation fails
Modify metadata (sender, domain, timestamp)	Included in hash input ☐ block_hash mismatch
Delete a block	Next block's prev_block_hash becomes orphaned
Insert a block	Breaks sequential block_number + prev_block_hash chain
Reorder blocks	UNIQUE KEY constraint + sequential verification prevents this
Replace entire chain	Genesis block hash would differ from any external backup

Verification result reports the exact block number where tampering was detected, with expected vs. actual hash values for forensic analysis.

17.4 Chave de arquivo da empresa (CAK) — encriptação Zero-Knowledge

Archive contents are encrypted end-to-end using a **Company Archive Key** — a Hybrid KEM keypair (X25519 + ML-KEM-1024) generated client-side by the company owner.

Company Owner's Browser	Server
-----	-----

1. Generate Hybrid KEM keypair (client-side):
 X25519 keypair (32 + 32 bytes)
 ML-KEM-1024 keypair (1568 + 3168 bytes)
2. Derive wrapping key from password:
`wrappingKey = HKDF-SHA256(password,`

```

    salt = "trashmail-archive-{account_id}",
    info = "trashmail-archive-key-wrap",
    length = 32
  )

```

3. Wrap private keys:

```
AES-256-GCM(x25519_priv || mlkem_priv, wrappingKey)
```

4. Send to server:

- Public keys (plaintext)
- Wrapped private keys (encrypted)

→ Store:

```

archive_x25519_pub
archive_mlkem_pub
wrapped_archive_key

```

Key distribution to other employees (Admin, Compliance Officer):

1. Owner decrypts CAK private keys with their password
2. Owner re-wraps private keys with target employee's password-derived key
3. Server stores the re-wrapped copy on the employee's record
4. Each authorized employee has their own independently wrapped copy

The server never sees the CAK private keys in plaintext.

17.5 O que é encriptado

When an email is archived, two layers of encryption are applied:

Encrypted metadata (AES-256-GCM with Hybrid KEM):

```

{
  "d": "INBOUND",
  "s": "user@example.com",
  "r": "admin@company.de",
  "sd": "example.com",
  "rd": "company.de",
  "sz": 45000,
  "ts": "2026-02-27T10:30:00Z",
  "ha": true,
  "ac": 3,
  "en": "John Doe"
}

```

Encrypted email content (separate Hybrid KEM key wrapping):

```

{
  "subject": "Meeting notes",
  "body": "<html>...</html>",
  "from": "sender@domain.com",
  "to": "recipient@company.de"
}

```

Zero-knowledge enforcement: After encryption, the plaintext metadata fields in the database (sender_address, recipient_address, domains) are replaced with their SHA3-256 hashes. The server stores only hashes — the original values exist only inside the encrypted blobs.

17.6 Trilho de auditoria

Every action on the archive is logged in an **independent audit chain** (also hash-chained with SHA3-256):

Action	When Logged
EMAIL_RECEIVED / EMAIL_SENT / DRAFT_ARCHIVED	Email archived
VIEW_EMAIL / VIEW_ATTACHMENT SEARCH_ARCHIVE	Employee reads archived email Search performed
EXPORT_EMAIL / EXPORT_REPORT	Data exported
VERIFY_CHAIN / CHAIN_VERIFIED_OK / CHAIN_VERIFIED_BROKEN	Integrity check
LEGAL_HOLD_SET / LEGAL_HOLD_RELEASED	Legal hold toggled
ARCHIVE_DECRYPT	CAK used to decrypt content
ADMIN_ACCESS	Administrative action

Each audit entry records: actor (UUID + role), IP address, session ID, target email hash, and whether the chain was valid at the time of access.

17.7 Retenção legal e prazos de retenção

- **Retention period:** Configurable per company (default: 10 years), calculated per email as `archived_at + retention_years`
- **Legal hold:** Individual emails can be placed under legal hold, preventing deletion until released. Includes reason, actor, and timestamp.
- **GoBD compliance:** The combination of immutable hash chain, complete audit trail, configurable retention, and legal hold satisfies the requirements of the German GoBD (Grundsätze zur ordnungsmäßigen Führung und Aufbewahrung von Büchern, Aufzeichnungen und Unterlagen in elektronischer Form sowie zum Datenzugriff).

17.8 Exportação forense

Authorized users (Owner, Admin) can export the complete chain state for independent verification:

- Full chain data with all block hashes
- Verification result (valid/broken, broken block number if applicable)
- Expected vs. actual hash values for forensic analysis
- Last 50 audit log entries
- JSON format for external re-verification with any SHA3-256 implementation

18. O que o servidor vê — e o que não vê

This section explicitly documents the zero-knowledge boundary.

18.1 O que o servidor PODE ver

Data	Why Visible	Mitigation
IP address	TCP/IP requirement	Use VPN/Tor if desired
Timestamps	Email reception time	Inherent to email protocol
Encrypted email blobs	Stored for retrieval	AES-256-GCM encrypted, key unknown to server
Padded ciphertext sizes	Storage requirement	Bucket padding hides actual sizes
Recipient DEA address	Routing requirement	DEA is disposable, not the real address
Account existence	Authentication flow	User enumeration protection deployed
Public keys	Required for encryption by server	Public by definition, not sensitive
Encrypted Shamir shares	Storage for user	XOR'd with keys server doesn't know
OPAQUE records	Authentication protocol	Not password hashes, encrypted at rest

18.2 O que o servidor NÃO PODE ver

Data	Why Invisible
Email content (subject, body, headers)	Encrypted with ephemeral keys wrapped via Hybrid KEM
User password	OPAQUE — password never transmitted
Master key	Reconstructed only in browser from Shamir shares
Vault private keys	Encrypted with master key before storage
Email ephemeral keys	Wrapped with Hybrid KEM, server lacks private keys
Recovery key / mnemonic	Only SHA3-256 hash of derived key stored
Passkey PRF outputs	Hardware-bound, never leave authenticator
Folder names	Encrypted with folder-specific keys
Email signatures	Encrypted with master key
API request content	Encrypted via /e transport layer
API response content	Encrypted before transmission

18.3 Garantia criptográfica

Even with full access to:

- The complete database
- All network traffic
- The server's source code and configuration
- All OPAQUE records and server keys

...an attacker **cannot** decrypt a single email without the user's password (or passkey + recovery key). This is not a policy — it is a mathematical impossibility enforced by the cryptographic design.

19. Referência de algoritmos

19.1 Tabela completa de algoritmos

Component	Algorithm	Parameters	Standard
Password authentication	OPAQUE	RFC 9807, aPAKE	RFC 9807
Password key derivation	PBKDF2-SHA256	600,000 iterations, 32B salt, 32B output	NIST SP 800-132
Vault encryption	AES-256-GCM	256-bit key, 96-bit nonce, 128-bit tag	NIST SP 800-38D
Classical key exchange	X25519	Curve25519, 256-bit	RFC 7748
Post-quantum KEM	ML-KEM-1024	Kyber-1024, NIST Level 5	NIST FIPS 203
Hybrid key derivation	HKDF-SHA256	64B IKM, info="trashmail-hybrid-kem-v1"	RFC 5869
Secret sharing	Shamir SSS	k=2, n=3, GF(2 ⁸)	Shamir (1979)
Recovery key encoding	BIP39	256-bit entropy, 24 words	BIP-0039
Recovery key derivation	HKDF-SHA3-256	Account-bound salt	NIST FIPS 202
Recovery key verification	SHA3-256	32-byte output	NIST FIPS 202
OPAQUE record encryption	AES-256-GCM	Server-side at-rest encryption	NIST SP 800-38D
Passkey vault unlock	WebAuthn PRF	HMAC-based, hardware-bound	WebAuthn Level 2
Compression	gzip	Level 6	RFC 1952
Bucket padding	Custom	17 sizes (256B–16MB), 0xDEAD magic	—
Response signing	Ed25519	256-bit key, 512-bit signature	RFC 8032
Archive hash chain	SHA3-256	Per-block hash, sequential linking	NIST FIPS 202
Archive key wrapping (CAK)	HKDF-SHA256 + AES-256-GCM	Password-derived wrapping key	RFC 5869 / NIST SP 800-38D
Certificate verification	SHA-256	TLS cert fingerprint comparison	—
Email threading	SHA-256	Hash of Message-ID	NIST FIPS 180-4

19.2 Níveis de segurança

Algorithm	Classical Security	Post-Quantum Security
X25519	128-bit	Broken by Shor's algorithm
ML-KEM-1024	256-bit equivalent	NIST Level 5 (≈AES-256)
AES-256-GCM	256-bit	128-bit (Grover's algorithm)

Algorithm	Classical Security	Post-Quantum Security
SHA-256	256-bit	128-bit (Grover's algorithm)
SHA3-256	256-bit	128-bit (Grover's algorithm)
Hybrid KEM (combined)	128-bit (X25519 bound)	Level 5 (ML-KEM bound)

20. Comparação com outros fornecedores

Feature	Aionda Mail	Tuta Mail	Proton Mail
Country	Germany (Stuttgart)	Germany (Hannover)	Switzerland
Zero-Knowledge	Yes (OPAQUE + client-side crypto)	Yes	Yes
Post-Quantum	Yes (ML-KEM-1024 + X25519 Hybrid)	Yes (Kyber-based)	In development
Password protocol	OPAQUE (RFC 9807) — password never leaves browser	bcrypt (password sent to server over TLS)	SRP-based
Subject encrypted	Yes	Yes	No
Headers encrypted	Yes	Partial	No
Contact names encrypted	Yes (in vault)	Yes	No
Disposable email addresses	Yes (core feature, unlimited for Plus)	No	Yes (via SimpleLogin)
Browser addon	Yes (Chrome + Firefox)	No	Via SimpleLogin
Folder sharing	Yes (Hybrid KEM per recipient)	Limited	Yes
Open source client	No	Yes	Yes
Security audit	Planned	Yes	Yes
Password recovery	No (by design)	No (by design)	No (by design)
Passkey support	Yes (FIDO2 + PRF)	Yes	Yes
PGP support	Yes (incoming + outgoing)	No (own protocol)	Yes (OpenPGP)
GoBD-compliant email archive	Yes (SHA3-256 hash chain + Hybrid KEM)	No	No
MITM detection (browser ext.)	Yes (Ed25519 signatures + TLS check)	No	No

Feature	Aionda Mail	Tuta Mail	Proton Mail
Perfect Forward Secrecy (API)	Yes (per-request ephemeral keys)	Unknown	Unknown
Email size obfuscation	Yes (bucket padding)	Unknown	No

21. Limitações & fronteiras honestas

21.1 Modelo de confiança da aplicação web

Aionda Mail is a web application. On every page load, the browser downloads JavaScript from our servers. A sophisticated attacker who compromises our servers could theoretically serve modified JavaScript that exfiltrates keys.

Current mitigations:

- Subresource Integrity (SRI) hashes on all script tags
- Content Security Policy (CSP) headers restrict script sources
- All critical cryptographic code is included in the main application bundle
- **Guardian browser extension** (Section 16): Ed25519 signature verification on all API responses detects server-side tampering; TLS certificate verification (Firefox) detects MITM proxies

Planned mitigations:

- Service Worker caching for offline operation (reduces trust-on-load frequency)

21.2 Visibilidade de metadados

While email content is fully encrypted, certain metadata is visible to the server:

- When emails were received (timestamps)
- Which DEA address received the email
- Approximate email size (within bucket boundaries)
- Account activity patterns

21.3 Registo de processamento de e-mail

For diagnostic purposes, Aionda Mail includes an optional **email processing log** that can temporarily store the raw content of incoming emails. This feature is configurable per disposable email address (DEA) and can be enabled or disabled in the DEA settings (“Log email content”).

When enabled (opt-in per DEA):

- The full raw SMTP message (headers + body) is stored in plaintext on the server
- Automatic deletion after a short retention period (less than 7 days)
- Accessible only to the account owner via authenticated API
- Purpose: troubleshooting delivery issues, verifying forwarding, reviewing spam filtering decisions

When disabled:

- No email content is stored in the processing log
- Only metadata is logged (sender address, timestamp, delivery status)
- Vault encryption remains the sole storage mechanism

Important: This processing log is independent of the encrypted vault. Emails stored in the vault are always encrypted with Hybrid KEM regardless of the log setting. The processing log exists as a legacy feature from the email forwarding system and provides operational transparency. Users who require strict zero-knowledge storage for all emails should disable this option.

21.4 Segurança de e-mail externo

Emails sent to or received from non-Aionda addresses travel through the standard email infrastructure (SMTP). While stored encrypted in the vault, the email content was visible during transit unless PGP encryption was used.

21.5 Sem key escrow

Não existe chave mestra, backdoor ou mecanismo de recuperação disponível para a Aionda GmbH. Se um utilizador perde a sua palavra-passe e todos os métodos de recuperação, os seus dados ficam permanentemente perdidos. Esta é uma decisão de design intencional que prova a integridade do modelo zero-knowledge.

22. Plano futuro

Marco	Estado	Meta
Arquitetura Zero-Knowledge	Concluído	—
Hybrid KEM pós-quântica (ML-KEM-1024)	Concluído	—
Autenticação OPAQUE (RFC 9807)	Concluído	—
Shamir Secret Sharing (2 em 3)	Concluído	—
Camada de transporte API encriptada	Concluído	—
Suporte para Passkey/WebAuthn PRF	Concluído	—
Calendário encriptado de ponta a ponta	Concluído	—
Arquivo de e-mail conforme GoBD (Blockchain)	Concluído	—
Proteção MITM Guardian (Ed25519)	Concluído	—
Verificação de certificado TLS (Firefox)	Concluído	—

Histórico do documento

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	March 2026	Initial publication
1.1	April 2026	New chapter 10: Vault Drive (per-file-key architecture, sharing via key rewrap)

Version	Date	Changes
1.2	April 2026	Section 10.11: External Sharing — public share links with hybrid KEM envelopes, unlock_token flow, Argon2id password mode, URL fragment for link-only, tamper-evident audit chain (EXT_SHARE_*), and user-chosen link distribution
1.3	May 2026	New chapter 11: Aionda Chat — post-quantum E2EE real-time messaging via AAR (Aionda Async Ratchet), a hybrid X25519 + ML-KEM-1024 variant of Signal X3DH + Double Ratchet. Per-message forward secrecy, post-compromise security, and integration with the Enterprise audit chain. Subsequent chapters renumbered 12-22. PT-BR and PT-PT translations added. Fixed double-numbering bug in PDF rendering (LaTeX auto-numbering disabled; chapter numbers now sourced from headings only).

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Este documento descreve a arquitetura de segurança da Aionda Mail à data de maio de 2026. Os sistemas criptográficos evoluem — este documento será atualizado à medida que a arquitetura mudar.