

# Technical Newsletter



2023-09-15  
Volume: Pilot

---

## News from HCs, ICs, TGs and SIGs

### Privileged Spec IC

#### Should fast interrupts move to using indirect CSRs?

There is a proposal for the fast-interrupts specification to move to using the indirect CSR extension instead of memory apertures, similar to how AIA uses these registers. See the github issue discussion at [riscv-fast-interrupt/issues/349](https://github.com/riscv/fast-interrupt/issues/349).

### Unprivileged Spec IC

#### Architecture Review Progress on Pointer Masking

A major set of changes from architecture review and other feedback has been applied to the draft pointer masking standard. The latest version (Version 0.6.1) can be found [here](#). Iterations are starting to converge and the J Extension group is planning for the standard to be frozen in the near future.

# News From the CTO Office

## Technical Session

The recording from the last RISC-V Technical Session entitled "Enabling Confidential Computing on RISC-V Platforms" is available [here](#) under Past Technical Sessions. This presentation is an in-depth explanation of confidential computing on RISC-V.

## Specifications

- The Counter Mode Filtering specification has successfully concluded its public review phase and is now concentrating on fulfilling the acceptance criterias required to complete the Ratification-Ready phase. Further details on the progress of the specification can be accessed [here](#).

## Groups

- The Post Quantum Computing (PQC) Call for Candidates [was announced](#) on August 30, 2023. The deadline for the Call for Candidates concluded on September 14th. For more details about PQC, please refer to [its charter](#). The [Groups & Chairs policy](#) provides more details about the Call for Candidates.

## Voting

### HC & IC Committee Votes: Sign-offs for Public Review and Ratifications

- End Date: 9/14/2023 | [Ratification-Ready Milestone for Conditional Ops Fast Track Extension Committee Chair Sign Off](#).

### TSC Votes: Specification Approval

- End Date: 9/20/2023 | [TSC Approval Vote for sending the Vector Crypto Package to the Board of Directors for Ratification](#)
- The TSC Approval Vote for sending Additional Scalar FP (Zfa) Fast Track Pkg to the Board of Directors for Ratification completed with 20 approvals, zero objections, and just a single abstention, thereby not only achieving but far surpassing the required majority of 15 votes, which paves the way for the Zfa specification to be diligently prepared and presented at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting scheduled for this September.

## Jira and GitHub Access

To ensure a seamless experience with RISC-V International's tools and platforms, please first verify your access to Groups.io, GitHub, and Jira by clicking on the following [Verify Access](#).

If you encounter any issues or do not have the necessary permissions, kindly reach out to us by sending an email to [help@riscv.org](mailto:help@riscv.org).

# Upcoming Events

- [RISC-V Summit North America](#): November 7-8, 2023, Santa Clara, CA, USA. [Schedule is live!](#) [Register today.](#)

# Newsletter Contributions

To submit a topic for our newsletter, [click here](#). Be sure to carefully read the submission guidelines!

# Contact Information

For any queries, visit our [help.riscv.org](https://help.riscv.org) or email us at [help@riscv.org](mailto:help@riscv.org).

---

