



# SEV Secure Nested Paging Firmware ABI Specification

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## Revision History

Date	Revision	Description
January 2025	1.57	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 2.2: TCB_VERSION Added “Turin” structure.</li> <li>Sections 3.7, 7.2, and 8.5: Added Alias check logic for CVE-2024-21944.</li> <li>Section 8.2 DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX Updated logic flow.</li> <li>Sections 3.7, 5.2, 8.32, 8.33, 8.34, 8.35, 8.36, 8.37, and 8.8: Modified support for RMP segmented and non-segmented functionality, modified SNP_RST_CREATE and SNP_RMPSEG_INSTALL parameters.</li> </ul>
October 2024	1.56	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 3.2: Added UNINIT state valid for FEATURE_INFO</li> <li>Sections 3.7, 7.2, and 8.32: Added SNP_HV_REPORT_REQ command for the Host to request a Guest attestation report, clarified MSG_REPORT_REQ for Guest provided data</li> <li>Section 3.7 and 8.30: Added support for the SNP_TSC_INFO command to support Secure TSC.</li> <li>Section 3.7: Added support for IOMMU Buffer write safe checks.</li> <li>Sections 3.7, 5.2, 8.32, 8.33, 8.34, 8.35, 8.36, 8.37, and 8.8: Added support for RMP segmented and non-segmented functionality</li> <li>Section 3.7: Clarified ciphertext Hiding support for DRAM memory</li> <li>Section 7.2: Modified ATTESTATION_REPORT version</li> <li>Section 7.2: Modified VMPL field to support Host initiated and Guest initiated guest attestation report.</li> <li>Section 7.2: Added CPUID for CPU family / model / stepping</li> <li>Table 44. Added IS_TIO_EN support.</li> <li>Section 8.8: Extend SNP_INIT_EX for TIO_EN</li> <li>Section 8.8: Added TIO_EN flag to the CMDBUF_SNP_INIT_EX Structure.</li> <li>Section 8.8: Added requirement for HWCR MSR to be set identically across all cores.</li> <li>Section 8.29: Added check for 2MB RANGES element alignment requirement in the SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE command.</li> </ul>
September 2023	1.55	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added feature capability reporting.</li> <li>Added ciphertext hiding feature.</li> <li>Added AES-256 XTS guest policy.</li> <li>Added CXL guest policy.</li> </ul>

Date	Revision	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added RAPL disable guest policy.</li> <li>Added ECC guest policy.</li> <li>Added SNP disable on SNP shutdown feature.</li> </ul>
November 2022	1.54	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added Section 3.6</li> <li>Added VLEK capability to MSG_KEY_REQ in Section 7.2</li> <li>Added VLEK capability to MSG_REPORT_REQ in Section 7.3</li> <li>Updated SNP_COMMIT to manage the VLEK in Section 8.3</li> <li>Updated SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS to output whether the VLEK is loaded in Section 8.5</li> <li>Updated SNP_CONFIG to manage the VLEK in Section 8.6</li> <li>Added the SNP_VLEK_LOAD command in Section 8.30</li> </ul>
August 2022	1.53	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sections 3.5, 7.2, 7.3, 8.5, 8.6, and 8.8: Defined MaskChipKey and its effects on attestation and key derivation. Updated SNP_CONFIG, SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS, SNP_INIT_EX commands.</li> <li>Sections 4.1, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, and 0: Bind MA via report ID instead of MA context address.</li> <li>Section 8.8 Actions: Added check for HWCR[SmmLock]</li> <li>Section 8.15 Actions: Transitioned IOMMU pages to Reclaim state instead of Hypervisor state.</li> </ul>
August 2022	1.52	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.2 Added HV-fixed page state definition.</li> <li>Section 6.1 Added SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE command ID.</li> <li>Section 8.7 Deprecated SNP_INIT</li> <li>Section 8.8 SNP_INIT_EX addition of HV-fixed pages.</li> <li>Section 8.29 Added SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE</li> </ul>
January 2022	1.51	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Section 2.2 TCB_VERSION</li> <li>Updated Section 2.3 VCEK</li> <li>Added Section 3.3 Firmware Updates</li> <li>Added Section 3.4 Reported TCB</li> <li>Updated Section 4.1 Guest Context</li> <li>Added Section 4.1 Live Update</li> <li>Updated Section 4.3 Guest Policy</li> <li>Updated Section 4.4 Guest Activation</li> <li>Updated Section 5.3.9 SEV Legacy Commands</li> </ul>



Date	Revision	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Section 6.1 Command Identifier</li> <li>Updated Section 6.2 Status Codes</li> <li>Updated Section 7.2 Key Derivation</li> <li>Updated Section 7.3 Attestation</li> <li>Updated Section 7.4 VM Export</li> <li>Updated Section 7.5 VM Import</li> <li>Updated Section 7.6 VM Absorb</li> <li>Updated Section 7.7 VM Absorb – No Migration Agent</li> <li>Added Section 7.9 TSC Info</li> <li>Added Section 8.2 DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX</li> <li>Added Section 8.3 SNP_COMMIT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.3 Actions</li> <li>Updated Section 8.6 SNP_CONFIG</li> <li>Updated Section 8.8 Actions for SNP_INIT_EX</li> <li>Updated Section 8.9 Actions for SNP_GCTX_CREATE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.10 Actions and Status Codes for SNP_ACTIVATE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.11 SNP_ACTIVATE_EX</li> <li>Updated Section 8.12 SNP_DECOMMISSION</li> <li>Updated Section 8.14 SNP_SHUTDOWN</li> <li>Added Section 8.15 SNP_SHUTDOWN_EX</li> <li>Updated Section 8.16 SNP_LAUNCH_START</li> <li>Updated Section 8.17 SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.18 SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH</li> <li>Updated Section 8.19 SNP_LAUNCH_STATUS</li> <li>Updated Section 8.20 SNP_PAGE_MOVE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.21 SNP_PAGE_MD_INIT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.22 SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.23 SNP_PAGE_SWAP_IN</li> <li>Updated Section 8.26 SNP_GUEST_REQUEST</li> <li>Updated Section 8.27 SNP_DBG_DECRYPT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.28 SNP_DBG_ENCRYPT</li> <li>Added Chapter 10 APPENDIX: Digital Signatures</li> </ul>
April 2021	0.9	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Section 5.3.9 SEV Legacy Commands</li> <li>Updated Section 6.1 Command Identifier</li> <li>Updated Section 7.1 CPUID Reporting</li> <li>Updated Section 7.3 Attestation</li> </ul>

Date	Revision	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Section 7.4 VM Export</li> <li>Updated Section 7.5 VM Import</li> <li>Updated Section 7.6 VM Absorb</li> <li>Updated Section 7.7 VM Absorb – No Migration Agent</li> <li>Updated Section 8.4 GET_ID</li> <li>Added Section 8.7 SNP_INIT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.8 SNP_INIT_EX</li> <li>Updated Section 8.10 Actions for SNP_ACTIVATE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.11 Status Codes for SNP_ACTIVATE_EX</li> <li>Updated Section 8.14 SNP_SHUTDOWN</li> <li>Updated Section 8.16 SNP_LAUNCH_START</li> <li>Updated Section 8.17 SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE</li> <li>Updated Section 8.18 SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH</li> <li>Updated Section 8.22 SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.26 SNP_GUEST_REQUEST</li> </ul>
August 2020	0.8	<b>Updates and Additions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Section 3.2 Platform State Machine</li> <li>Updated Table 13. Command Identifiers</li> <li>Updated Section 7.3 Attestation</li> <li>Updated Table 23. ATTESTATION_REPORT Structure</li> <li>Updated Section 8.5 Actions for SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS</li> <li>Updated Table 45. Layout of the STRUCT_PLATFORM_STATUS Structure</li> <li>Added Section 8.6 SNP_CONFIG</li> <li>Updated Section 8.8 Actions for SNP_INIT</li> <li>Updated Table 50. Status Codes for SNP_INIT</li> <li>Updated Section 8.13 Actions for SNP_DF_FLUSH</li> <li>Updated Table 60. Status Codes for SNP_DF_FLUSH</li> <li>Updated Section 8.14 Actions for SNP_SHUTDOWN</li> </ul>
April 2020	0.7	Initial public release

# Chapter 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide details of Platform Security Processor (PSP) firmware support for the Secure Nested Paging (SEV-SNP) enhancement to SEV. The PSP exposes a set of functions to the hypervisor for guest lifecycle management of SNP-enabled guests.

## 1.2 Scope

This document describes the software interface for functions supported by the PSP for SNP VM management. It does not describe the x86 CPU or System-on-Chip (SoC) hardware support for SNP. While certain sections of this document may describe potential hypervisor usage of the firmware ABI, this document is not intended to prescribe any specific use or hypervisor architecture. Please refer to *AMD 64 Architecture Programmer's Manual* (publication #40332) for the x86 ISA mechanisms related to SEV-SNP and to the whitepaper *AMD SEV-SNP: Strengthening VM Isolation with Integrity Protection and More* for a high-level description of SEV-SNP and the features it provides.

## 1.3 Intended Audience

The intended audience of this document is hypervisor developers, kernel developers, and security architects. Hypervisor developers supporting SNP will need to use the firmware functions described herein for VM lifecycle management. Additionally, kernel developers and security architects will need to use the guest message functions to perform secure attestation, key management, and migration.

## 1.4 References

**Table 1. External References**

Reference	Document
APM	<i>AMD64 Architecture Programmer's Manual, Volumes 1–5</i> , publication #40332
PPR	<i>Processor Programming Reference</i>
SNP-WP	<i>AMD SEV-SNP: Strengthening VM Isolation with Integrity Protection and More</i>
SEV	<i>Secure Encrypted Virtualization API Specification</i> , publication #55766
KDS-VCEK	<i>Versioned Chip Endorsement Key (VCEK) Certificate and KDS Interface Specification</i> , publication #57230

## Chapter 2 Data Structures and Encodings

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This section describes data structures that are common to multiple commands.

### 2.1 Metadata Entries (MDATA)

Table 2 describes a metadata entry within a metadata page. Metadata entries describe security attributes of pages that have been swapped out. When pages are swapped back in, the firmware uses the metadata entries to ensure the SNP security properties are not violated.

**Table 2. Layout of the MDATA Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:0	SOFTWARE_DATA	Software-available data supplied by the hypervisor.
08h	63:0	IV	Initialization vector used to encrypt the swapped-out page.
10h	127:0	AUTH_TAG	Authentication tag of the swapped-out page.
20h	63:12	GPA	Bits 63:12 of the gPA of the swapped-out page.
	11:5	-	Reserved.
	4	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates the size of the swapped-out page. If set to 0, the page is 4 KB. If set to 1, the page is 2 MB.
	3	METADATA	Indicates that the swapped-out page is a metadata page.
	2	VMSA	Contains RMP.VMSA of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
	1	PAGE_VALIDATED	Contains RMP.Validated of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
	0	VALID	Indicates this metadata entry is valid.
28h	31:24	VMPL3	The permission mask RMP.VMPL3 of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
	23:16	VMPL2	The permission mask RMP.VMPL2 of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
	15:8	VMPL1	The permission mask RMP.VMPL1 of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
	7:0	VMPL0	The permission mask RMP.VMPL0 of the page at the time the page was swapped out.
2Ch	31:0	MDATA_INFO	Internally used MDATA fields.
30h	63:0	-	Reserved.
38h	63:0	-	Reserved.

## 2.2 TCB\_VERSION

The TCB\_VERSION is a structure containing the security version numbers of each component in the trusted computing base (TCB) of the SNP firmware. A TCB\_VERSION is associated with each image of firmware.

AMD SoCs have associated different TCB\_VERSION structure definitions. The tables below provide information for each program.

The TCB\_VERSION structure is described in Table 3 for processors formerly codenamed “Turin” with Family 1Ah and Models 90h-AFh and Models C0h-CFh.

**Table 3. Structure of the TCB\_VERSION Field for “Turin” based programs**

Bits	Field	Description
63:56	MICROCODE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowest current patch level of all cores</li> </ul>
55:32	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reserved</li> </ul>
31:24	SNP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Version of the SNP firmware</li> <li>Security Version Number (SVN) of SNP firmware</li> </ul>
23:16	TEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current PSP OS version</li> <li>SVN of PSP operating system</li> </ul>
15:8	BOOT_LOADER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current bootloader version</li> <li>SVN of PSP bootloader</li> </ul>
7:0	FMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current FMC fw version</li> <li>SVN of FMC fw</li> </ul>

The TCB\_VERSION structure is described in Table 4 for processors formerly codenamed “Genoa” with Family 1Ah Models 00h-1Fh and for “Milan” with family 19h Models 00h-0Fh.

**Table 4. Structure of the TCB\_VERSION Field for “Genoa” and “Milan” based programs**

Bits	Field	Description
63:56	MICROCODE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowest current patch level of all cores</li> </ul>
55:48	SNP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Version of the SNP firmware</li> <li>Security Version Number (SVN) of SNP firmware</li> </ul>
47:16	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reserved</li> </ul>
15:8	TEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current PSP OS version</li> <li>SVN of PSP operating system</li> </ul>
7:0	BOOT_LOADER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current bootloader version</li> <li>SVN of PSP bootloader</li> </ul>

## 2.3 VCEK

The Versioned Chip Endorsement Key (VCEK) is an attestation signing key derived from chip-unique secrets and a TCB\_VERSION. The VCEK can be computed for any TCB\_VERSION less than or equal to the CurrentTcb (see 3.3 for details), allowing for migrations of secrets from previous version to the current version.

## 2.4 Invalid Physical Address (PADDR\_INVALID)

The value PADDR\_INVALID represents an invalid value for sPA and gPA fields in this specification. PADDR\_INVALID is defined as two's-complement  $-1$  with a width of the field to which it is assigned.

*Note: 0h is a valid sPA and gPA.*

## Chapter 3 Platform Management

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Before SNP VMs can be launched, the platform must be properly configured and initialized. Platform initialization is accomplished via the SNP\_INIT command, which verifies that SNP has been enabled across all CPUs and configured correctly. Further, the platform contains a state machine that restricts which commands may be executed at certain times throughout execution.

### 3.1 Feature Detection and Enablement

On initialization, the SNP\_INIT command will check that the SEV-SNP feature is available and globally enabled. See [APM] Volume 2, Section 15.36, for information on feature detection and enablement.

### 3.2 Platform State Machine

The SNP firmware may exist in two states: UNINIT and INIT. Certain commands may be executed only in each of these states.

**Table 5. Commands Available in Each State**

State	Encoding	Description	Allowed Platform Commands
UNINIT	0h	The platform is uninitialized. This is the reset state of the PSP firmware.	SNP_INIT SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE GET_ID FEATURE_INFO
INIT	1h	The platform is initialized.	All SNP commands except SNP_INIT, DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE

### 3.3 Firmware Updates

Each SNP firmware is associated with a firmware version that comprises a major version, minor version, and build number. When loaded, the firmware tracks its firmware version with CurrentVersion. SNP firmware images are also associated with a security version number (SVN). Together with the SVNs of the other TCB components, loaded firmware tracks its current TCB\_VERSION in CurrentTcb.

The hypervisor may request to replace the current firmware image with a different firmware image using the DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX command. This is usable when the SNP firmware is in either the UNINIT or INIT states, but SEV-legacy firmware must be in the UNINIT state. When the new firmware image is installed, the CurrentVersion and CurrentTcb are updated with the new firmware image's version and SVN.

The firmware supports provisional updates such that the hypervisor can roll back to previously loaded firmware if it chooses. To accomplish this, the firmware tracks the committed firmware version and TCB\_VERSION in the CommittedVersion and CommittedTcb fields. When CommittedVersion is equal to CurrentVersion, the currently loaded firmware is committed. When CommittedVersion is less than CurrentVersion, the currently loaded firmware is provisional.

Provisional firmware execution is identical to committed firmware execution except that the TCB\_VERSION used to derive the VCEK for key derivation and attestation reports never exceeds the CommittedTcb.

When executing provisionally installed firmware images, the hypervisor may choose to commit or roll back. To commit, the hypervisor calls SNP\_COMMIT, which updates CommittedVersion and CommittedTcb to CurrentVersion and CurrentTcb, respectively. To roll back, the hypervisor invokes DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX with the image of the previously committed firmware version.

As an example, consider a platform that boots with version 1.51.1 stored in flash. The hypervisor may provisionally install an image of version 1.51.21 with DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX. At this point, CurrentVersion is 1.51.21 and CommittedVersion is 1.51.1. The hypervisor may either invoke SNP\_COMMIT to set CommittedVersion to 1.51.21, or the hypervisor may invoke DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX with the firmware image of 1.51.1 to roll back. The firmware will reject any firmware update other than to 1.51.1. After committing to 1.51.21, the hypervisor may provisionally install newer versioned firmware.

Each firmware image is also associated with a minimum version from which it can live upgrade called MinUpgradeFrom. DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX uses this number to determine if the current firmware version is too far in the past from the provided firmware image to be capable of changing with SNP guests running. In this scenario, the hypervisor must invoke SNP\_SHUTDOWN before executing DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX to return the firmware to UNINIT. MinUpgradeFrom is set per image based on the specific nature of the upgrade and technical limitations of upgrading from distant past versions.

Guest context pages are versioned with the last firmware version that touched them. If CurrentVersion is different from the latest firmware version that touched the guest context page, the firmware will upgrade or downgrade the context page. A command that triggers an upgrade of the guest context page to a provisional version of the firmware may fail by returning UPDATE\_FAILED. A failed update does not alter the guest context page.

If a guest context page is updated to a provisional firmware version, then updating the context page back to the committed version after a rollback will always succeed.

## 3.4 Reported TCB

The firmware maintains a TCB\_VERSION called the ReportedTcb. ReportedTcb is used to derive the VCEK that signs the attestation report.



ReportedTcb is initially set to the CurrentTcb. When SNP\_CONFIG is invoked with a non-zero REPORTED\_TCB parameter, ReportedTcb is set to the provided value. ReportedTcb is reset to CurrentTcb either on SNP\_COMMIT or if SNP\_CONFIG is provided a zero REPORTED\_TCB.

ReportedTcb can be used by hypervisors to decouple installation of a new firmware image from the use of its new VCEK. A hypervisor can install a new firmware image and then set ReportedTcb via SNP\_CONFIG so that all attestation reports are still signed with the VCEK. This allows a hypervisor the opportunity to ensure that guest owners have retrieved the VCEK certificates before using the new VCEK.

## 3.5 Chip Key Masking

In version 1.53, the firmware maintains a flag, MaskChipKey, that controls use of the VCEK in guest attestation and guest key derivation. MaskChipKey initializes to 0 at SNP\_INIT\_EX and can be set by the hypervisor using the SNP\_CONFIG command.

When MaskChipKey is 1, the attestation report will not be signed and will contain zeroes instead of a signature. Also, MaskChipKey prevents the guest from using the VCEK in guest key derivations.

## 3.6 Versioned Loaded Endorsement Key

A Versioned Loaded Endorsement Key (VLEK) is a versioned Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA) P-384 signing key certified by AMD and used by SNP firmware to sign attestation reports as an alternative to the VCEK. While the VCEK is derived from a chip-unique seed, the VLEK is derived from a seed maintained by the AMD Key Derivation Service (KDS). Each Cloud Service Provider (CSP) that enrolls with AMD has dedicated VLEK seeds.

The CSP requests from the KDS the VLEK hashstick for a given TCB and machine identified by CHIP\_ID. The KDS calculates the hashstick based on the CSP's VLEK seed and the request's TCB and then wraps the VLEK hashstick with a transport key derived from a chip-unique secret. The CSP then provisions the platform with the wrapped VLEK hashstick using the SNP\_VLEK\_LOAD command.

With the VLEK hashsticks loaded, the firmware can use the VLEK as a drop-in replacement for the VCEK in all use cases. The hypervisor can restrict guests to use only the VLEK with the VCEK\_DIS flag in SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISHSIH. Otherwise, guests can select whether to use the VLEK or the VCEK in key derivation and attestation report signing.

The AMD KDS will provide an interface to retrieve the VLEK certificate for a CSP at a specified TCB version. The VLEK certificates authenticate the VLEK as owned by AMD.

VLEK functionality was introduced in version 1.54.

## 3.7 Feature Discovery

The FEATURE\_INFO command provides host and guests a programmatic means to learn about the supported features of the currently loaded firmware. Host software invokes FEATURE\_INFO with an index, and the firmware returns four 8-byte values containing feature information associated with that index. The format of each index is described later in this section.

FEATURE\_INFO leverages the same mechanism as the CPUID instruction. Instead of using the CPUID instruction to retrieve Fn8000\_0024, software can use FEATURE\_INFO. The input to feature info includes ECX\_IN which selects the CPUID subfunction. For instance, Fn8000\_0024\_x02 is retrieved by invoking FEATURE\_INFO with ECX\_IN set to 2.

*Note: The CPUID instruction will return all zeroes for Fn8000\_0024.*

The hypervisor can provide Fn8000\_0024 values to the guest via the CPUID page in SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE. As with all CPUID output recorded in that page, the hypervisor can filter Fn8000\_0024. The firmware will examine Fn8000\_0024 and apply its CPUID policy.

The FEATURE\_INFO command is valid in the UNINIT state and subsequent states.

The FEATURE\_INFO command itself is present when bit 3 of offset 8h of the output buffer of SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS is 1.

The contents of Fn8000\_0024 are described in Table 6.

**Table 6. Contents of Each Subfunction of Fn8000\_0024**

Function	Bits	Field	Description
Fn8000_0024_EAX_x00	31:0	MaxIndex	The largest subfunction that FEATURE_INFO supports.
Fn8000_0024_EBX_x00	31:2	-	Reserved
	1	SevTio	SEV TIO commands [SEV-TIO]
	0	SevLegacy	SEV legacy commands [SEV]
Fn8000_0024_ECX_x00	31:13	-	Reserved
	12	SecureTSC	Support for the SNP_TSC_INFO command.
	11	HostGuestAttest	Support for Host request to obtain the Guest attestation report SNP_HV_REPORT_REQ command.
	10	-	Reserved
	9	AliasCheck	The SEV fw has support for validating the Alias check mitigation. Contains mitigation for CVE-2024-21944
	8	PreInitSegRMP	Support for Segmented RMP with

Function	Bits	Field	Description
			SNP_RST_CREATE, SNP_RST_INSTALL, SNP_RMPSEG_CREATE and SNP_RMPSEG_INSTALL commands.
	7	PreInitNonSegRMP	Support for Non-segmented RMP with SNP_RMP_CREATE and SNP_RMP_INSTALL commands
	6	EccMemReporting	Error correcting memory attestation
	5	CxlAllowPolicy	CXL guest policy requirement
	4	Aes256XtsPolicy	AES 256 XTS guest policy requirement
	3	CiphertextHidingDRAM	Cipher text hiding support for DRAM
	2	RaplDis	RAPL disable support. See SNP_INIT_EX
	1	X86SnpShutdown	Cipher text hiding support for DRAM
	0	Vlek	VLEK support
Fn8000_0024_EDX_x00	31:0	-	Reserved
Fn8000_0024_EAX_x01	31:9	-	Reserved
	8	MsgTscInfoReq	MSG_TSC_INFO_REQ guest message
	7	MsgAbsorbNomaReq	MSG_ABSORB_NOMA_REQ guest message
	6	MsgVmrkReq	MSG_VMRK_REQ guest message
	5	MsgAbsorbReq	MSG_ABSORB_REQ guest message
	4	MsgImprotReq	MSG_IMPORT_REQ guest message
	3	MsgExportReq	MSG_EXPORT_REQ guest message
	2	MsgReportReq	MSG_REPORT_REQ guest message
	1	MsgKeyReq	MSG_KEY_REQ guest message
	0	MsgCpuidReq	MSG_CPUID_REQ guest message
Fn8000_0024_EBX_x01	31:0	-	Reserved
Fn8000_0024_ECX_x01	31:0	-	Reserved
Fn8000_0024_EDX_x01	31:0	-	Reserved

# Chapter 4 Guest Management

The lifecycles of SNP-enabled guests are managed through the guest management ABI functions. SNP-enabled guests are identified via their guest context pages and may be launched, attested, migrated, etc., via the appropriate ABI calls. An SNP-enabled guest is created by first allocating a context page and then activating the guest on a specific ASID and adding an initial set of plaintext pages into the guest address space. After the guest has begun execution, it may request attestation reports and derived keys, and it may assist in scenarios such as live migration directly through a trusted channel with the PSP firmware.

## 4.1 Guest Context

The guest context (represented as GCTX throughout this specification) contains all the information, keys, and metadata associated with the guest that the firmware tracks to implement the SEV and SNP features. The guest context is specified in Table 7.

**Table 7. Fields of the Guest Context (GCTX)**

Field	Migrated?	Description
ASID	No	The ASID that the guest's keys are installed on, if at all.
State	Yes	The current state of the guest.
MsgCount0	Yes	The number of guest messages that the firmware has sent to or received from VMPL0.
MsgCount1	Yes	The number of guest messages that the firmware has sent to or received from VMPL1.
MsgCount2	Yes	The number of guest messages that the firmware has sent to or received from VMPL2.
MsgCount3	Yes	The number of guest messages that the firmware has sent to or received from VMPL3.
Policy	Yes	The guest's security policy.
MaReportId	No	The attestation report ID of the migration agent of the guest, if the guest is associated with a migration agent.
MaReportIdValid	No	Indicates if the MaReportId is valid.
LD	Yes	The launch digest context used to measure the guest during the launch command flow.
OEK	Yes	The offline encryption key associated with this guest.
OekIvCount	Yes	The IV counter used for encryption with the OEK.
VEK	No	The VM encryption key used to encrypt the guest's memory.
VMPCK0, VMPCK1, VMPCK2, VMPCK3	Yes	The VM communication keys.

Field	Migrated?	Description
VMRK	Yes	The VM root key provided by the MA at guest launch or guest import.
HostData	Yes	Host data provided by the hypervisor during guest launch. This firmware includes this value in all attestation reports for this guest.
IDBlockEn	Yes	Indicates whether an ID block was associated with the guest.
IDBlock	Yes	The associated ID block, if any.
IDKeyDigest	Yes	The ID key digest, if any.
AuthorKeyEn	Yes	Indicates whether an Author key signed the ID key.
AuthorKeyDigest	Yes	The Author key digest, if any.
VcekDis	Yes	Indicates that the VCEK is disabled for this guest.
ReportID	Yes	Attestation report ID
RootMDEntry	Yes	The root metadata entry.
IMD	Yes	The measurement of the Incoming Migration Image (IMI).
IMIEn	No	Indicates whether the current launch flow is an IMI migration or not. Used only when the guest is in the GSTATE_LAUNCH state.
GOSVW	Yes	Guest OS visible workarounds. Provided in SNP_LAUNCH_START by the hypervisor.
DesiredTscFreq	Yes	Desired TSC frequency of the guest in kHz.
PspTscOffset	Yes	Offset applied to guest TSC reads.
LaunchTcb	Yes	The CurrentTcb of the firmware at the time the guest was created, imported, or absorbed.
LastAccessVersion	No	The CurrentVersion of the firmware that last updated or created this guest context page.

The firmware stores the guest context in a page donated by the hypervisor. The hypervisor donates the page through the SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE command and reclaims it with the SNP\_PAGE\_RECLAIM command. Because the guest context page is in the Context state (see Chapter 5 for details on the page state machine), the hypervisor cannot write to the page. The firmware prevents the hypervisor from reading from the page by encrypting the guest context.

## Live Update

The DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX command allows the hypervisor to replace the existing firmware without affecting SNP guests. This command will update (that is, downgrade or upgrade) the internal state of the SNP firmware immediately. In contrast, guest context pages will be updated during the next command or guest message that takes the guest context page.

See 3.3 for further information on live updates.

## 4.2 Guest State Machine

The commands that can be successfully issued for a guest are restricted according to an internal guest state machine. The guest state machine ensures that commands are executed in the correct order. The current guest state is stored in GCTX.State.

**Table 8. Guest State Definition**

State	Encoding	Description	Allowed Guest Commands
GSTATE_INIT	0h	The initial state of the guest.	SNP_LAUNCH_START SNP_GUEST_REQUEST (VM_IMPORT) SNP_PAGE_RECLAIM SNP_DECOMMISSION
GSTATE_LAUNCH	1h	The guest is being launched.	SNP_GCTX_CREATE SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH SNP_ACTIVATE SNP_DECOMMISSION SNP_PAGE_RECLAIM SNP_PAGE_MOVE SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT SNP_PAGE_SWAP_IN SNP_PAGE_UNSMASH
GSTATE_RUNNING	2h	The guest is currently running.	SNP_ACTIVATE SNP_DECOMMISSION SNP_PAGE_RECLAIM SNP_PAGE_MOVE SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT SNP_PAGE_SWAP_IN SNP_PAGE_UNSMASH SNP_GUEST_REQUEST

**Table 9. Guest State Transitions**

Command	Start State	End State
SNP_LAUNCH_START	GSTATE_INIT	GSTATE_LAUNCH
SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH	GSTATE_LAUNCH	GSTATE_RUNNING
VM_ABSORB	GSTATE_LAUNCH	GSTATE_RUNNING
VM_IMPORT	GSTATE_INIT	GSTATE_RUNNING

## 4.3 Guest Policy

The firmware associates each guest with a guest policy that the guest owner provides. The firmware restricts what actions the hypervisor can take on this guest according to the guest policy. The policy also indicates the minimum firmware version for the guest.

The guest owner provides the guest policy to the firmware during launch. The firmware then binds the policy to the guest. The policy cannot be changed throughout the lifetime of the guest. The policy is also migrated with the guest and enforced by the destination platform firmware.

The guest policy is an 8-byte structure with the fields shown in Table 10.

**Table 10. Guest Policy Structure**

Bit(s)	Name	Description
63:25	-	Reserved. MBZ.
24	CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM	0: Ciphertext hiding for the DRAM may be enabled or disabled. 1: Ciphertext hiding for the DRAM must be enabled.
23	RAPL_DIS	0: Allow Running Average Power Limit (RAPL). 1: RAPL must be disabled.
22	MEM_AES_256_XTS	0: Allow either AES 128 XEX or AES 256 XTS for memory encryption. 1: Require AES 256 XTS for memory encryption.
21	CXL_ALLOW	0: CXL cannot be populated with devices or memory. 1: CXL can be populated with devices or memory.
20	SINGLE_SOCKET	0: Guest can be activated on multiple sockets. 1: Guest can be activated only on one socket.
19	DEBUG	0: Debugging is disallowed. 1: Debugging is allowed.
18	MIGRATE_MA	0: Association with a migration agent is disallowed. 1: Association with a migration agent is allowed.
17	-	Reserved. Must be one.
16	SMT	0: SMT is disallowed. 1: SMT is allowed.
15:8	ABI_MAJOR	The minimum ABI major version required for this guest to run.
7:0	ABI_MINOR	The minimum ABI minor version required for this guest to run.

The policy bits for a given guest are referenced with the format `POLICY.<FLAG_NAME>`. For instance, the flag indicating that SMT is allowed is referred to as `POLICY.SMT`.

## 4.4 Guest Activation

The processor associates each guest memory transaction with the Address Space Identifier (ASID) specified in the guest's VMCB. A guest's ASID selects the key used by the memory controller to encrypt that guest's memory. The hypervisor must inform the firmware with which ASID it will execute the guest using the VMRUN instruction. The firmware then installs the guest's VEK in the key slot associated with that ASID. To inform the firmware of the guest-ASID binding, the hypervisor calls SNP\_ACTIVATE.

All guest data in the caches and data fabric write buffers are unencrypted. Guests with different ASIDs have logically separate caches. However, guests with the same ASID share cache lines. To ensure that a previously decommissioned guest's data is not accessible to a new guest, SNP\_ACTIVATE will require that the caches are invalidated, and data fabric write buffers are flushed. In this case, the hypervisor must first invoke WBINVD on all cores. Following the WBINVD completion, the hypervisor must invoke the SNP\_DF\_FLUSH command. This ensures that no plaintext data owned by another guest exist in the caches or in the write buffers before activation.

The hypervisor can activate a guest on a subset of core complexes using SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX. If a guest is activated on a core complex, the hypervisor may execute the guest with that ASID on only that core complex. If POLICY.SINGLE\_SOCKET is set for a guest executing on a system with more than one socket populated, SNP\_ACTIVATE will always fail since it activates the guest on all sockets. Instead, the hypervisor can use SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX to activate the guest on the core complexes of a single socket.

Guest activation must always occur before any memory is assigned to the guest by the hypervisor using the RMPUPDATE instruction.

## 4.5 Launching a Guest

The hypervisor starts an SNP guest by launching the guest. The hypervisor uses the commands SNP\_LAUNCH\_START, SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE, and SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH to launch the guest.

SNP\_LAUNCH\_START begins the launch process. Through this command, the firmware initializes a cryptographic digest context used to construct the measurement of the guest. If the guest is expected to be migrated, SNP\_LAUNCH\_START also binds a Migration Agent (MA) to the guest. (See 4.11 for further information about migration.)

SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE inserts data into the guest's memory. The firmware extends the cryptographic digest context with the data to bind the measurement of the guest with all operations that the hypervisor took on the guest's memory contents.

SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE can insert two special pages into the guest's memory: the secrets page and the CPUID page. The secrets page contains encryption keys used by the guest to interact with the firmware. Because the secrets page is encrypted with the guest's memory encryption key, the



hypervisor cannot read the keys. The CPUID page contains hypervisor-provided CPUID function values that it passes to the guest. The firmware validates these values to ensure the hypervisor is not providing out-of-range values.

SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH finalizes the cryptographic digest and stores it as the measurement of the guest at launch. This measurement is a critical part of the guest's attestation report produced by the firmware. This command also takes identity keys to be associated with the guest used as part of the attestation report. For further information about the identity block, see 4.6. For attestation, see 4.9.

After SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH completes successfully, the hypervisor may invoke VMRUN on the x86 CPU to execute the guest.

## 4.6 Identity Block

As part of the input to the SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH command, the hypervisor may provide an optional data structure called the identity block. The identity block contains the expected launch digest of the guest, information uniquely identifying the guest, the guest policy bitfield, and a signature by the guest owner. The provided launch digest is checked against the computed launch digest, and the provided policy is checked against the policy used to launch the guest. The identifying information is stored in the guest context to be used during key derivation and attestation. Finally, the firmware will check that the signature is valid.

The firmware stores the keys used to sign the identity block in the guest context. Attestation reports for the guest contain the public keys to reflect the binding of the guest to the guest owner. A guest owner that sees its public keys in the attestation report knows that the launch process used an identity block provided by that guest owner to validate the guest.

## 4.7 Decommissioning a Guest

The hypervisor may decommission a guest by calling SNP\_DECOMMISSION on the guest context page. The firmware prevents the hypervisor from running a decommissioned guest by marking the guest's ASID as unusable. Further, the firmware transitions the guest context page to a Firmware page, thus rendering the context page unusable.

## 4.8 Guest Messages

During the launch sequence, a special secrets page may be inserted that contains VM Platform Communication Keys (VMPCs) that may be used by the guest to send and receive secure messages to the PSP. Guests encrypt messages as described in the SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST function before presenting the encrypted payload to the hypervisor. The hypervisor in turn calls SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST and returns the result (also encrypted with the VMPC) to the guest. Guest messages are used for getting attestation reports and derived keys, handling migration, and other uses.

## 4.9 Remote Attestation

Guests may ask the PSP to generate an attestation report on their behalf via an `SNP_GUEST_REQUEST` call. The guest may ask for an attestation report at any time, and multiple reports can be generated. When the guest asks for a report, it supplies 512 bits of arbitrary data to be included in the report. The resulting report will contain this data, identity information about the guest (from the launch sequence), migration, and policy information. The report is signed by VCEK, a chip-unique key specific to the current TCB version.

Guests may supply attestation reports to third parties to establish trust. The third party should verify the authenticity of the report based on its signature. A successful signature verification proves that the 512 bits of guest data supplied in the report came from the guest whose identity is described. For instance, this may be used to securely associate a public key with a particular VM instance.

## 4.10 Guest Keys

Guests may ask the PSP to derive keys for them based on various information via an `SNP_GUEST_REQUEST` call. Keys are either rooted in a VM Root Key (VMRK) that is supplied as part of the launch flow (and migrates with the guest) or in the VCEK, which is machine specific. When asked for a key, the PSP uses a key derivation function (KDF) to generate the requested key based on the root value and additional parameters. Certain pieces of guest information are always mixed into the derived key while others may be optionally mixed when requested by the guest. Keys may be used to seal information on the identity of the guest or for other purposes.

## 4.11 Migration

Migration is supported in the SNP architecture through Migration Agents (MAs). A Migration Agent is itself an SNP VM that is bound to the primary VM during the launch process. A VM may be associated with only a single MA, but a single MA may manage multiple primary VMs. The MA is responsible for supplying the VMRK during the launch process and for enforcing the guest migration policy.

The MA is considered part of the guest VM's TCB. Consequently, when a guest generates an attestation report, the report includes information about the MA associated with the guest (if one exists). A third party verifying the attestation report of a guest should also verify the report of the guest's MA.

The hypervisor may migrate a guest with or without the assistance of the guest. 4.12 describes how a hypervisor migrates with the assistance of the guest. When the hypervisor wishes to migrate without the assistance of the guest, it first swaps all guest memory and associated metadata pages using the `SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT` command. (See Chapter 5 for additional details.) Swapped pages are encrypted using the Offline Encryption Key (OEK). Because each swapped page must be associated with a metadata entry, eventually there will be a single metadata page remaining

after all other pages are swapped. When the hypervisor swaps this page, it can choose to store its metadata entry in the special RootMDEntry field in the guest context.

After all the guest memory is swapped, the hypervisor asks the MA to perform the VM\_EXPORT function via SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST. This function sends the guest's context page to be migrated to the MA via an encrypted channel. At this point, the primary VM is no longer runnable.

The MA sends the VM context to a trusted location, such as an MA on a new machine. The mechanism that the MA uses to transfer this data and enforce security on it is outside the scope of this document.

In a typical scenario, an MA will have started on the destination machine to receive the guest context information. After the hypervisor creates a guest context (as described earlier), it may ask the MA to perform the VM\_IMPORT function (via SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST), which installs the provided guest context on the new machine. At this point, the hypervisor may proceed with swapping in guest memory (via SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_IN) and begin executing the guest.

The use of an MA is optional, and SNP guests may be started without an MA. Guests that are started without an MA may not be exported and therefore cannot be migrated without shutting themselves down.

## 4.12 Guest-Assisted Migration

If the guest has an Initial Migration Image (IMI), the guest may assist the hypervisor during the migration process to increase migration throughput. An IMI is software measured during the guest launch process that can reconstruct a guest on the receiving platform from pages it receives from the sending guest.

On launch, a subset of pages may be marked as part of the IMI. The launch process measures the IMI separately into the Initial Migration Digest (IMD) and is stored in the guest context. To start a migration operation, the cloud provider performs a modified launch flow on the receiving platform. This launch flow differs from normal launch in two important ways:

- Only the IMI pages are launched via SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE
- SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH is replaced by the absorb guest message

The absorb guest message takes a guest context exported by the sending machine using the export guest message. The absorb message differs from the import message mainly by overwriting the IMI context with the incoming guest context. However, the absorb message requires that the launch digest of the IMI matches the IMD of the migrated guest. This ensures that the receiving IMI is exactly the IMI that was launched with the guest.

When the guest is exported on the sending platform for the purpose of guest-assisted migration, the guest remains runnable. This allows the guest to send its own memory contents to the IMI.

# Chapter 5 Page Management

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## 5.1 Page Security Attributes

The Reverse Map Table (RMP) is a structure that resides in DRAM and maps system physical addresses (sPAs) to guest physical addresses (gPAs). There is only one RMP for the entire system, which is configured using x86 model specific registers (MSRs). See [APM] volume 2, Section 15.36, for details.

Each RMP entry is indexed by the sPA page. The RMP, combined with all guests' nested page tables, creates a global one-to-one mapping between sPAs and gPAs. That is, the RMP ensures that a page cannot be mapped into multiple guests at once, and it cannot be mapped multiple times into a single guest at once.

The RMP also contains various security attributes of each that are managed by the hypervisor through hardware-mediated and firmware-mediated controls. The fields of an RMP entry are described in [APM] volume 2, Section 15.36.3.

## 5.2 RMP Initialization

This section describes two mechanisms to initialize the RMP.

The duration of the `SNP_INIT_EX` command increases corresponding to the increase in the size of RMP-protected memory. The duration required is due to the requirement that the entire RMP must be written by SEV firmware. The `SNP_INIT_EX` command requires that `VM_HSAVE_PA` is 0h, this requirement forces guests to be suspended for the entire time the RMP initialization is in progress.

These sections describe additional commands and an additional software flow which reduces the amount of time that software must ensure guest execution is suspended (i.e., guest not scheduled).

Each of these mechanisms reduce the duration of time in which the hypervisor must suspend running (non-SNP) guests. One mechanism is designed to initialize a non-segmented RMP, and the other mechanism is designed to initialize a segmented RMP. In both cases, the RMP is initialized before `SNP_INIT_EX` is invoked, and software sets `INIT_RMP` to 0 when it invokes `SNP_INIT_EX`.

### 5.2.1 Non-Segmented RMP

Two commands are defined to initialize non-segmented RMP: `RMP_CREATE` and `RMP_INSTALL`. Software will invoke `RMP_CREATE` which will initialize the contents of the RMP, and `RMP_INSTALL` will perform final checks and enablement of SNP to ensure that the RMP is protected. `RMP_CREATE` will perform the bulk of the initialization work but guests are allowed to be scheduled and need not be suspended during `RMP_CREATE` command execution.

RMP\_INSTALL requires guests to be suspended (i.e. not scheduled), but RMP\_INSTALL takes much less time than RMP\_CREATE to complete.

- RMP\_CREATE can only be executed in the UNINIT state. An SEV firmware global flag, RmpInstallPending, that indicates whether RMP\_INSTALL can be invoked. RMP\_CREATE sets this flag when it successfully completes, and RMP\_INSTALL clears the flag.

RMP\_CREATE performs the following actions:

1. Checks that the SNP platform is in the UNINIT state.
2. Checks that RmpInstallPending is 0.
3. Performs the following MSR checks:
  - a. SYSCFG[MFDm] is set across all cores.
  - b. All MTRRs are set identically across all cores.
  - c. IORR\_BASE is set identically across all cores.
  - d. TOM, TOM2 and HWCR are set identically across all cores.
  - e. RMP\_BASE and RMP\_END are set identically across all cores.
  - f. RMP\_BASE must be 1 MB aligned.
  - g.  $\text{RMP\_END} - \text{RMP\_BASE} + 1$  must be a multiple of 1 MB.
  - h. RMP is large enough to protect itself.
4. Saves the MSR values read above to SEV firmware private memory that persists across commands.
5. Saves the IOMMU register values relevant to initializing the RMP (e.g., event buffer location). These values will be different per IOMMU.
6. Creates a TMR that prevents CPU from reading or writing the RMP.
7. Creates a TMR that prevents IOMMU from reading or writing the RMP.
8. Zeroes the ASID counter table.
9. Initializes RMP entries in the same way SNP\_INIT\_EX does when INIT\_RMP is set.
10. Set RmpInstallPending.

The design of RMP\_CREATE ensure that:

- RMP\_CREATE initializes the RMP in the same way SNP\_INIT\_EX does.
- TMRs are not taken down after RMP\_CREATE successfully completes.
- VM\_HSAVE\_PA is not checked.
- SYSCFG[SNPEn] (SNP\_EN) is not checked.

The first two properties enforce the security properties of RMP construction, while the last two properties allow guests to continue executing while RMP\_CREATE runs.

After RMP\_CREATE command completes, software should then suspend all legacy (non-SEV) guest execution, set VM\_HSAVE\_PA to 0h on all cores, enable SNP\_EN by setting SYSCFG[SNPEn] to 1 on all cores, and then execute SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL. Note that the order of this sequence of actions matters; WRMSR VM\_HSAVE\_PA will write to the RMP if SYSCFG[SNPEn] is set, which would cause a platform reset on TMR violation.

RMP\_INSTALL takes a flag, CANCEL, that indicates that software wants to cancel early RMP initialization. If CANCEL is set, RMP\_INSTALL will clear the TMRs and clear RmpInstallPending. RMP\_CREATE or SNP\_INIT\_EX can be invoked after a cancelled RMP initialization to re-initialize the RMP.

RMP\_INSTALL performs the following actions:

1. Checks that RmpInstallPending is set.
2. If CANCEL is set,
  - a. Mark internally that the RMP must be re-initialized.
  - b. Removes both TMRs from RMP.
  - c. Clears SNP\_EN by setting SYSCFG[SNPEn] to 0 on all cores.
  - d. Clears RmpInstallPending.
  - e. Returns SUCCESS.
3. Performs the following MSR checks
  - a. SNP\_EN SYSCFG[SNPEn] is set to 1 across all cores.
  - b. VM\_HSAVE\_PA is 0h across all cores.
  - c. Re-checks the MSRs that RMP\_CREATE previously validated to ensure they have not changed.
4. Enables SNP on the IOMMUs.
5. Checks that all IOMMU registers saved in RMP\_CREATE were not altered.
6. Invalidates TLBs on all cores and IOMMUs.
7. Removes the TMR that prevents the CPU from reading and writing the RMP.
8. Marks internally that the RMP does not need to be re-initialized.
9. Clears RmpInstallPending.

After RMP\_INSTALL successfully completes, guests can be resumed. If CANCEL was clear, then SNP\_INIT\_EX may be invoked with INIT\_RMP cleared, since this process already initialized the RMP.

### 5.2.2 Segmented RMP

Four commands are used to initialize segmented RMP: SNP\_RST\_CREATE, SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE, SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL, and SNP\_RST\_INSTALL. These commands perform the equivalent operations on a segmented RMP that SNP\_RMP\_CREATE and SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL perform on a non-segmented RMP. After the segmented RMP process is complete, software invokes SNP\_INIT\_EX with INIT\_RMP cleared to indicate that the RMP has already been initialized.

The SEV firmware adds the global flags RstInstallPending and RmpSegInstallPending. On platform reset, both flags are reset to 0.

When RstInstallPending is 1, the only commands allowed to execute are:

- GET\_ID
- SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS
- SNP\_CONFIG

- SNP\_DF\_FLUSH
- SNP\_VLEK\_LOAD
- FEATURE\_INFO
- RMPSEG\_CREATE
- RMPSEG\_INSTALL
- RST\_INSTALL

Software first sets up the RST to contain the RMP segment pointers, with MappedSize set to OS/HV desired value.

Software then enables SNP\_EN setting the (MSR SYSCFG[SNPEn]) bit to 1.

Software then invokes SNP\_RST\_CREATE.

SNP\_RST\_CREATE accepts a flag, TIO\_EN, that indicates that the RMP should be initialized to support SEV-TIO.

SNP\_RST\_CREATE performs the following actions:

1. Checks that the SNP platform is in the UNINIT state.
2. Checks that SNP\_EN is enabled (MSR SYSCFG[SNPEn])
3. Checks that RstInstallPending is 0.
4. Performs all the of the MSR checks that SNP\_INIT\_EX does when INIT\_RMP is set.
5. Sets up a TMR over the RST to prevent CPU and IOMMU reads and writes.
6. Validates the RST to ensure correctness.
7. Saves copy of the RST to be able to restore MappedSize.
8. Sets MappedSize in each RST entry to 0.
9. Initialize IOMMU register values relevant to initializing the RMP (event buffer locations) for this segment RMP table.
10. Zeroes ASID counter table.
11. Sets RstInstallPending.

Software then invokes, for each segment, SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE and SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL. SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE initializes the RMP segment and SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL updates the RST to make the RMP checks use the newly initialized RMP segment.

**Note:** The SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE and SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL must be called as a pair, with the SEGMENT value starting at 0 and then incrementing in sequence. If the MappedSize value is 0 for a specific segment, then the RMP\_SEG\_CREATE/RMP\_SEG\_INSTALL pair can either be skipped or can be called. If the segment has a MappedSize=0 then the firmware will ignore that creation/installation sequence.

SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE takes SEGMENT, which contains the index of the RST entry describing the RMP segment in which to initialize.

SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE performs the following actions.



1. Checks that RstInstallPending is set.
2. Checks that RmpSegInstallPending is cleared.
3. Checks that the RST entry for this segment has not been initialized yet.
4. Sets up a TMR over the RMP segment to prevent CPU and IOMMU reads and writes.
5. Initializes RMP entries in the same way SNP\_INIT\_EX does when INIT\_RMP is set.
6. Sets RmpSegInstallPending.
7. Stores SEGMENT as the segment pending SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL.

Software must then suspend (i.e. not schedule for run/execution) guests, set VM\_HSAVE\_PA to 0, and invoke SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL.

SNP\_RMPSEG\_INSTALL accepts a flag, CANCEL, that indicates that software wishes to cancel the pending RMP segment install process.

RMPSEG\_INSTALL performs the following actions:

1. If CANCEL is set:
  - a. Zeroes MappedSize in the pending RST entry.
  - b. Removes TMRs that prevents CPU and IOMMU access to RMP segment.
  - c. Clears RmpSegInstallPending.
  - d. Returns SUCCESS.
2. Checks that RmpSegInstallPending is set.
3. Checks that VM\_HSAVE\_PA is 0 on all cores.
4. Sets MappedSize in the RST entry for this segment from the firmware saved value.
5. Set IOMMU segmented RMP protection (mapped size) for this segment.
6. Invalidates TLBs on all cores and IOMMUs.
7. Invalidates RST caches on all cores and IOMMUs.
8. Removes the TMR that prevents CPU and IOMMU access to the RMP segment.
9. Clears RmpSegInstallPending.

The hypervisor cannot issue the RMPUPDATE instruction or any commands that will change the RMP table in the segments, until after RST\_INSTALL has completed, or a TMR fault will occur resulting in a system shutdown.

Finally, software invokes SNP\_RST\_INSTALL.

RST\_INSTALL takes a flag, CANCEL, that indicates that software wishes to cancel the pending RST install.

RST\_INSTALL takes the following actions:

1. Checks that RmpSegInstallPending is cleared.
2. If CANCEL is set,
  - a. Removes TMRs that prevents CPU and IOMMU access to RST.
  - b. Clears RstPending.
  - c. Marks internally that the RMP must be re-initialized.
  - d. Disable SNP\_EN by clearing MSR SYSCFG[SNPEn].



- e. Reclaims IOMMU buffers.
- f. Returns SUCCESS.
- 3. Ensures that all segments have been properly created (create/install sequence pair)
- 4. Checks that RST is protected by an RMP segment.
- 5. Removes TMRs that prevent CPU and IOMMU access to RST.
- 6. Clears RstPending.
- 7. Marks internally that the RMP does not need to be re-initialized.

After this call completes, guests may be resumed.

## 5.3 Page States

A page's state is completely determined by the fields in the page's RMP entry. Specifically, the page state depends on the Assigned, Validated, ASID, Immutable, GPA, and VMSA RMP entry fields. Table 11 enumerates and defines each of the page states.

*Note: (-) in a cell indicates that the page state is not dependent on that field.*

**Table 11. Page State Definitions**

Page State	Assigned	Validated	ASID	Immutable	GPA	VMSA
Hypervisor	0	0	0	0	-	-
HV-fixed	0	0	0	1	-	-
Reclaim	1	0	0	0	-	-
Firmware	1	0	0	1	0	0
Context	1	0	0	1	0	1
Metadata	1	0	0	1	>0	-
Pre-Guest	1	0	>0	1	-	-
Guest-Invalid	1	0	>0	0	-	-
Pre-Swap	1	1	>0	1	-	-
Guest-Valid	1	1	>0	0	-	-
Default	See discussion below.					

A Hypervisor page is used by the hypervisor for its normal execution. SNP places no restrictions on the use of Hypervisor pages for purposes outside of managing SNP guests. A Default page is a page that does not have an RMP entry. Pages do not have an RMP entry if the sPA indexes to an entry past the end of the RMP table—that is, past RMP\_END. Default pages have the same access permissions as a Hypervisor page but cannot be transitioned to any other page state.

A HV-fixed page is used by the hypervisor for its normal execution. It also may be used with other SoC services, such as the non-SNP commands to the ASP. The RMPUPDATE instruction cannot create HV-fixed pages. Instead, software should use SNP\_PAGE\_SET\_STATE or SNP\_INIT\_EX

with a list of the ranges that should be transitioned to HV-fixed. Once in the HV-fixed state, a page remains there until the RMP is reinitialized.

Pages in the firmware state are owned by the firmware. Because the RMP.Immutable bit is set, the hypervisor cannot write to Firmware pages nor alter the RMP entry with the RMPUPDATE instruction. A Firmware page is used by the hypervisor to donate writeable memory to the firmware to operate on. Such pages may be used to output data to the hypervisor or to transition into a special page state, such as Metadata pages or Context pages.

When an immutable page is returned to the hypervisor by the firmware, the page is transitioned into the Reclaim page state. The Reclaim page state can then be transitioned to other nonimmutable pages by the hypervisor using RMPUPDATE.

A Context page is a firmware-owned page that contains all context information of a guest. The format of the Context page is implementation specific. The content of a Context page is encrypted, and integrity protected so that the hypervisor cannot read or write to it.

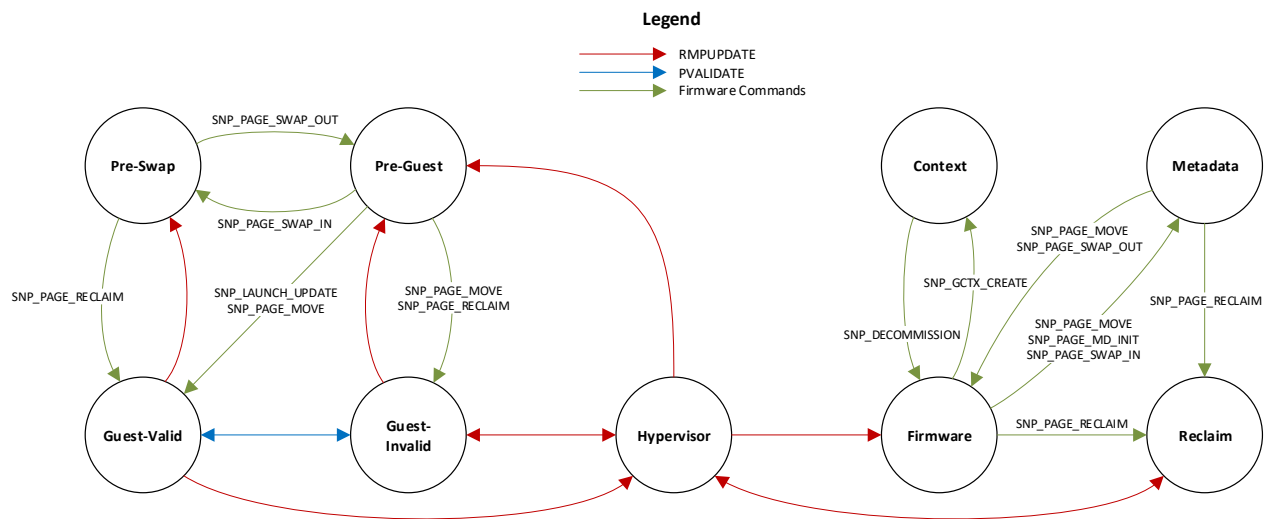
A Metadata page is a firmware-owned page that contains the metadata of a swapped-out page. Metadata pages have a well-defined format. The firmware converts a Firmware page into a Metadata page by making the GPA field non-zero.

A Guest-Invalid page has been donated to the guest but not yet validated by the guest. If the hypervisor wishes to have the firmware operate on them, the hypervisor transitions the page into a Pre-Guest page.

Similarly, a Guest-Valid page has been donated to the guest, and the guest has validated the page. If the hypervisor wishes to have the firmware operate on them, the hypervisor transitions the page into a Pre-Swap page.

### **5.3.1 Page State Transitions**

The only ways in which a page can transition between states are by invoking the RMPUPDATE and PVALIDATE instructions or by issuing firmware commands described in this specification. The hardware and firmware mediate all page state transitions to ensure that only secure state transitions occur.



**Figure 1. SNP Page State Machine**

Red edges in Figure 1 represent hypervisor actions. Blue edges represent guest actions. Green edges represent firmware commands specified in this document.

*Note: Some transitive RMPUPDATE edges are omitted for clarity.*

Actions that trigger a page state transition are depicted in Figure 1. The following subsections describe the transitions in further detail. Notably, the following subsections do not describe the Default page state because Default pages cannot transition to other page states.

### 5.3.2 RMPUPDATE

The RMPUPDATE instruction may be used by the hypervisor to alter the RMP entries of pages. This allows the hypervisor to directly alter the state of most pages.

Notably, RMPUPDATE can invalidate a page but cannot validate a page. This means that the hypervisor cannot produce pages in the Pre-Swap or Guest-Valid states without assistance from a guest or from the PSP firmware.

Also, RMPUPDATE cannot affect the page state of an immutable page. A hypervisor can produce pages in the Pre-Guest or Pre-Swap states with RMPUPDATE. However, once in those states, the hypervisor must rely on the PSP firmware to transition them.

### 5.3.3 PVALIDATE

The PVALIDATE instruction may be used by a guest to alter the Validated flag of a page. This allows a guest to signal to the hardware and firmware that the page at a specified gPA is validated—that is, the guest expects the hardware and firmware to protect the integrity of the page.

Because PVALIDATE can be executed only within the guest, PVALIDATE can operate only on pages addressable within the guest's physical address space. Further, Pre-Guest and Pre-Swap pages have their RMP.Immutable flags equal to 1, which prevents the guest from transitioning them.

### **5.3.4 Additional Page Management x86 Instructions**

Additional x86 instructions are available for the Guest and the Host OS to perform Page Management. Depending upon program enablement, the instruction list may include: RMPADJUST, RMPREAD, PSMASH, RMPQUERY, RMPREAD and RMPOPT.

These instructions are described in [APM] volume 2.

### **5.3.5 Page Management Commands**

The hypervisor can invoke the commands described in this specification to manage memory without violating the security provided by SNP.

The hypervisor must perform these actions using RMPUPDATE. This restriction allows RMPUPDATE to mediate all reassignments of pages so that the appropriate TLB and cache operations happen.

### **5.3.6 Launch Commands**

The SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE command transitions a page from the Firmware state to the Context state. This is the only way a Context page can be created.

The launch commands, specifically SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE, take unencrypted guest pages and convert them into encrypted pages. In doing so, this command also transitions the launched pages to Guest-Valid pages.

### **5.3.7 Guest Request Commands**

Neither the SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST command itself nor any of the guest messages alter the state of the pages passed to it.

### **5.3.8 Platform Commands**

SNP\_INIT initializes the state of all pages within the system by initializing the RMP. Other platform commands do not alter the state of any pages.

### **5.3.9 SEV Legacy Commands**

The behavior of the SEV-legacy commands is altered when the SNP firmware is in the INIT state. In this case, the SEV-legacy commands require any page that the SEV-legacy command writes to be a Firmware or Default page.

When the RMP has been initialized, as reported by `SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS`, any invocation of the SEV-legacy commands `INIT` and `INIT_EX` require that `TMR_PADDR` must be 2 MB aligned instead of 1 MB, and `TMR_LENGTH` must be 2 MB instead of 1 MB.

When SNP is in the `INIT` state, the SEV-legacy command `INIT` will check that the buffer addressed by the `TMR_PADDR` parameter resides entirely inside Firmware pages.

## 5.4 Metadata Entries

A metadata entry contains security attributes associated with a swapped-out page. A Metadata page can describe three types of swapped-out pages: Data pages, Metadata pages, or VMSA pages. Each page type determines how the metadata entry is constructed.

Table 12 describes the contents of a metadata entry. All references to RMP fields or addresses refer to the attributes of the page at the time the hypervisor swapped it out.

**Table 12. Contents of Metadata Entries for Swapped-Out Data Pages, VMSA Pages, and Metadata Pages**

Field	Data Page	VMSA Page	Metadata Page
<code>SOFTWARE_DATA</code>	Software-provided data	Software-provided data	Software-provided data
<code>IV</code>	Initialization vector	Initialization vector	Initialization vector
<code>AUTH_TAG</code>	Authentication tag	Authentication tag	Authentication tag
<code>PAGE_SIZE</code>	<code>RMP.Page_Size</code>	<code>RMP.Page_Size</code>	<code>RMP.Page_Size</code>
<code>VALID</code>	1	1	1
<code>METADATA</code>	0	0	1
<code>VMSA</code>	0	1	0
<code>GPA</code>	gPA of the page	gPA of the page	<code>PADDR_INVALID</code>
<code>PAGE_VALIDATED</code>	<code>RMP.Validated</code>	<code>RMP.Validated</code>	0
<code>VMPL0</code>	<code>RMP.VMPL0</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	<code>RMP.VMPL0</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	0h
<code>VMPL1</code>	<code>RMP.VMPL1</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	<code>RMP.VMPL1</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	0h
<code>VMPL2</code>	<code>RMP.VMPL2</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	<code>RMP.VMPL2</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	0h
<code>VMPL3</code>	<code>RMP.VMPL3</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	<code>RMP.VMPL3</code> if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.	0h
Reserved fields	0h	0h	0h

The hypervisor may request that the firmware place data into SOFTWARE\_DATA for its own purposes. The firmware never interprets this field. Because the hypervisor can read the metadata entries in Metadata pages, the hypervisor can use SOFTWARE\_DATA for its own bookkeeping purposes.

An entry with VALID set to 0h is invalid and does not refer to any swapped-out page. When VALID is 0, the firmware does not interpret any other fields of the entry.

# Chapter 6 Mailbox Protocol

Software on the x86 CPUs communicates with the PSP through a set of MMIO registers, referred to as mailbox registers. This ABI used the mailbox protocol defined in Chapter 4 of [SEV]. This ABI adds new commands and status codes, which extend the SEV mailbox protocol. These command and status codes are described in the following sections.

## 6.1 Command Identifier

This ABI adds many new commands to be handled by the mailbox protocol. Table 13 summarizes the additional commands and their identifiers. See the command definitions for further details.

**Table 13. Command Identifiers**

Command	ID	Description
SNP_INIT	81h	Initialize platform for SNP.
SNP_SHUTDOWN	82h	Uninitialize platform for SNP.
SNP_PLATFORM_STATUS	83h	Query platform information.
SNP_DF_FLUSH	84h	Flush data fabric buffers.
SNP_INIT_EX	85h	Initialize platform for SNP with extended parameters.
SNP_SHUTDOWN_EX	86h	Shut down the platform with extended capabilities to shut down SNP-enforcing controls such as IOMMU SNP enforcement.
SNP_RMP_CREATE	87h	Non-segmented RMP initialization.
SNP_RMP_INSTALL	88h	Non-segmented RMP installation.
SNP_RST_CREATE	89h	Sets up the RMP Segment Table (RST) environment to allow for the RMP segments to be created and installed.
SNP_RMPSEG_CREATE	8Ah	Creates an RMP segment.
SNP_RMPSEG_INSTALL	8Bh	Installs an RMP segment.
SNP_RST_INSTALL	8Ch	Installs the RMP Segment Table (RST).
SNP_DECOMMISSION	90h	Destroy a guest context.
SNP_ACTIVATE	91h	Assign an ASID to a guest.
SNP_GUEST_STATUS	92h	Query guest information.
SNP_GCTX_CREATE	93h	Create a guest context.
SNP_GUEST_REQUEST	94h	Process a guest request.
SNP_ACTIVATE_EX	95h	Assign an ASID to a guest on select cores.
SNP_HV_REPORT_REQ	96h	Host initiated request for the Guest attestation report.
SNP_TSC_INFO	97h	Host request for TSC information for a given guest.

Command	ID	Description
SNP_LAUNCH_START	A0h	Begin to launch a new guest.
SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE	A1h	Add memory to a launching guest.
SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH	A2h	Complete launching a guest.
SNP_DBG_DECRYPT	B0h	Decrypt guest memory for debugging.
SNP_DBG_ENCRYPT	B1h	Encrypt guest memory for debugging.
SNP_PAGE_SWAP_OUT	C0h	Swap a page out of guest memory.
SNP_PAGE_SWAP_IN	C1h	Swap a page into guest memory.
SNP_PAGE_MOVE	C2h	Move a Memory page.
SNP_PAGE_MD_INIT	C3h	Initialize a Metadata page.
SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE	C6h	Set the page state of a set of pages to HV-fixed.
SNP_PAGE_RECLAIM	C7h	Clear the immutable bit on a page.
SNP_PAGE_UNSMASH	C8h	Convert a sequence of 4 k pages into a 2 MB page.
SNP_CONFIG	C9h	Set systemwide configuration values.
DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX	CAh	Perform a live update of SNP firmware.
SNP_COMMIT	CBh	Commit the current firmware.
SNP_VLEK_LOAD	CDh	Load the VLEK into the firmware.
FEATURE_INFO	CEh	Feature support information.
Reserved	CFh	Reserved.

## 6.2 Status Codes

This ABI introduces several new status codes to the mailbox protocol. Table 14 summarizes the additional status codes added by this ABI.

**Table 14. Status Codes**

Status	Code	Description
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	19h	The RMP page size is incorrect.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	1Ah	The RMP page state is incorrect.
INVALID_MDATA_ENTRY	1Bh	The metadata entry is invalid.
INVALID_PAGE_OWNER	1Ch	The page ownership is incorrect.
AEAD_OFLOW	1Dh	The AEAD algorithm would have overflowed.
EXIT_RING_BUFFER	1Fh	Ring Buffer error.
RMP_INIT_REQUIRED	20h	The RMP must be reinitialized.
BAD_SVN	21h	SVN of provided image is lower than the committed SVN.
BAD_VERSION	22h	Firmware version anti-rollback.



Status	Code	Description
SHUTDOWN_REQUIRED	23h	An invocation of SNP_SHUTDOWN is required to complete this action.
UPDATE_FAILED	24h	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.
RESTORE_REQUIRED	25h	Installation of the committed firmware image required.
RMP_INIT_FAILED	26h	The RMP initialization failed.
INVALID_KEY	27h	The key requested is invalid, not present, or not allowed.

## Chapter 7 Guest Messages

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Guest messages provide the guest a mechanism to communicate with the PSP without risk from a malicious hypervisor who wishes to read, alter, drop, or replay the messages sent. A guest may issue requests of firmware via the `SNP_GUEST_REQUEST` command. This command constructs a trusted channel between the guest and the PSP firmware. The hypervisor cannot alter the messages without detection nor read the plaintext of the messages.

The firmware constructs the channel using a Virtual Machine Platform Communication key (VMPCCK). Each guest has four VMPCCKs, which the firmware generates and provides to the guest in a special secrets page as part of the guest launch process (see `SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE` in Section 8.17 for details). Only the guest and the firmware possess the VMPCCKs.

Each message contains a sequence number per VMPCCK. The sequence number is incremented with each message sent. Messages sent by the guest to the firmware and by the firmware to the guest must be delivered in order. If not, the firmware will reject subsequent messages by the guest when it detects that the sequence numbers are out of sync.

Each message is protected with an Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data algorithm (AEAD), namely AES-256 GCM.

Details on how to send a message via the `SNP_GUEST_REQUEST` command can be found in Section 8.26.

### 7.1 CPUID Reporting

**Note:** *This guest message may be removed in future versions as it is redundant with the CPUID page in `SNP_LAUNCH_UPDATE`. (See Section 8.17.)*

The firmware provides a service to the guest to validate CPUID function values provided by the hypervisor. This ensures that CPUID function values provided by the hypervisor are within range of the hardware. To use this service, the guest constructs an `MSG_CPUID_REQ` message.

The guest constructs an `MSG_CPUID_REQ` message, which contains an array of CPUID function structures, as defined in Table 15. The guest fills the structure with the information the guest received from the CPUID instruction from the hypervisor.

The message contains enough space for `COUNT_MAX` function structures, but only `COUNT` function structures are valid. `COUNT_MAX` is 64.

**Table 15. MSG\_CPUID\_REQ Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	COUNT	Number of CPUID functions to validate. Must be less than COUNT_MAX.
04h	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h		CPUID_FUNCTION[]	COUNT_MAX number of CPUID_FUNCTION records. Only the first COUNT records are valid.

**Table 16. CPUID\_FUNCTION Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	EAX_IN	EAX input parameter to CPUID.
04h	31:0	ECX_IN	ECX input parameter to CPUID.
08h	63:0	XCR0_IN	XCR0 at the time of CPUID execution.
10h	63:0	XSS_IN	IA32_XSS MSR at the time of CPUID execution.
18h	31:0	EAX	EAX output parameter of CPUID.
1Ch	31:0	EBX	EBX output parameter of CPUID.
20h	31:0	ECX	ECX output parameter of CPUID.
24h	31:0	EDX	EDX output parameter of CPUID.
28h	63:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

The firmware returns an MSG\_CPUID\_RSP message as defined in Table 17. The message contains the same CPUID function structures that may be altered by the firmware. The firmware will alter the function structure when the hypervisor has provided an insecure value.

If firmware encounters a CPUID function that is not in the standard range (Fn0000\_0000 through Fn0000\_FFFF) or the extended range (Fn8000\_0000 through Fn8000\_FFFF), the firmware does not perform any checks on the function output.

If firmware encounters a CPUID function that is in the standard or extended ranges, then the firmware performs a check to ensure that the provided output would not lead to an insecure guest state. If insecure function output is identified, the firmware sets the field in the response message to an acceptable value.

***Note:** Some functions have multiple acceptable values, and the firmware may choose any one of them.*

The firmware then returns INVALID\_PARAM in the STATUS field of the response message.

The policy used by the firmware to assess CPUID function output can be found in the [PPR].

**Table 17. MSG\_CPUID\_RSP Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	STATUS	The status of key derivation operation. 0h: Success. 16h: Invalid parameters.
04h	31:0	COUNT	Number of CPUID functions that have been validated.
08h	63:0	-	Reserved.
10h		CPUID_FUNCTION[]	COUNT_MAX number of CPUID_FUNCTION records. Only the first COUNT records are valid.

## 7.2 Key Derivation

The guest can ask the firmware to provide a key derived from a root key. This key may be used by the guest for any purpose it chooses such as sealing keys or communicating with external entities.

The data that the firmware mixes into the derived key are described in Table 18. The firmware unconditionally mixes some of the fields into the key while the guest may optionally select and even supply other data to mix into the key.

**Table 18. Data Mixed into the Derived Guest Key**

Data	Description	Mix Type	Provided in Message
VCEK/VLEK/VMRK	VCEK, VLEK, or VMRK of the guest. The guest selects which of the keys is used.	Always	No
VMPL	The VMPL selected by the guest.	Always	Yes
Host Data	The host data provided at launch.	Always	No
ID Key/ Author Key	The author key provided at launch. If an author key was not provided, then the firmware uses the ID key instead.	Always	No
Guest Field Selection	A bitmask describing which of the fields in this table are mixed into the key. This covers the guest-selectable fields as well as other field selection done by the firmware.	Always	Yes
TCB Version	The TCB version selected by the guest.	Optional	Yes
Guest SVN	SVN of the guest.	Optional	Yes
Measurement	The measurement of the guest at launch.	Optional	No
Family ID	The family ID provided at launch.	Optional	No

Data	Description	Mix Type	Provided in Message
Image ID	The image ID provided at launch.	Optional	No
Guest Policy	The guest policy provided at launch.	Optional	No

Table 19 describes the MSG\_KEY\_REQ message structure that the guest sends to the firmware to request a derived key.

**Table 19. MSG\_KEY\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:3	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	2:1	KEY_SEL	Selects which key to use for derivation. 0: If VLEK is installed, derive with VLEK. Otherwise, derive with VCEK. 1: Derive with VCEK. 2: Derive with VLEK. 3: Reserved. Present when the Vlek feature bit is set.
	0	ROOT_KEY_SELECT	Selects the root key from which to derive the key. 0 indicates VCEK. 1 indicates VMRK.
4h	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
8h	63:0	GUEST_FIELD_SELECT	Bitmask indicating which data will be mixed into the derived key. See Table 20 for the structure of this bitmask.
10h	31:0	VMPL	The VMPL to mix into the derived key. Must be greater than or equal to the current VMPL.
14h	31:0	GUEST_SVN	The guest SVN to mix into the key. Must not exceed the guest SVN provided at launch in the ID block.
18h	63:0	TCB_VERSION	The TCB version to mix into the derived key. Must not exceed CommittedTcb.

If ROOT\_KEY\_SELECT is 0 and MaskChipKey is 1, the firmware returns the INVALID\_KEY status code to the guest.

If ROOT\_KEY\_SELECT is 0, the key used is further selected by the KEY\_SEL parameter. The firmware returns INVALID\_KEY to the guest if any of the following conditions occur:

- KEY\_SEL is 0, VcekDis is 1, and the VLEK is not installed.
- KEY\_SEL is 1, and VcekDis is 1.
- KEY\_SEL is 2 and the VLEK is not installed.

The KEY\_SEL parameter was introduced in version 1.54.

The MSG\_KEY\_REQ detailed in Table 19 describes the MSG\_KEY\_REQ message structure that the guest sends to the firmware to request a derived key. GUEST\_FIELD\_SELECT indicates which guest-selectable fields will be mixed into the key that is described in Table 20.

**Table 20. Structure of the GUEST\_FIELD\_SELECT Field**

Bits	Field	Description
63:6	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
5	TCB_VERSION	Indicates that the guest-provided TCB_VERSION will be mixed into the key.
4	GUEST_SVN	Indicates that the guest-provided SVN will be mixed into the key.
3	MEASUREMENT	Indicates the measurement of the guest during launch will be mixed into the key.
2	FAMILY_ID	Indicates the family ID of the guest will be mixed into the key.
1	IMAGE_ID	Indicates that the image ID of the guest will be mixed into the key.
0	GUEST_POLICY	Indicates that the guest policy will be mixed into the key.

The firmware returns the MSG\_KEY\_RSP message defined in Table 21 to the guest.

**Table 21. MSG\_KEY\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	STATUS	The status of key derivation operation. 0h: Success. 16h: Invalid parameters. 27h: Invalid key selection.
04h–1Fh	-	-	Reserved.
20h	255:0	DERIVED_KEY	The requested derived key if STATUS is 0h.

## 7.3 Attestation

The requestor can request that the firmware construct a guest attestation report. External entities can use a guest attestation report to assure the identity and security configuration of the guest.

The Host OS can directly request that the firmware construct a similar Guest attestation report. See the SNP\_HV\_REPORT\_REQ command.

A guest requests an attestation report by constructing an MSG\_REPORT\_REQ as specified in Table 22. The message contains data provided by the guest in REPORT\_DATA to be included in the report; the firmware does not interpret this data.

The guest sets the VMPL field to a value from 0 thru 3 which indicates a request from the guest.

**Table 22. MSG\_REPORT\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	511:0	REPORT_DATA	Guest-provided data to be included in the attestation report.
40h	31:0	VMPL	The VMPL to put in the attestation report. Must be greater than or equal to the current VMPL and, at most, three.
44h	31:2	-	Reserved.
	1:0	KEY_SEL	Selects which key to use for generating the signature. 0: If VLEK is installed, sign with VLEK. Otherwise, sign with VCEK. 1: Sign with VCEK. 2: Sign with VLEK. 3: Reserved. Present if Vlek feature bit is set.
48h–5Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.

The guest may generate attestation reports for VMPLs that are greater than or equal to the current VMPL. The desired VMPL is provided by the guest in the request message.

Upon receiving a request for an attestation report, the firmware constructs the report according to Table 23.

The firmware generates a report ID for each guest that persists with the guest instance throughout its lifetime. In each attestation report, the report ID is placed in **REPORT\_ID**. If the guest has an associated migration agent, the **REPORT\_ID\_MA** is filled in with the report ID of the migration agent.

If **MaskChipKey** is 0, the firmware signs the attestation report with either the VCEK or VLEK based on the key selection made in **KEY\_SEL**. The firmware will return **INVALID\_KEY** to the guest if any of the following conditions occur:

- **KEY\_SEL** is 0, the VLEK is not loaded, and **VcekDis** is 1.
- **KEY\_SEL** is 1 and the **VcekDis** is 1.
- **KEY\_SEL** is 2 and the VLEK is not loaded.

The firmware uses the systemwide **ReportedTcb** value as the TCB version to derive the VCEK or VLEK. This value is set by the hypervisor. The firmware guarantees that the **ReportedTcb** value is never greater than the installed TCB version.

If **MaskChipKey** is 1, the firmware writes zeroes into the **SIGNATURE** field instead of signing the report.

**Table 23. ATTESTATION\_REPORT Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	VERSION	Version number of this attestation report. Set to 3h for this specification.
04h	31:0	GUEST_SVN	The guest SVN.
08h	63:0	POLICY	The guest policy. See Table 10 for a description of the guest policy structure.
10h	127:0	FAMILY_ID	The family ID provided at launch.
20h	127:0	IMAGE_ID	The image ID provided at launch.
30h	31:0	VMPL	The firmware sets this value depending on whether a guest (MSG_REPORT_REQ) or host (SNP_HV_REPORT_REQ) requested the guest attestation report. For a Guest requested attestation report this field will contain the value (0-3). A Host requested attestation report will have a value of 0xffffffff.
34h	31:0	SIGNATURE_ALGO	The signature algorithm used to sign this report. See Chapter 10 for encodings.
38h	63:0	CURRENT_TCB	CurrentTcb.
40h	63:0	PLATFORM_INFO	Information about the platform. See Table 24.
48h	31:5	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	4:2	SIGNING_KEY	Encodes the key used to sign this report. 0: VCEK. 1: VLEK. 2–6: Reserved. 7: None.
	1	MASK_CHIP_KEY	The value of MaskChipKey.
	0	AUTHOR_KEY_ENABLE	Indicates that the digest of the author key is present in AUTHOR_KEY_DIGEST. Set to the value of GCTX.AuthorKeyEn.
4Ch	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
50h	511:0	REPORT_DATA	If REQUEST_SOURCE is guest provided, then contains Guest-provided data, else host request and zero (0) filled by firmware.
90h	383:0	MEASUREMENT	The measurement calculated at launch.
C0h	255:0	HOST_DATA	Data provided by the hypervisor at launch.
E0h	383:0	ID_KEY_DIGEST	SHA-384 digest of the ID public key that signed the ID block provided in SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH.



Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
110h	383:0	AUTHOR_KEY_DIGEST	SHA-384 digest of the Author public key that certified the ID key, if provided in SNP_LAUNCH_FINISH. Zeroes if AUTHOR_KEY_EN is 1.
140h	255:0	REPORT_ID	Report ID of this guest.
160h	255:0	REPORT_ID_MA	Report ID of this guest's migration agent.
180h	63:0	REPORTED_TCB	Reported TCB version used to derive the VCEK that signed this report.
188h	7:0	CPUID_FAM_ID	Family ID (Combined Extended Family ID and Family ID)
189h	7:0	CPUID_MOD_ID	Model (combined Extended Model and Model fields)
18Ah	7:0	CPUID_STEP	Stepping.
18Bh–19Fh	-	-	Reserved.
1A0h–1DFh	511:0	CHIP_ID	If MaskChipId is set to 0, Identifier unique to the chip as output by GET_ID. Otherwise, set to 0h.
1E0h	63:0	COMMITTED_TCB	CommittedTcb.
1E8h	7:0	CURRENT_BUILD	The build number of CurrentVersion.
1E9h	7:0	CURRENT_MINOR	The minor number of CurrentVersion.
1Eah	7:0	CURRENT_MAJOR	The major number of CurrentVersion.
1Ebh	7:0	-	Reserved.
1Ech	7:0	COMMITTED_BUILD	The build number of CommittedVersion.
1Edh	7:0	COMMITTED_MINOR	The minor version of CommittedVersion.
1Eeh	7:0	COMMITTED_MAJOR	The major version of CommittedVersion.
1Ffh	7:0	-	Reserved.
1F0h	63:0	LAUNCH_TCB	The CurrentTcb at the time the guest was launched or imported.
1F8h–29Fh	-	-	Reserved.
2A0h–49Fh	-	SIGNATURE	Signature of bytes 0h to 29Fh inclusive of this report. The format of the signature is described in Chapter 10.

**Table 24. Structure of the PLATFORM\_INFO Field**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	63:6	-	Reserved.
	5	ALIAS_CHECK_COMPLETE	Indicates that alias detection has completed since the last system reset and there are no aliasing addresses. Resets to 0. Contains mitigation for CVE-2024-21944.
	4	CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM_EN	Indicates ciphertext hiding is enabled for the DRAM.
	3	RAPL_DIS	Indicates that the RAPL feature is disabled.
	2	ECC_EN	Indicates that the platform is using error correcting codes for memory. Present when EccMemReporting feature bit is set.
	1	TSME_EN	Indicates that TSME is enabled in the system.
	0	SMT_EN	Indicates that SMT is enabled in the system.

The firmware constructs an MSG\_REPORT\_RSP message containing the generated attestation report as defined in Table 25.

**Table 25. MSG\_REPORT\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	STATUS	The status of key derivation operation. 0h: Success. 16h: Invalid parameters. 27h: Invalid key selection.
04h	31:0	REPORT_SIZE	Size in bytes of the report.
08h–1Fh		-	Reserved.
20h		REPORT	The attestation report generated by the firmware.

## 7.4 VM Export

When the hypervisor wishes to migrate a guest, it sends a request to that guest or its migration agent. The guest (or its migration agent) then sends the PSP a request message to export the guest's data. The format of this request is defined in Table 26.

**Table 26. MSG\_EXPORT\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page for the target guest to be exported.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:1	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	IMI_EN	Indicates that an IMI is used to migrate the guest.
0Ch	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns a status of INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. The firmware checks that either:

- The guest sending the message is the migration agent of the exported guest—that is, the GCTX.MaReportId of the provided guest context page matches the ReportId of the requesting guest's context page, or
- The guest sending the message has no migration agent and is exporting itself—that is, the GCTX\_PADDR matches the sPA of the requesting guest's context page, and GCTX.MaReportIdValid of the requesting guest is 0.

In summary, the guest can export itself if it has no migration agent. Otherwise, only its migration agent can export it. If either check fails, the firmware returns a status of INVALID\_GUEST.

If the guest is exporting itself, the firmware checks that the guest message was encrypted with VMPLK0. That is, only VMPL0 can self-export. If not, the firmware returns a status of INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest to be exported is in the GSTATE\_RUNNING state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware responds with an MSG\_EXPORT\_RSP message containing the guest context defined in Table 27. The size of the payload is such that HDR\_SIZE + MSG\_SIZE is 4096. That is, the message fills a 4 KB page.

**Table 27. MSG\_EXPORT\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	STATUS	The status of the attestation request. 0h: Success. 16h: Invalid parameters.
04h	31:0	GCTX_SIZE	Size in bytes of the guest context stored in GCTX.
08h	31:0	GCTX_VERSION	Version of the GCTX field. Set to 3h for this ABI version.
0Ch–1Fh		-	Reserved.

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
20h–2Afh		GCTX	Guest context. See Table 28 for the format of this field.

If the exported guest supports the Secure TSC feature, the caller of this guest request should update the guest context before migration as follows:

$$\text{PspTscOffset} = \text{PspTscOffset} + (\text{RDTSC} / \text{GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ}) * \text{DesiredTscFreq}$$

where the RDTSC instruction invocation and the GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ MSR read occur within the guest that sent this message.

**Table 28. GCTX Field Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
000h	383:0	LD	See 4.1 for description of this field.
030h	255:0	OEK	
050h	255:0	VMPCK0	
070h	255:0	VMPCK1	
090h	255:0	VMPCK2	
0B0h	255:0	VMPCK3	
0D0h	255:0	VMRK	
0F0h	255:0	HostData	
110h	383:0	IDKeyDigest	
140h	383:0	AuthorKeyDigest	
170h	255:0	ReportID	
190h	383:0	IMD	
1C0h	63:0	MsgCount0	
1C8h	63:0	MsgCount1	
1D0h	63:0	MsgCount2	
1D8h	63:0	MsgCount3	
1E0h		RootMDEntry	See 5.1 for description of this field. If IMI_EN is set, then this field is set to 0h.
220h	61:3	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	2	VCEK_DIS	See 4.1 for description of this field.
	1	IDBlockEn	See 4.1 for description of this field.
	0	AuthorKeyEn	See 4.1 for description of this field.
228h	63:0	Policy	See 4.1 for description of this field.
230h	7:0	State	See 4.1 for description of this field.

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
238h	63:0	OeklvCount	See 4.1 for description of this field.
240h-29Fh		IDBlock	See 8.1 for the description of this field and Table 53 for the format of the field.
2A0h	127:0	GOSVW	See 4.1 for description of this field.
2B0h	31:0	DesiredTscFreq	See 4.1 for description of this field.
2B4h	31:0	-	Reserved.
2B8h	63:0	PspTscOffset	See 4.1 for description of this field.
2C0h	63:0	LaunchTcb	The CurrentTcb at the time the guest was launched.
2C8h-2FFh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.

If IMI\_EN message parameter is 0, the firmware makes the exported guest unable to run on this platform.

If IMI\_EN message parameter is 1, the firmware allows the exported guest to continue running on this platform. The IMI within the guest is expected to make itself not runnable after it has completed migration.

If IMI\_EN message parameter is 1, the firmware does not export the RootMDEntry. Instead, it writes 0h to the RootMDEntry field.

*Note: If the hypervisor relies on the VcekDis to migrate accurately, the hypervisor must trust the migration agent to not alter the VcekDis flag in the guest context.*

## 7.5 VM Import

When the hypervisor wishes to receive a migrated guest from another system, it first constructs a guest context with SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE. The hypervisor then passes the new guest context sPA to the migration agent. The migration agent then sends the PSP a request message to import the guest's data to the migration agent. The format of this request is defined in Table 29.

If the imported guest supports the Secure TSC feature, the guest calling this guest message should update the guest context before import as follows:

$$\text{PspTscOffset} = \text{PspTscOffset} - (\text{RDTSC} / \text{GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ}) * \text{DesiredTscFreq}$$

where the RDTSC instruction invocation and the GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ MSR read occur within the guest that sent this message.

A hypervisor should ensure that all pages of the guest have been swapped out before invoking this command. The RootMDEntry in the guest context should contain the root metadata entry of the guest that covers all pages of the guest.

*Note: If the hypervisor relies on the VcekDis to migrate accurately, the hypervisor must trust the migration agent to not alter the VcekDis flag in the guest context.*

**Table 29. MSG\_IMPORT\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:0	GCTX_SIZE	Size in bytes of the guest context stored in GCTX.
0Ch	31:0	GCTX_VERSION	Version of the GCTX field. Set to 3h for this ABI version.
10h–1Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.
20h–2Afh		INCOMING_GCTX	Incoming guest context. See Table 28 for the format of this field.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that RootMDEntry of the incoming guest context has its VALID field set to 1. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_MDATA\_ENTRY.

The firmware copies the incoming guest context into the context page at GCTX\_PADDR. The firmware then sets the fields of the guest context page according to Table 30.

**Table 30. Guest Context Initialized by the MSG\_IMPORT\_REQ Guest Message**

Field	Value
MA	The GCTX_PADDR of the migration agent that sent this message.
ReportId	Generated using a CSRNG.
IMIEEn	0

The firmware transitions the guest to the GSTATE\_RUNNING state.

The firmware responds with a message containing the status of the import. The response message is defined in Table 31.

**Table 31. MSG\_IMPORT\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	STATUS	Status of the import operation.
4h–Fh		-	Reserved.

## 7.6 VM Absorb

When an IMI is used to accelerate guest migration, a migration agent imports the new guest using the MSG\_ABSORB\_REQ message. This message requests that, after the hypervisor has launched the IMI, the firmware replace the guest's context with the context migrated from another machine.

If the imported guest supports the Secure TSC feature, the guest calling this guest message should update the guest context before the absorb operation as follows:

$$\text{PspTscOffset} = \text{PspTscOffset} - (\text{RDTSC} / \text{GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ}) * \text{DesiredTscFreq}$$

where the RDTSC instruction invocation and the GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ MSR read occur within the guest that sent this message.

The migration agent sends the firmware an MSG\_ABSORB\_REQ message as described in Table 32.

**Table 32. MSG\_ABSORB\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:0	IN_GCTX_SIZE	Size in bytes of the guest context stored in GCTX.
0Ch	31:0	IN_GCTX_VERSION	Version of the GCTX field. Set to 3h for this ABI version.
10h–1Fh		-	Reserved.
20h–28Fh		IN_GCTX	Incoming guest context. See Table 28 for the format of this field.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state. The firmware also checks that GCTX.IMIEn is 1. If either check fails, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the IN\_GCTX.IMD is equal to GCTX.LD. If not, the firmware returns the status BAD\_MEASUREMENT.

The firmware checks that it supports the IN\_GCTX\_VERSION and that the IN\_GCTX\_SIZE is compatible with this version. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that RootMDEntry of the incoming guest context has its VALID field set to 0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_MDATA\_ENTRY.

Because the guest that sent this message is the new migration agent of the incoming guest, the firmware sets the GCTX.MaReportId of the incoming guest context to ReportId in GCTX\_PADDR, and it also sets MaReportIdValid to 1.

The firmware overwrites the guest context at GCTX\_PADDR with the guest context in the IN\_GCTX field except the ReportID field and VcekDis. The firmware preserves the ReportID and VcekDis fields set during guest launch. The firmware then sets the state of the guest to the GSTATE\_RUNNING state.

The firmware responds with a message containing the status of the import. The response message is defined in Table 33.

**Table 33. MSG\_ABSORB\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	STATUS	Status of the absorb operation.
4h–Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## 7.7 VM Absorb – No Migration Agent

This message is similar in use to the MSG\_ABSORB\_REQ except that it allows a guest to import its own guest context. This can be used with the MSG\_EXPORT\_REQ message to allow a guest to manage its migration without a migration agent.

If the imported guest supports the Secure TSC feature, the guest calling this guest message should update the guest context before import as follows:

$$\text{PspTscOffset} = \text{PspTscOffset} - (\text{TSC} / \text{GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ}) * \text{DesiredTscFreq}$$

where TSC is the timestamp counter read by the guest using RDTSC, GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ is the MSR (C001\_0134) to retrieve the guest-effective TSC frequency, and DesiredTscFreq is the value stored in the guest's context page.



**Table 34. MSG\_ABSORB\_NOMA\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:0	IN_GCTX_SIZE	Size in bytes of the guest context stored in GCTX.
0Ch	31:0	IN_GCTX_VERSION	Version of the GCTX field. Set to 3h for this ABI version.
10h–1Fh		-	Reserved.
20h–28Fh		IN_GCTX	Incoming guest context. See Table 28 for the format of this field.

The firmware checks that GCTX.MaReportIdValid is 0—that is, the guest sending this message has no migration agent. If this check fails, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the IN\_GCTX.IMD is equal to both GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD. If not, the firmware returns the status BAD\_MEASUREMENT.

The firmware checks that it supports the IN\_GCTX\_VERSION and that the IN\_GCTX\_SIZE is compatible with this version. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that RootMDEntry of the incoming guest context has its VALID field set to 0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_MDATA\_ENTRY.

The firmware overwrites the guest context at GCTX\_PADDR with the guest context in the IN\_GCTX field excluding the following fields which remain unaltered.

- HostData
- IDKeyDigest
- AuthorKeyDigest
- ReportId
- IDBlockEn
- AuthorKeyEn
- State
- IDBlock
- VcekDis

The firmware responds with a message containing the status of the import. The response message is defined in Table 35.

**Table 35. MSG\_ABSORB\_NOMA\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	STATUS	Status of the absorb operation.
4h–Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## 7.8 VMRK Message

During launch, the migration agent of the guest sends the VMRK to use for the guest. It must be encrypted with the migration agent's VMPCK0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The structure of the VMRK message is defined in Table 36.

**Table 36. Structure of the MSG\_VMRK\_REQ Guest Message**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
4h–1Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.
20h	255:0	VMRK	A VMRK generated by a migration agent.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state. The firmware also checks that GCTX.IMIEn is 0. If either check fails, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX.MaReportIdValid of the guest is 1 and GCTX.MaReportId of the guest matches the ReportId in GCTX\_PADDR of the migration agent—that is, the guest sending the MSG\_VMRK\_REQ message. If not, the firmware returns the status INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware installs the VMRK into the guest's GCTX.VMRK.

The firmware responds with a message containing the status. The response message is defined in Table 37.

**Table 37. MSG\_VMRK\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	STATUS	Status of the VMRK operation.
4h–Fh		-	Reserved.

## 7.9 TSC Info

When a guest creates its own VMSA, it must query the PSP for information with the TSC\_INFO message to determine the correct values to write into GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE and GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET. The guest MSG\_TSC\_INFO\_REQ request is described in Table 38.

**Table 38. MSG\_TSC\_INFO\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h–7Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.

The firmware responds with the MSG\_TSC\_INFO\_RSP response as described in Table 39.

**Table 39. MSG\_TSC\_INFO\_RSP Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	STATUS	Status of the TSC_INFO message
4h	31:0	-	Reserved.
8h	63:0	GUEST_TSC_SCALE	Calculated as $GCTX.DesiredTscFreq / (\text{mean native frequency})$
10h	63:0	GUEST_TSC_OFFSET	$GCTX.PspTscOffset$
18h	31:0	TSC_FACTOR	Encoding of the percentage decrease from nominal TSC frequency to mean TSC frequency due to clocking parameters. Mean TSC frequency can be calculated by the guest as:  $GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ * (1 - (TSC\_FACTOR * 0.00001))$ For instance, a TSC_FACTOR value of 200 indicates a reduction of 0.2% from nominal TSC frequency.
1Ch–7Fh		-	Reserved.

The guest should set the GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE and GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET VMSA fields to the values provided by the PSP.

## Chapter 8 Command Reference

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### 8.1 DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE

This command allows the hypervisor to install SNP firmware newer than the currently active firmware. This command is a legacy SEV command and documented in Section 5 of [SEV].

In addition to the checks performed in [SEV], the SNP platform state must be UNINIT. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

### 8.2 DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX

This command replaces the current SEV-SNP firmware application with a new SEV-SNP application. This command extends the functionality of DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE with support for provisional updates and for updates while SNP firmware is in the INIT state.

See 3.3 for further information on live updates.

*Note: When SNP is in the UNINIT state and COMMIT is set to 1, this command behaves as if DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE was called instead.*

#### Parameters

**Table 40. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_DOWNLOAD\_FIRMWARE\_EX Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
04h	31:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	FW_PADDR	System physical address of the region that contains an SEV-SNP firmware image. This region must be 32 B aligned.
10h	31:0	In	FW_LEN	Length of the SEV-SNP firmware in bytes.
14h	31:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	COMMIT	Indicates that this command will automatically commit the newly installed image.

#### Actions

The SNP firmware may be in any state. If SEV is not in the UNINIT state, then the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the image is well formed and compatible with currently installed firmware within the PSP. This check is implementation specific and includes internal consistency

checks and signature validation. If the provided image is not well formed, then the firmware returns `INVALID_PARAM`. If the image is compressed or encrypted, then the firmware returns `UNSUPPORTED`.

If the package length does not validate, then the firmware returns `INVALID_LENGTH`. If the signature of the image does not validate, then the firmware returns `BAD_SIGNATURE`.

If a version or SVN rollback is detected, then `INVALID_CONFIG` is returned. If `FW_PADDR` is not 32-byte aligned, then `INVALID_ADDRESS` is returned.

If the provided package is not an SEV binary, then `INVALID_PARAM` is returned. If the binary is encrypted or compressed and the platform does not support that feature for `DownloadFirmware` binaries, then `INVALID_CONFIG` is returned. The `COMMIT` parameter is used to have the firmware commit the provided image and set the `CommittedTCB` version to the provided image's `FirmwareVersion`. Otherwise, the `SNP_COMMIT` command may be called at a later time. This feature exists so the Hypervisor can try out the new firmware and revert it back to the uncommitted version in case any issues arise.

If the `FirmwareVersion` of the provided firmware is greater than or equal to the `FirmwareVersion` of the current image, then this command is processing an upgrade. In this case, the provided image restricts the minimum version from which it will upgrade with its `MinUpgradeFrom` attribute. The firmware checks that `MinUpgradeFrom` of the provided image is less than or equal to the `FirmwareVersion` of the current firmware. If not, the firmware returns `SHUTDOWN_REQUIRED`.

When the firmware returns `SHUTDOWN_REQUIRED` status, the Host should send the `SHUTDOWN` or `SHUTDOWN_EX` commands prior to sending any other SEV commands. The firmware will continue to process commands, although commands may not execute properly. Following the subsequent `SHUTDOWN/SHUTDOWN_EX`, the Host could perform `DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE/DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX` to load an alternate firmware image.

If the `FirmwareVersion` of the provided firmware is less than the `FirmwareVersion` of the current image, then this command is processing a downgrade. The current firmware will check that the `FirmwareVersion` of the provided image is equal to the `CommittedVersion` of the current firmware. If not, the firmware returns `BAD_VERSION`.

The firmware then installs the provided image, replacing the current firmware. If the SNP firmware is in the `INIT` state, all SNP firmware state is retained.

If a provided image is installed but the new firmware detects it cannot proceed safely, the firmware will automatically try to revert back to the `CommittedVersion`. If firmware reversion is successful, the firmware will return `UPDATE_FAILED`.

If firmware reversion is unsuccessful, then firmware will return `HARDWARE_UNSAFE`. Following a return of `HARDWARE_UNSAFE`, operation of the SEV firmware is indeterminate and the recommendation is to reboot the platform.

If the firmware does not have the ability to automatically roll back to the CommittedVersion (per older Milan firmware versions), the firmware may return `RESTORE_REQUIRED`. After returning `RESTORE_REQUIRED` status, the firmware will only successfully execute `DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX`. Hypervisors should resolve this condition by rolling back to the CommittedVersion of the firmware by invoking `DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX` with the firmware image of the CommittedVersion. The firmware will continue to process commands, although command execution will be indeterminate and may not execute properly.

If `COMMIT` is 1 and the command successfully completes, the firmware implicitly commits the SVN and FirmwareVersion of the provided image as if `SNP_COMMIT` was called.

Until the new image has been committed, the Hypervisor will have the ability to revert back to the CommittedVersion by invoking `DOWNLOAD_FIRMWARE_EX` again with the committed image. Note that in order to perform a firmware upgrade, the current firmware must be successfully committed.

## Status Codes

**Table 41. Status Codes for `DOWNLOAD_FW_EX`**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
RESTORE_REQUIRED	New firmware image is installed but unusable.
INVALID_PARAM	Provided image is not well formed.
SHUTDOWN_REQUIRED	Provided image cannot be live updated.
BAD_VERSION	Provided image is less than CommittedVersion.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.
HARDWARE_UNSAFE	Reboot of the platform is required.

## 8.3 SNP\_COMMIT

This command commits the currently installed firmware. Once committed, the firmware cannot be replaced with a previous firmware version or SVN.

See 3.3 for further information on live updates.

## Parameters

**Table 42. Layout of the `CMDBUF_SNP_COMMIT` Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.

## Actions

The firmware sets the CommittedTcb to the CurrentTcb of the current firmware.

The firmware sets the CommittedVersion to the FirmwareVersion of the current firmware.

The firmware sets the ReportedTcb to the CurrentTcb.

The firmware deletes the VLEK hashstick if ReportedTcb changed.

## Status Codes

**Table 43. Status Codes for SNP\_COMMIT**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.

## 8.4 GET\_ID

This command returns a unique ID for the system that can be used to obtain a certificate for the VCEK from AMD's Key Distribution Server [KDS-VCEK], which expects the output of this command to be provided in the HWID URL parameter. This command is a legacy SEV command and documented in Section 5 of [SEV].

In addition to the checks in [SEV], the firmware also checks that, if the SNP firmware state is INIT, the 16 B buffer pointed at by ID\_PADDR resides entirely in Firmware or Default pages. Otherwise, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

## 8.5 SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS

This command returns information about the platform's current status and capabilities.

## Parameters

**Table 44. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:0	In	STATUS_PADDR	sPA to write the platform status structure. See Table 45.

## Actions

The platform may be in any state when this command is called.

The firmware checks that STATUS\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

If the SNP firmware state is INIT, the page must be either a Firmware or Default page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

If the platform state is UNINIT, the firmware does not check the state or size of the page.

The following data structure is written to memory at STATUS\_PADDR.

**Table 45. Layout of the STRUCT\_PLATFORM\_STATUS Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	7:0	API_MAJOR	Major API version.
01h	7:0	API_MINOR	Minor API version.
02h	7:0	STATE	The current platform state, zero extended. See 3.2 for encodings.
03h	7:4	-	Reserved.
	3	IS_TIO_INIT	Indicates TIO has been initialized in the firmware. Present if SevTio feature bit is set.
	2	-	Reserved.
	1	ALIAS_CHECK_COMPLETE	Indicates that alias detection has completed since the last system reset and there are no aliasing addresses. Resets to 0. Contains mitigation for CVE-2024-21944.
	0	IS_RMP_INIT	Set to the value of IsRmpInitialized.
04h	31:0	BUILD	Firmware build ID for this API version.
08h	31:7	-	Reserved.
	6	CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM_EN	Indicates ciphertext hiding is enabled for the DRAM.  Present if CipherTextHidingDRAM feature bit is set.
	5	CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM_CAP	Indicates platform capable of ciphertext hiding for the DRAM.  Present if CipherTextHidingDRAM feature bit is set.
	4	RAPL_DIS	Indicates that the RAPL is disabled. Present if RaplDis feature bit is set.



Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
	3	FEATURE_INFO	Indicates that the SNP_FEATURE_INFO command is available.
	2	VLEK_EN	Indicates whether a VLEK hashstick is loaded.
	1	MASK_CHIP_KEY	Set to the value of MaskChipKey.
	0	MASK_CHIP_ID	Set to the value of MaskChipId.
0Ch	31:0	GUEST_COUNT	The number of guests currently managed by the firmware.
10h	63:0	CURRENT_TCB	The CurrentTcb of the firmware.
18h	63:0	REPORTED_TCB	The reported TCB version in guest attestation reports.

## Status Codes

**Table 46. Status Codes for SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	The page at STATUS_PADDR is not in the correct RMP page state.

## 8.6 SNP\_CONFIG

This command sets the systemwide configuration values for SNP.

### Parameters

**Table 47. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_CONFIG\_STATUS Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:0	In	REPORTED_TCB	The TCB_VERSION to report in guest attestation reports.
08h	31:2	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	1	In	MASK_CHIP_KEY	Indicates that the VCEK is not used in attestation and guest key derivation.
	0	In	MASK_CHIP_ID	Indicates that the CHIP_ID field in the attestation report will always be zero.
0Ch–3Fh		-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the REPORTED\_TCB parameter is less than or equal to CommittedTcb. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

If REPORTED\_TCB is 0, the firmware sets ReportedTcb to CommittedTcb. Otherwise, the firmware sets ReportedTcb value to REPORTED\_TCB. If the ReportedTcb changes, the firmware deletes the VLEK hashstick.

The firmware sets the systemwide MaskChipId to MASK\_CHIP\_ID.

The firmware sets MaskChipKey to MASK\_CHIP\_KEY. This bit was introduced in version 1.53.

## Status Codes

**Table 48. Status Codes for SNP\_CONFIG\_STATUS**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PARAM	The desired reported TCB_VERSION is invalid.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.

## 8.7 SNP\_INIT

This command validates the platform configuration of the SNP and initializes the firmware. This command is a specialization of the SNP\_INIT\_EX command.

**Deprecated in version 1.52:** In version 1.52 and later, SNP\_INIT\_EX should be used instead of SNP\_INIT. It is important to ensure that UEFI reserved pages are marked HV-fixed to ensure the stability of the system.

### Parameters

None.

### Actions

This command behaves as if SNP\_INIT\_EX was called with INIT\_RMP set to 1 and all other parameters set to zero.

### Status Codes

See SNP\_INIT\_EX.

## 8.8 SNP\_INIT\_EX

This command validates the platform configuration of the SNP and initializes the firmware. Hypervisors should not schedule any guests during the execution of this command.

During the execution of this command, the firmware configures and enables SNP security policy enforcement in many system components. Some system components write to regions of memory reserved by early x86 firmware (e.g., UEFI). Other system components write to regions provided by the operation system, hypervisor, or x86 firmware. Such system components can write only to HV-fixed or Default pages. An error will result when they attempt to write to other page states after SNP\_INIT enables their SNP enforcement.

Starting in version 1.52, this command takes a list of sPA ranges to convert into HV-fixed page states during the RMP initialization. If INIT\_RMP is 1, a hypervisor should provide all sPA ranges that it will never assign to a guest until the next RMP reinitialization. For instance, the memory that UEFI reserves should be included in the range list. This allows system components that occasionally write to memory (e.g., logging to UEFI-reserved regions) to not fail due to RMP initialization and SNP enablement.

Some processors support the Running Average Power Limit (RAPL) feature which provides information about power utilization of software. RAPL can be disabled using the RAPL\_DIS flag in SNP\_INIT\_EX to disable RAPL while SNP firmware is in the INIT state. Guests may require that RAPL is disabled by using the POLICY.RAPL\_DIS guest policy flag. RAPL disable is supported when RaplDis (bit 2) in Fn8000\_0024\_ECX\_x00 is 1. Ciphertext hiding for DRAM prevents host accesses from reading the ciphertext of SNP guest private memory. Instead of reading ciphertext, the host will see constant default values. Ciphertext hiding separates the ASID space into SNP guest ASIDs and host ASIDs. All SNP active guests must have an ASID less than or equal to MAX\_SNP\_ASID provided to the SNP\_INIT\_EX command. All SEV-legacy guests must be greater than MAX\_SNP\_ASID. This feature is present when CipherTextHidingDRAM (bit 3) in Fn8000\_0024\_ECX\_x00.

A platform is capable of ciphertext hiding if DDR-BF mode is configured. If not, the SNP\_INIT\_EX command will fail if ciphertext hiding is requested.

SNP\_INIT\_EX will fail if RmpInstallPending or RstInstallPending are set.

Hypervisors must not assign the VM\_HSAVE pages as HV-fixed. Otherwise, VMRUN will fail.

## Parameters

**Table 49. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_INIT\_EX Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	31:5	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	4	In	TIO_EN	0: Do not enable TIO support. 1: Enable TIO support.
	3	In	CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM_EN	0: Ciphertext hiding for the DRAM is disabled. 1: Ciphertext hiding for the DRAM is enabled.  Present when CipertextHiding feature bit is set.
	2	In	RAPL_DIS	0: RAPL enabled. 1: RAPL disabled. Present when RaplDis feature bit is set.
	1	In	LIST_PADDR_EN	0: LIST_PADDR is not valid. 1: LIST_PADDR is valid.
	0	In	INIT_RMP	Indicates that the RMP should be initialized.
04h	31:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	LIST_PADDR	sPA of the RANGE_LIST structure. See Table 109 for SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE.
10h	15:0	In	MAX_SNP_ASID	The maximum ASID useable for an SNP guest. Valid only if CIPHERTEXT_HIDING_DRAM_EN is 1.
12h–39h	-	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

Before invoking SNP\_INIT\_EX with INIT\_RMP set to 1, software must ensure that no CPUs contain dirty cache lines for the memory containing the RMP.

The firmware checks that the platform is in the UNINIT state. The firmware also checks that SEV-legacy firmware is not already initialized. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If INIT\_RMP is 0, then the firmware determines if SNP can be initialized securely without initializing the RMP table. The firmware requires initialization if the RMP is not yet initialized. The firmware may also require initialization for other reasons, such as if the RMP was

incompatibly initialized by a previous version of the firmware. If the firmware determines the RMP requires initialization, the firmware returns `RMP_INIT_REQUIRED`.

If `INIT_RMP` is 1, then the firmware ensures the following system requirements are met:

- `SYSCFG[MemoryEncryptionModEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores. (SEV must be enabled.)
- `SYSCFG[SecureNestedPagingEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `SYSCFG[VMPLEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `SYSCFG[MFDm]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `VM_HSAVE_PA` (MSR `C001_0117`) must be set to 0h across all cores.
- `HWCR[SmmLock]` (MSR `C001_0015`) must be set to 1 across all cores.

The following MSRs must be set identically across all cores:

- All MTRRs
- `IORR_BASE`
- `IORR_MASK`
- `TOM`
- `TOM2`

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_CONFIG`.

If `INIT_RMP` is 1, then the firmware also ensures that the following requirements for the RMP have been met:

- `RMP_BASE` and `RMP_END` must be set identically across all cores.
- `RMP_BASE` must be 1 MB aligned.
- `RMP_END – RMP_BASE + 1` must be a multiple of 1 MB.
- RMP is large enough to protect itself.

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware initializes the IOMMU to perform RMP enforcement. The firmware also transitions the event log, PPR log, and completion wait buffers of the IOMMU to an RMP page state that is read only to the hypervisor and cannot be assigned to guests.

If `LIST_PADDR_EN` is 1, then the firmware performs the following checks:

- If `INIT_RMP` is 0, the firmware returns `INVALID_PARAM`.
- If `LIST_PADDR` is an invalid sPA, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.
- If a range in `RANGES` contains an invalid address, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. For this check, a range overlapping the RMP is not considered an invalid address.

If `INIT_RMP` is 1, then the firmware alters the RMP such that pages of the RMP are in the Firmware state and all other pages covered by the RMP are in the Hypervisor state. If `LIST_PADDR_EN` is 1, then the firmware initializes the provided ranges in `LIST_PADDR` as HV-fixed pages. The firmware also initializes any microarchitectural data structures within the

RMP. Immediately after completing RMP initialization, the firmware forces a TLB flush across all cores on all sockets.

If RAPL\_DIS is 1 but the power management controller does not support RAPL disable, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG. Otherwise, if RAPL\_DIS is 1, the firmware disables the RAPL feature.

If CIPHERTEXT\_HIDING\_DRAM\_EN is 1, the firmware checks that the platform is capable of ciphertext hiding. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

If CIPHERTEXT\_HIDING\_DRAM\_EN is 1, the firmware checks for CXL memory in the system. If there is CXL memory present in the system, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

Otherwise, the firmware enables Ciphertext hiding and sets the maximum SNP ASID to be MAX\_SNP\_ASID.

The firmware sets MaskChipKey to 0.

The firmware marks all encryption-capable ASIDs as unusable for encrypted virtualization.

The firmware sets the platform state to INIT.

## Status Codes

**Table 50. Status Codes for SNP\_INIT**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_CONFIG	The system is not in a valid configuration that can support SNP.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	RMP_BASE and RMP_END are not valid addresses.
RMP_INIT_REQUIRED	Initialization of the RMP is required.

## 8.9 SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE

This command donates a page from the hypervisor to the firmware to be used to store the guest context.

## Parameters

**Table 51. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that the donated context page is in the Firmware state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE. The firmware checks that the donated page is marked as a 4 KB page in the RMP. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

The firmware transitions the page to the Context state and initializes the guest context according to Table 52. All other fields within the guest context remain indeterminate until they are initialized through the launch process or through the import process.

**Table 52. Guest Context Initialized by the SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE Command**

Field	Value
ASID	Set to 0h, indicating that no ASID has been associated with this guest.
State	GSTATE_INIT.
VEK	Generated using a CSRNG.
OeklvCount	0h.
LaunchTcb	Set to CurrentTcb.
LastAccessVersion	Set to CurrentVersion.

## Status Codes

**Table 53. Status Codes for SNP\_GCTX\_CREATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	The page is not in the Firmware state.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	The page is not a 4 KB page.

## 8.10 SNP\_ACTIVATE

This command installs the guest's VEK into the memory controller in the key slot associated with a given ASID.

### Parameters

**Table 54. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_ACTIVATE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:0	In	ASID	ASID to bind to the guest.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page at GCTX\_PADDR is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state or in the GSTATE\_RUNNING state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that ASID is an encryption-capable ASID. If not, then the firmware returns INVALID\_ASID.



The firmware checks the ASID to be within the range 1h to (MIN\_SEV\_ASID-1), inclusive. The MIN\_SEV\_ASID value is discovered by CPUID Fn8000\_001F[EDX]. Further, if ciphertext hiding is enabled, the firmware checks that the ASID is within the range 1h to MAX\_SNP\_ASID, inclusive. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ASID. If the ASID is already assigned to another guest, the firmware returns ASID\_OWNED. If the guest is already activated, the firmware returns ACTIVE.

The firmware checks that a DF\_FLUSH is not required. If a DF\_FLUSH is required, the firmware returns DFFLUSH\_REQUIRED.

*Note: All ASIDs are marked to require a DF\_FLUSH at reset.*

The firmware checks that no pages are assigned to the ASID in the RMP. If pages are assigned, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

If POLICY.SINGLE\_SOCKET is 1 and the system has more than one socket populated, the firmware returns POLICY\_FAILURE. The firmware installs the guest's VEK into the memory controllers in the key slot associated with the given ASID.

## Status Codes

**Table 55. Status Codes for SNP\_ACTIVATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_CONFIG	ASID has pages assigned to it already.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the LAUNCH state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_ASID	The provided ASID is not an encryption-capable ASID.
ASID_OWNED	The ASID is already owned by another guest.
POLICY_FAILURE	The guest policy prevents activation on multiple sockets.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.
ACTIVE	The guest is already activated.
DFFLUSH_REQUIRED	DF_FLUSH was not invoked before this command.

## 8.11 SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX

This command installs the guest's VEK into the memory controller in the key slot associated with a given ASID on select core complexes. Only hardware threads in the selected core complex may execute the guest. When an ASID is later reused, WBINVD need be done only on core complexes associated with the guest.

### Parameters

**Table 56. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	31:0	In	EX_LEN	Length of command buffer. 20h for this version.
04h	31:0	-	-	Reserved.
08h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	31:0	In	ASID	The ASID in which the guest should be bound.
14h	31:0	In	NUMIDs	Number of APIC IDs in the ID_PADDR list.
18h	63:0	In	ID_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of a list of 32-bit APIC IDs.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page at GCTX\_PADDR is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state or in the GSTATE\_RUNNING state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that ASID is an encryption-capable ASID. Further, if ciphertext hiding is enabled, the firmware checks that the ASID is within the range 1h to MAX\_SNP\_ASID, inclusive. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ASID. If the ASID is already assigned to another guest, the firmware returns ASID\_OWNED. If the guest is already activated but on a different ASID, the firmware returns ACTIVE.

The firmware checks that a DF\_FLUSH is not required. If one is needed, the firmware returns DFFLUSH\_REQUIRED.

*Note: All ASIDs are marked to require a DF\_FLUSH at reset.*

If the guest is not yet activated, the firmware checks that no pages are assigned to the ASID in the RMP. If pages are already assigned, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

If POLICY.SINGLE\_SOCKET is 1, the firmware performs the following checks:

- If the guest is bound to a migration agent, the migration agent must already be activated. Also, completing SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX must not result in activating the guest on a different socket than its migration agent.
- Completing SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX will not result in activating the guest on multiple sockets.

If any of the checks fails, the firmware returns POLICY\_FAILURE. Otherwise, the firmware installs the guest's VEK into the memory controllers for the given APIC IDs into the key slot associated with the given ASID. This command can be called multiple times to expand the set of CCXs on which the guest may execute.

## Status Codes

**Table 57. Status Codes for SNP\_ACTIVATE\_EX**

Status	Condition
INVALID_CONFIG	ASID has pages assigned to it already.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the LAUNCH state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_ASID	The provided ASID is not an encryption-capable ASID.
ASID_OWNED	The ASID is already owned by another guest.
POLICY_FAILURE	The guest policy prevents activation on multiple sockets.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.
ACTIVE	The guest is already activated.
DFFLUSH_REQUIRED	DF_FLUSH was not invoked before this command.
SUCCESS	Successful completion.

## 8.12 SNP\_DECOMMISSION

This command destroys a guest context. After this command successfully completes, the guest will not long be runnable.

### Parameters

**Table 58. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_DECOMMISSION Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest's context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that the page is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware marks the ASID of the guest as not runnable. Then the firmware records that each CPU core on each of the CCXs that the guest was activated on requires a WBINVD followed by a single DF\_FLUSH command to ensure that all unencrypted data in the caches are invalidated before reusing the ASID. The firmware then transitions the page into a Firmware page.

### Status Codes

**Table 59. Status Codes for SNP\_DECOMMISSION**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is not valid or is misaligned.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is not valid.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.13 SNP\_DF\_FLUSH

This command flushes SoC data buffers after CPU caches have been invalidated. After a VM is decommissioned or exported, the hypervisor must execute a WBINVD on the cores that the previous guest was active on before invoking the SNP\_DF\_FLUSH command. The combination of WBINVD and SNP\_DF\_FLUSH ensures that all data associated with the previous guest are no longer in any CPU caches.

### Parameters

None.

### Actions

For each core marked for cache invalidation, the firmware checks that the core has executed a WBINVD instruction. If not, the firmware returns WBINVD\_REQUIRED. The commands that mark cores for cache invalidation include SNP\_DECOMMISSION and the guest request MSG\_EXPORT\_REQ.

The firmware flushes the write buffers of the data fabric and records that a flush has been performed for all decommissioned ASIDs.

### Status Codes

**Table 60. Status Codes for SNP\_DF\_FLUSH**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The firmware is not in the INIT state.
WBINVD_REQUIRED	At least one core did not execute a WBINVD instruction before calling this command.

## 8.14 SNP\_SHUTDOWN

This command returns the firmware to an uninitialized state.

### Parameters

None.

### Actions

This command is equivalent to executing SNP\_SHUTDOWN\_EX with a command buffer containing zeroes.

## Status Codes

**Table 61. Status Codes for SNP\_SHUTDOWN**

Status	Condition
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	SEV is not in the UNINIT state.
DFFLUSH_REQUIRED	DF_FLUSH was not invoked before this command.
SUCCESS	Successful completion.

## 8.15 SNP\_SHUTDOWN\_EX

This command returns the firmware to an uninitialized state and optionally disables the SNP enforcement in the IOMMU and sets the associated pages to the Hypervisor state.

### Parameters

**Table 62. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN\_EX Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:2	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	1	In	X86_SNP_SHUTDOWN	Disables SNP on all cores by clearing the SYSCFG[SNPen] bit.  Present when X86SnpShutdown feature bit is 1.
	0	In	IOMMU_SNP_SHUTDOWN	Disable enforcement of SNP in the IOMMU.

### Actions

If SEV firmware is not in the UNINIT state, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If IOMMU\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN is set to 1, the firmware performs the following actions:

- Disables SNP enforcement by the IOMMU.
- Transitions all pages associated with the IOMMU to the Reclaim state. Firmware before version 1.53 transitions to the Hypervisor state. Starting with version 1.53, the hypervisor must execute RMPUPDATE to recover the page by transitioning it from Reclaim.
- Records that a full RMP reinitialization is required by the next SNP\_INIT invocation.

If IOMMU\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN is 0, the firmware leaves the IOMMU and its pages unaltered.

If X86\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN is set to 1, the firmware clears the SYSCFG[SNPEn] bit in each core. Software must set IOMMU\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN to 1 if X86\_SNP\_SHUTDOWN is 1.

The firmware reenables the RAPL feature if it was disabled in SNP\_INIT\_EX.

The firmware then checks whether the firmware is in the UNINIT state. If so, the firmware returns SUCCESS without taking any further action.

If the SNP firmware is in the INIT state, the firmware checks every encryption-capable ASID to verify that it is not in use by a guest and a DF\_FLUSH is not required. If a DF\_FLUSH is required, the firmware returns DFFLUSH\_REQUIRED.

The firmware clears the encryption keys from the memory controller and transitions the platform to the UNINIT state and returns SUCCESS.

***Note:** Aside from the IOMMU pages referenced above, the firmware will not automatically reclaim any pages marked as immutable in the RMP. The hypervisor should either reclaim the pages using SNP\_PAGE\_RECLAIM or should call SNP\_INIT afterward to reset the RMP.*

## Status Codes

**Table 63. Status Codes for SNP\_SHUTDOWN\_EX**

Status	Condition
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	SEV is not in the UNINIT state.
DFFLUSH_REQUIRED	DF_FLUSH was not invoked before this command.
SUCCESS	Successful completion.

## 8.16 SNP\_LAUNCH\_START

This command initializes the flow to launch a guest.

### Parameters

**Table 64. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_LAUNCH\_START Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	POLICY	Guest policy. See Table 9 for a description of the guest policy structure.
10h	63:12	In	MA_GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context of the migration agent. Ignored if MA_EN is 0.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
	11:0	In	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
18h	31:2	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	1	In	IMI_EN	Indicates that this launch flow is launching an IMI for the purpose of guest-assisted migration.
	0	In	MA_EN	1 if this guest is associated with a migration agent. Otherwise, 0.
1Ch	31:0	In	DESIRED_TSC_FREQ	Hypervisor-desired mean TSC frequency in kHz of the guest. This field has no effect if guests do not enable Secure TSC in the VMSA. The hypervisor should set this field to 0h if it does not support Secure TSC for this guest.
20h	127:0	In	GOSVW	Hypervisor-provided value to indicate guest OS-visible workarounds. The format is hypervisor defined.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a valid sPA. If `MA_EN` is 1, the firmware checks that `MA_GCTX_PADDR` is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. The firmware then checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a Context page. If `MA_EN` is 1, the firmware checks that `MA_GCTX_PADDR` is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST`.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the `GSTATE_INIT` state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST_STATE`.

The firmware verifies that the guest's policy is satisfied by checking that the following conditions are met:

- If `MA_EN` is 1, `POLICY.MIGRATE_MA` must be 1.
- If `MA_EN` is 1, then the migration agent must not be migratable—that is, the migration agent itself must not be bound to another migration agent.
- If `POLICY.SMT` is 0, then SMT must be disabled.
- `POLICY.ABI_MAJOR` must equal the major version of this ABI.
- `POLICY.ABI_MINOR` must be less than or equal to the minor version of this ABI.
- If `POLICY.SINGLE_SOCKET` is 1 and `MA_EN` is 1, then the migration agent's `POLICY.SINGLE_SOCKET` must be 1.



- If POLICY.CXL\_ALLOW is 0, then CXL channels must not have memory or devices populated. This policy check is performed when CxlAllowPolicy feature bit is set.
- If POLICY.MEM\_AES\_256\_XTS is 1, then the memory controller must be configured to use AES-256 XTS. This policy check is performed when Aes256XtsPolicy feature bit is set.
- If POLICY.RAPL\_DIS is 1, then the Running Average Power Limit (RAPL) feature must be disabled. This policy check is performed when RaplDis feature bit is set.
- If POLICY.CIPHERTEXT\_HIDING\_DRAM is 1, then ciphertext hiding must be enabled. This policy check is performed when CiphertextHidingDRAM feature bit is set.

If any of the above conditions are not met, the firmware returns POLICY\_FAILURE.

The firmware initializes the guest context with the values defined in Table 65.

**Table 65. Guest Context Field Initialization for the Launch Flow**

Field	Value
MsgCount0 MsgCount1 MsgCount2 MsgCount3	0h
Policy	Set to POLICY.
MaReportId	Set to ReportId of MA if MA_EN is 1. Set to 0h otherwise.
MaReportIdValid	Set to the value of MA_EN.
OEK	Generated using a CSRNG.
VMPCK0 VMPCK1 VMPCK2 VMPCK3	Generated using a CSRNG.
VMRK	Generated using a CSRNG. May be replaced by a VMRK guest message from the associated migration agent. See 0.
LD	0h
IMD	0h
IDBlockEn	0
IDBlock	0h
IDKeyDigest	0h
AuthorKeyEn	0
AuthorKeyDigest	0h
ReportID	Generated using a CSRNG.
IMIEn	Set to IMI_EN.
GOSVW	GOSVW field.

Field	Value
DesiredTscFreq	Set to DESIRED_TSC_FREQ.
PspTscOffset	0h

The firmware sets the guest state to GSTATE\_LAUNCH.

## Status Codes

**Table 66. Status Codes for SNP\_LAUNCH\_START**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address was not a valid sPA or properly aligned.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest was not in the GSTATE_INIT state.
POLICY_FAILURE	The guest's policy was violated.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.17 SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE

This command inserts pages into the guest physical address space.

### Parameters

**Table 67. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:5	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	4	In	IMI_PAGE	Indicates that this page is part of the IMI of the guest.
	3:1	In	PAGE_TYPE	Encoded page type. See Table 68.
	0	In	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates page size. 0 indicates a 4 KB page. 1 indicates a 2 MB page.
0Ch	31:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:12	In	PAGE_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the destination page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
18h	63:32	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	31:24	In	VMPL3_PERMS	VMPL permission mask for VMPL3. See Table 69 for the definition of the mask.
	23:16	In	VMPL2_PERMS	VMPL permission mask for VMPL2 See Table 69 for the definition of the mask.
	15:8	In	VMPL1_PERMS	VMPL permission mask for VMPL1. See Table 69 for the definition of the mask.
	7:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

**Table 68. Encodings for the PAGE\_TYPE Field**

Value	Name	Description
00h	-	Reserved.
01h	PAGE_TYPE_NORMAL	A normal data page.
02h	PAGE_TYPE_VMSA	A VMSA page.
03h	PAGE_TYPE_ZERO	A page full of zeroes.
04h	PAGE_TYPE_UNMEASURED	A page that is encrypted but not measured.
05h	PAGE_TYPE_SECRETS	A page for the firmware to store secrets for the guest.
06h	PAGE_TYPE_CPUID	A page for the hypervisor to provide CPUID function values.
All other encodings		Reserved.

**Table 69. VMPL Permission Mask**

Bit	Field	Description
7:4	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
3	Execute-Supervisor	Page is executable by the VMPL in CPL2, CPL1, and CPL0.
2	Execute-User	Page is executable by the VMPL in CPL3.
1	Write	Page is writeable by the VMPL.
0	Read	Page is readable by the VMPL.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR and PAGE\_PADDR are valid sPAs. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware checks that if PAGE\_SIZE is 1, then PAGE\_PADDR is 2 MB aligned. If this check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware also checks that the page at PAGE\_PADDR is Pre-Guest page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the guest is activated—that is, it has an assigned ASID. If not, the firmware returns INACTIVE.

The firmware checks that the ASID of the destination page indicated by the RMP matches the ASID of the guest. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware checks that the destination page size indicated by the RMP matches the page size indicated by the PAGE\_SIZE parameter. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

The firmware checks that if GCTX.IMIEn is 1, then IMI\_PAGE is also 1. If not, then the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that if VMPLs are not enabled, then VMPL1\_PERMS, VMPL2\_PERMS, and VMPL3\_PERMS must be zero. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware updates the GCTX.LD and possibly the GCTX.IMD with information describing the contents and location of the pages inserted into the guest. Each update to the digest is of the following form:

$$\text{DIGEST\_NEW} := \text{SHA-384}(\text{PAGE\_INFO})$$

where PAGE\_INFO is the structure defined in Table 70.

**Table 70. Layout of the PAGE\_INFO Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Field	Description
0h	383:0	DIGEST_CUR	The value of the current digest (either LD or IMD).
30h	383:0	CONTENTS	The SHA-384 digest of the measured contents of the region, if any. See the following subsections.
60h	15:0	LENGTH	Length of this structure in bytes.
62h	7:0	PAGE_TYPE	The zero-extended PAGE_TYPE field provided by the hypervisor.
63h	7:1	-	0h

Byte Offset	Bits	Field	Description
	0	IMI_PAGE	Set to the IMI_PAGE flag provided by the hypervisor.
64h	31:24	VMPL3_PERMS	The VMPL3_PERMS field provided by the hypervisor.
	23:16	VMPL2_PERMS	The VMPL2_PERMS field provided by the hypervisor.
	15:8	VMPL1_PERMS	The VMPL1_PERMS field provided by the hypervisor.
	7:0	-	0h
68h	63:0	GPA	The 64-bit gPA of the region.

The firmware unconditionally updates GCTX.LD. If IMI\_PAGE is 1, the firmware updates the GCTX.IMD.

The following subsections describe how the PAGE\_TYPE, GPA, and CONTENTS fields are determined.

***Note:** The guest physical address space is limited according to CPUID Fn80000008\_EAX and thus the GPAs used by the firmware in measurement calculation are equally limited. Hypervisors should not attempt to map pages outside of this limit.*

The following subsections describe the actions the firmware takes on the guest address space depending on the page type, PAGE\_TYPE. If the page size is 2 MB, then the firmware will update the launch digest as if the data were provided in a contiguous sequence of 4 KB pages. The final launch digest is therefore independent of how the hypervisor chooses to size the pages within the nested page tables and in the RMP.

### **PAGE\_TYPE\_NORMAL**

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_NORMAL.

For each 4 KB chunk within the page, the firmware constructs a PAGE\_INFO structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** PAGE\_TYPE\_NORMAL
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB chunk. The firmware calculates this by adding the offset of the chunk to RMP.GPA of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** The SHA-384 digest of the contents of the 4 KB chunk.

The firmware updates GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD as described above.

The firmware encrypts the page with the VEK in place. The firmware then sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the destination page to Guest-Valid.

## PAGE\_TYPE\_VMSA

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_VMSA.

The firmware checks that the destination page is 4 KB. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

The firmware constructs a PAGE\_INFO structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** PAGE\_TYPE\_VMSA
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB page. The firmware uses the RMP.GPA of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** The SHA-384 digest of the contents of the 4 KB page. The firmware ignores the values of GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE and GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET and measures the VMSA as if those fields contained zero.

The firmware updates GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD as described above.

If VmsaRegProt in the SEV\_FEATURES field of VMSA is 1 and the current microcode level supports VmsaRegProt, then the firmware generates an 8 B random tweak value and writes it to offset 300h of the VMSA. The firmware then XORs the tweaked quadwords of the VMSA with the tweak value. The quadwords of the VMSA that are tweaked are determined by the family, model, stepping, and microcode patch of the processor. This information is shared with the guest via the PAGE\_TYPE\_SECRETS page. If the current microcode level does not support VmsaRegProt, the firmware returns NOT\_SUPPORTED.

*Note: The firmware measures the VMSA provided by the hypervisor prior to any tweak operations.*

If SecureTsc in the SEV\_FEATURES field of VMSA is 1, the firmware sets the GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE and GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET fields in the VMSA as follows:

GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE := GCTX.DesiredTscFreq / (mean native frequency)  
GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET := 0

*Note: These VMSA fields are changed after the measurement is calculated.*

If SecureTsc in the SEV\_FEATURES field of VMSA is 0, then the firmware does not alter GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE or GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET.

The firmware encrypts the page with the VEK in place and sets the RMP.VMSA of the page to 1. Then it sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the page to Guest-Valid.

## PAGE\_TYPE\_ZERO

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_ZERO.

For each 4 KB chunk within the page, the firmware constructs a PAGE\_INFO structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** PAGE\_TYPE\_ZERO
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB chunk. The firmware calculates this by adding the offset of the chunk to RMP.GPA of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** 0h

The firmware updates GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD as described above.

The firmware encrypts a page of zeroes with the VEK. The firmware sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the page to Guest-Valid.

### **PAGE\_TYPE\_UNMEASURED**

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_UNMEASURED.

For each 4 KB chunk within the page, the firmware constructs a PAGE\_INFO structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** PAGE\_TYPE\_UNMEASURED
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB chunk. The firmware calculates this by adding the offset of the chunk to RMP.GPA of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** 0h

The firmware updates GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD as described above.

The firmware encrypts the page with the VEK in place and then sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the page to Guest-Valid.

### **PAGE\_TYPE\_SECRETS**

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_SECRETS.

The firmware checks that the destination page is 4 KB. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

The firmware constructs a PAGE\_INFO structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** PAGE\_TYPE\_SECRETS
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB page. The firmware uses the RMP.GPA of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** 0h

The firmware updates GCTX.LD and GCTX.IMD as described above.

The firmware constructs the 4 KB data structure described in Table 71. Reserved fields are set to 0h. The firmware then encrypts the data structure with the guest's VEK and writes it into the page. The firmware ensures that the data structure content remains confidential to the guest and the firmware.

**Table 71. Secrets Page Format**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
000h	31:0	VERSION	Version of the secrets page format. The version described in this specification is 3h.
004h	31:1	-	Reserved.
	0	IMI_EN	Set to the value of GCTX.IMIEn.
008h	31:0	FMS	Family, model, and stepping information as reported in CPUID Fn0000_0001_EAX.
0Ch	31:0	-	Reserved.
10h	127:0	GOSVW	GOSVW guest context field as provided by the hypervisor in SNP_LAUNCH_START.
020h	255:0	VMPCCK0	Set to GCTX.VMPCCK0.
040h	255:0	VMPCCK1	Set to GCTX.VMPCCK1.
060h	255:0	VMPCCK2	Set to GCTX.VMPCCK2.
080h	255:0	VMPCCK3	Set to GCTX.VMPCCK3.
0A0h–0FFh		-	Reserved for guest OS usage.
100h–13Fh		VMSA_TWEAK_BITMAP	Set to the bitmap of the VMSA tweak. The <i>k</i> th bit of the bitmap indicates that the <i>k</i> th quadword of the VMSA is tweaked.
140h–15Fh		-	Reserved for guest OS usage.
160h	31:0	TSC_FACTOR	Encoding of the percentage decrease in mean TSC frequency due to clocking parameters. Real TSC frequency can be calculated by the guest as:  $\text{GUEST\_TSC\_FREQ} * (1 - (\text{TSC\_FACTOR} * 0.00001))$ For instance, a TSC_FACTOR value of 200 indicates a reduction of 0.2% of TSC frequency.
164h–FFFh		-	Reserved.

The firmware sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the page to Guest-Valid.

## PAGE\_TYPE\_CPUID

The firmware performs the actions in this subsection when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_CPUID.



The firmware checks that the destination page is 4 KB. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_SIZE`.

The hypervisor should fill the page with CPUID function structures as described in Table 72. These structures inform the guest of the machine configuration exposed to the guest by the hypervisor. However, a malicious hypervisor could provide a value that puts the guest in an insecure state. Therefore, the firmware checks each CPUID function structure to determine if the provided value is secure.

If firmware encounters a CPUID function that is not in the standard range (Fn0000\_0000 through Fn0000\_FFFF) or the extended range (Fn8000\_0000 through Fn8000\_FFFF), the firmware does not perform any checks on the function output.

If firmware encounters a CPUID function that is in the standard or extended ranges, then the firmware performs a check to ensure that the provided output would not lead to an insecure guest state. If insecure function output is identified, the firmware updates the field with an acceptable value.

***Note:** Some functions have multiple acceptable values, and the firmware may choose any one of them. The firmware then returns `INVALID_PARAM`. In this failure case, the page is not encrypted with the VEK, the page measurement is not updated, and the page state remains unaltered.*

The policy used by the firmware to assess CPUID function output can be found in [PPR].

The firmware constructs a `PAGE_INFO` structure with the following data:

- **PAGE\_TYPE:** `PAGE_TYPE_CPUID`
- **GPA:** The gPA of the 4 KB page. The firmware uses the `RMP.GPA` of the page.
- **CONTENTS:** 0h

The firmware updates `GCTX.LD` and `GCTX.IMD` as described above.

The page has enough for `COUNT_MAX` function structures, but only `COUNT` function structures are valid. `COUNT_MAX` is 64.

The firmware then encrypts the page with the VEK in place.

**Table 72. CPUID Page Format**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	COUNT	Number of CPUID functions to validate. Must be less than or equal to <code>COUNT_MAX</code> .
04h	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h–C0Fh		CPUID_FUNCTION[]	<code>COUNT_MAX</code> number of CPUID_FUNCTION records. (See 7.1 for the format of this record.) Only the first <code>COUNT</code> records are valid.

The firmware sets the VMPL permissions for the page and transitions the page to Guest-Valid.

## Status Codes

**Table 73. Status Codes for SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid or incorrectly aligned.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the GSTATE_LAUNCH state.
INACTIVE	The guest has not been activated.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was not in the correct state.
INVALID_PAGE_OWNER	The destination page was not owned by the guest.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	The destination page was not the correct size.
INVALID_PARAM	IMI_PAGE was incorrectly set.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.18 SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH

This command completes the guest launch flow.

### Parameters

**Table 74. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	ID_BLOCK_PADDR	sPA of the ID block. Ignored if ID_BLOCK_EN is 0.
10h	63:0	In	ID_AUTH_PADDR	sPA of the authentication information of the ID block. Ignored if ID_BLOCK_EN is 0.
18h	63:3	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
	2	In	VCEK_DIS	Indicates that the VCEK is disabled for this guest.
	1	In	AUTH_KEY_EN	Indicates that the author key is present in the ID authentication information structure. Ignored if ID_BLOCK_EN is 0.
	0	In	ID_BLOCK_EN	Indicates that the ID block and the ID authentication information structure are present.
20h	255:0	In	HOST_DATA	Opaque host-supplied data to describe the guest. The firmware does not interpret this value.

**Table 75. Structure of the ID Block**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	383:0	LD	The expected launch digest of the guest.
30h	127:0	FAMILY_ID	Family ID of the guest, provided by the guest owner and uninterpreted by the firmware.
40h	127:0	IMAGE_ID	Image ID of the guest, provided by the guest owner and uninterpreted by the firmware.
50h	31:0	VERSION	Version of the ID block format. Must be 1h for this version of the ABI.
54h	31:0	GUEST_SVN	SVN of the guest.
58h	63:0	POLICY	The policy of the guest.

**Table 76. Structure of the ID Authentication Information Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	ID_KEY_ALGO	The algorithm of the ID Key. See Chapter 10 for details.
4h	31:0	AUTH_KEY_ALGO	The algorithm of the Author Key. See Chapter 10 for details.
8h–3Fh		-	Reserved. Should be zero.
40h–23Fh		ID_BLOCK_SIG	The signature of all bytes of the ID block. See Chapter 10 for the format of the signature.
240h–643h		ID_KEY	The public component of the ID key. See Chapter 10 for the format of the public key.
644h–67Fh		-	Reserved. Should be zero.
680h–87Fh		ID_KEY_SIG	The signature of the ID_KEY. See Chapter 10 for the format of the signature.

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
880h–C83h		AUTHOR_KEY	The public component of the Author key. See Chapter 10 for the format of the public key. Ignored if AUTHOR_KEY_EN is 0.
C84h–FFFh		-	Reserved. Should be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH state. The firmware also checks that GCTX.IMIEn is 0. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the guest is activated—that is, it has an assigned ASID. If not, the firmware returns INACTIVE.

The firmware checks that, if ID\_BLOCK\_EN is 1, then ID\_BLOCK\_PADDR and ID\_AUTH\_PADDR are valid sPAs. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

If ID\_BLOCK\_EN is 1, the firmware checks that the LD field of the ID block is equal to GCTX.LD. If not, the firmware returns BAD\_MEASUREMENT. The firmware then checks that the POLICY field of the ID block is equal to GCTX.Policy. If not, the firmware returns POLICY\_FAILURE. The firmware then validates the signature of the ID block using the ID public key. If AUTH\_KEY\_EN is also 1, the firmware validates the signature of the ID key using the Author public key. If either signature fails to validate, the firmware returns BAD\_SIGNATURE.

The firmware then initializes the guest context fields according to Table 77.

**Table 77. Guest Context Fields Initialized During SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH**

Field	Value
HostData	HOST_DATA.
IDBlockEn	ID_BLOCK_EN.
IDBlock	If ID_BLOCK_EN is 1, then set to the ID block. 0 otherwise.
IDKeyDigest	If ID_BLOCK_EN is 1, then set to the SHA-384 digest of the ID public key. 0 otherwise.
AuthorKeyEn	AUTHOR_KEY_EN.
AuthorKeyDigest	If AUTHOR_KEY_EN is 1, then set to the SHA-384 digest of the Author public key. 0 otherwise.

Field	Value
VcekDis	VCEK_DIS.

The firmware makes the guest runnable on the ASID on which it is activated. The firmware then sets the guest state to GSTATE\_RUNNING.

## Status Codes

**Table 78. Status Codes for SNP\_LAUNCH\_FINISH**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the GSTATE_LAUNCH state or GCTX.IMIEn is not 0.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid or incorrectly aligned.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was not in the correct state.
INACTIVE	The guest has not been activated.
BAD_SIGNATURE	Incorrect signature provided.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed

## 8.19 SNP\_GUEST\_STATUS

This command is used to retrieve information about an SNP guest.

### Parameters

**Table 79. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_GUEST\_STATUS Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	STATUS_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of the guest status structure. See Table 80.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that the `GCTX_PADDR` and `STATUS_PADDR` are valid sPAs. If either check fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware checks that the guest context page is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST`. The firmware checks that the guest status page is a Firmware or Default page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

The firmware writes the following structure to the beginning of the guest status page.

**Table 80. Layout of the `STRUCT_SNP_GUEST_STATUS` Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	63:0	POLICY	Guest policy.
08h	31:0	ASID	Current ASID. If none is assigned, set to 0h.
0Ch	7:0	STATE	Current guest state.
0Dh	7:0	-	Reserved.
0Eh	15:0	-	Reserved.
10h	31:1	-	Reserved.
	0	VCEK_DIS	Value of VcekDis for this guest. Indicates that the guest cannot use the VCEK for attestation or key derivation.
14h	31:0	-	Reserved.
18h	63:0	-	Reserved.

## Status Codes

**Table 81. Status Codes for `SNP_GUEST_STATUS`**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest context page was invalid.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	The guest status page was not in the correct state.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	The guest status page was not the correct size.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.20 SNP\_PAGE\_MOVE

This command moves the contents of SNP-protected pages within the system physical address space without violating SNP security.

### Parameters

**Table 82. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_MOVE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	31:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates page size. 0 indicates a 4 KB page. 1 indicates a 2 MB page.
0Ch	31:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:12	In	SRC_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the source page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
18h	63:12	In	DST_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the destination page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page at GCTX\_PADDR is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH or GSTATE\_RUNNING states. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE. The firmware then checks that the guest is activated. If not, the firmware returns INACTIVE.

The firmware checks that SRC\_PADDR and DST\_PADDR are valid sPAs. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that the source and destination page sizes indicated by the RMP match the page size indicated by the PAGE\_SIZE parameter. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

This command operates either on guest pages or on Metadata pages. The following subsections describe each case.

### **Guest Pages**

The firmware performs the actions in this section when the source page is a Pre-Swap or Pre-Guest page.

The firmware checks that the destination page is a Pre-Guest page. If the check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.ASID of both the source and destination pages are equal to the ASID of the guest. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware uses the guest's VEK to copy the plaintext of the source page into the plaintext of the destination page.

The firmware sets the RMP.GPA and RMP.VMSA of the destination page to match the RMP.GPA and RMP.VMSA of the source page. If VMPLs are enabled, the firmware also sets the VMPL permissions bits of the destination page to match the VMPL permission bits of the source page.

If the source page is a Pre-Guest page, the firmware transitions the destination page into a Guest-Invalid page. If the source page is a Pre-Swap page, the firmware transitions the destination page into a Guest-Valid page. Finally, the firmware transitions the source page into a Guest-Invalid page.

### **Metadata Pages**

The firmware performs the actions in this section when the source page is a Metadata page.

The firmware checks that the destination page is a Firmware page. If the check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.GPA of the source page is equal to the sPA of the guest context. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware copies the contents of the source page into the destination page. The firmware then sets the RMP.GPA of the destination to match the sPA of the guest context page and transitions the destination page into a Metadata page.

Finally, the firmware transitions the source page into a Firmware page.



## Status Codes

**Table 83. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_MOVE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the correct state.
INACTIVE	The guest is not activated.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was in the incorrect state.
INVALID_PAGE_OWNER	A page was not owned by the guest.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	A page was not the correct size.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.21 SNP\_PAGE\_MD\_INIT

This command constructs a new Metadata page that can be used to store metadata entries.

### Parameters

**Table 84. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_MD\_INIT Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:12	In	PAGE_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the page to turn into a metadata page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page at GCTX\_PADDR is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH or GSTATE\_RUNNING states. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that PAGE\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page pointed at by PAGE\_PADDR is a Firmware page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware zeroes the page and then transitions it into a Metadata page, setting its RMP.GPA to GCTX\_PADDR.

## Status Codes

**Table 85. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_MD\_INIT**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the correct state.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was in the incorrect state.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.22 SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_OUT

This command swaps an SNP-protected page out so that the hypervisor can relieve memory pressure or migrate the guest.

### Parameters

**Table 86. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_OUT Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the Guest Context page.
	11:0	In	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:12	In	SRC_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the source page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:12	In	DST_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the destination page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
18h	63:0	In	MDATA_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of a metadata entry. See 2.1 for the format of a metadata entry. Ignored if ROOT_MDATA_EN is 1.
20h	63:0	In	SOFTWARE_DATA	Software available data supplied by the hypervisor.
28h	63:5	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	4	In	ROOT_MDATA_EN	Indicates that the metadata entry will be stored in the guest context and not in MDATA_PADDR.
	3	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	2:1	In	PAGE_TYPE	Indicates the page type of the source page. 0h indicates a Data page. 1h indicates a Metadata page. 2h indicates a VMSA page. Other encodings are reserved.
	0	In	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates page size. 0 indicates a 4 KB page. 1 indicates a 2 MB page.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that the page at GCTX\_PADDR is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH or GSTATE\_RUNNING states. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE. The firmware then checks that the guest is activated. If not, the firmware returns INACTIVE.

The firmware checks that SRC\_PADDR and DST\_PADDR are valid sPAs. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 0, the firmware also checks that MDATA\_PADDR is a valid sPA, is aligned to the size of an MDATA structure (64 B), and does not overlap the source or destination pages. If any of these checks fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that the source page size indicated by the RMP matches the page size indicated by the PAGE\_SIZE parameter. If the destination page is not a Default page, the

firmware checks that the destination page size also matches the PAGE\_SIZE parameter. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 0, then the firmware checks that the page containing MDATA\_PADDR is a Metadata page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE. Then the firmware checks that the RMP.GPA of the page containing MDATA\_ENTRY matches GCTX\_PADDR. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

This command operates on data pages, metadata pages, or VMSA pages. The firmware performs the actions in one of the following subsections depending on the value of PAGE\_TYPE.

### Data Pages

The actions in this section are performed only when PAGE\_TYPE is 0h.

The firmware checks that the source page is a Pre-Swap or Pre-Guest page. The firmware then checks that the destination page is a Firmware or Default page. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.ASID of the source page matches the ASID of the guest. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware uses the guest's VEK to decrypt the contents of the source page, and it also uses the guest's OEK to wrap the contents with Aead\_Wrap() (0) without AAD. The firmware checks that incrementing the OekIvCount would not cause an overflow. If overflow would occur, the firmware returns AEAD\_OFLOW. Otherwise, the firmware increments the OekIvCount and uses that new value as the IV. The firmware then writes the produced ciphertext into the destination page.

The firmware then constructs a MDATA structure as described in Table 87. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 0, the firmware writes the MDATA entry at MDATA\_PADDR. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 1, the firmware writes the MDATA entry into GCTX.RootMDEntry.

**Table 87. Metadata Entry (MDATA) for Data Pages**

MDATA Field	Value
SOFTWARE_DATA	SOFTWARE_DATA.
IV	Constructed from OekIvCount.
AUTH_TAG	Authentication tag generated by Aead_Wrap().
PAGE_SIZE	RMP.Page_Size of the source page.
VALID	1
METADATA	0
VMSA	0
GPA	gPA of the source page.
PAGE_VALIDATED	RMP.Validated of the source page.

MDATA Field	Value
VMPL0	RMP.VMPL0 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.
VMPL1	RMP.VMPL1 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.
VMPL2	RMP.VMPL2 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.
VMPL3	RMP.VMPL3 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.

The firmware then transitions the source page into a Pre-Guest page state.

## Metadata Page

The actions in this section are performed only when PAGE\_TYPE is 1h.

The firmware checks that the source page is a Metadata page. The firmware then checks that the destination page is a Firmware or Default page. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.GPA of the source page matches GCTX\_PADDR. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware uses the guest's OEK to wrap the contents of the source page with Aead\_Wrap() without AAD. The firmware checks that incrementing the OekIvCount would not cause an overflow. If overflow would occur, the firmware returns AEAD\_OFLOW. Otherwise, the firmware increments the OekIvCount and uses that new value as the IV. The firmware then writes the produced ciphertext into the destination page.

The firmware then constructs a MDATA structure as described in Table 88. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 0h, the firmware writes the MDATA entry at MDATA\_PADDR. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 1h, the firmware writes the MDATA entry into GCTX.RootMDEntry.

**Table 88. Metadata Entry (MDATA) for Metadata Pages**

MDATA Field	Value
SOFTWARE_DATA	SOFTWARE_DATA.
IV	Constructed from OekIvCount.
AUTH_TAG	Authentication tag generated by Aead_Wrap().
PAGE_SIZE	RMP.Page_Size of the source page.
VALID	1
METADATA	1
VMSA	0
GPA	PADDR_INVALID.
PAGE_VALIDATED	0
VMPL0	0h

MDATA Field	Value
VMPL1	0h
VMPL2	0h
VMPL3	0h

The firmware then transitions the source page into a Firmware page state.

### VMSA Pages

The actions in this section are performed only when PAGE\_TYPE is 2h.

The firmware checks that the source page is a Pre-Swap or Pre-Guest page. The firmware then checks that the destination page is a Firmware or Default page. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.ASID of the source page matches the ASID of the guest. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware uses the guest's OEK to wrap the contents of the source page with Aead\_Wrap() without AAD. The firmware checks that incrementing the OekIvCount would not cause an overflow. If overflow would occur, the firmware returns AEAD\_OFLOW. Otherwise, the firmware increments the OekIvCount and uses that new value as the IV. The firmware then writes the produced ciphertext into the destination page.

The firmware then constructs a MDATA structure as described in Table 89. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 0, the firmware writes the MDATA entry at MDATA\_PADDR. If ROOT\_MDATA\_EN is 1, the firmware writes the MDATA entry into GCTX.RootMDEntry.

**Table 89. Metadata Entry (MDATA) for Data Pages**

MDATA Field	Value
SOFTWARE_DATA	SOFTWARE_DATA.
IV	Constructed from OekIvCount.
AUTH_TAG	Authentication tag generated by Aead_Wrap().
PAGE_SIZE	RMP.Page_Size of the source page.
VALID	1
METADATA	0
VMSA	1
GPA	gPA of the source page.
PAGE_VALIDATED	RMP.Validated of the source page.
VMPL0	RMP.VMPL0 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.
VMPL1	RMP.VMPL1 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.

MDATA Field	Value
VMPL2	RMP.VMPL2 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.
VMPL3	RMP.VMPL3 of the source page if VMPLs are enabled. 0h otherwise.

The firmware then transitions the source page into a Pre-Guest page state.

## Status Codes

**Table 90. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_OUT**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the correct state.
INACTIVE	The guest is not activated.
INVALID_MDATA_ENTRY	The metadata entry is not correct.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was in the incorrect state.
INVALID_PAGE_OWNER	A page was not owned by the guest.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	A page was not the correct size.
AEAD_OFLOW	An overflow in the IV counter was detected.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.23 SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_IN

This command swaps an SNP-protected page back in.

### Parameters

**Table 91. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_SWAP\_IN Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:12	In	SRC_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the source page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
10h	63:12	In	DST_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the destination page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
18h	63:0	In	MDATA_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of a metadata entry. See 2.1 for the format of a metadata entry. Ignored if ROOT_MDATA_EN is 1.
20h	63:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
28h	63:5	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	4	In	ROOT_MDATA_EN	Indicates that the metadata entry will be retrieved in the guest context and not in MDATA_PADDR.
	3	In	SWAP_IN_PLACE	If set, then SRC_PADDR and DST_PADDR are equal, and the page will be swapped in place.
	2:1	In	PAGE_TYPE	Indicates the page type of the source page. 0h indicates a data page. 1h indicates a metadata page. 2h indicates a VMSA page. Other encodings are reserved.
	0	In	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates page size. 0 indicates a 4 KB page. 1 indicates a 2 MB page.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. The firmware then checks that the page at `GCTX_PADDR` is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST`.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the `GSTATE_LAUNCH` or `GSTATE_RUNNING` states. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST_STATE`. The firmware then checks that the guest is activated. If not, the firmware returns `INACTIVE`.

The firmware checks that `SRC_PADDR` and `DST_PADDR` are valid sPAs. If `ROOT_MDATA_EN` is 0, the firmware also checks that `MDATA_PADDR` is a valid sPA, is aligned to the size of an MDATA structure (64 B), and does not overlap the source and destination pages. If any of these checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

If `ROOT_MDATA_EN` is 0, then the firmware checks that the page containing `MDATA_PADDR` is a Metadata page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`. Then the firmware checks that the `RMP.GPA` of the page containing `MDATA_ENTRY` matches `GCTX_PADDR`. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_OWNER`.



The metadata entry used for this command is selected according to `ROOT_MDATA_EN`. If `ROOT_MDATA_EN` is set, the firmware uses the metadata entry in `GCTX.RootMDEntry`. If `ROOT_MDATA_EN` is clear, the firmware uses the metadata entry at `MDATA_PADDR`.

The firmware checks that the destination page size indicated by the RMP matches the page size indicated by the `PAGE_SIZE` parameter. If the source page is not a Default page, the firmware checks that the destination page size also matches the `PAGE_SIZE` parameter. The firmware then checks that the `PAGE_SIZE` field of the metadata entry matches the `PAGE_SIZE` parameter. If any of these checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_SIZE`.

The metadata entry determines the page type according to Table 92.

**Table 92. Determining the Page Type Based on the Metadata Entry**

Page Type	METADATA	VMSA
<code>PAGE_TYPE_DATA</code>	0	0
<code>PAGE_TYPE_MDATA</code>	1	0
<code>PAGE_TYPE_VMSA</code>	0	1

The firmware checks that the page type indicated by the metadata entry matches `PAGE_TYPE`. The firmware then checks that the `VALID` bit in the metadata entry is set. If either check fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_MDATA_ENTRY`.

This command operates on data pages, metadata pages, or VMSA pages. The firmware performs the actions in one of the following subsections depending on the value of `PAGE_TYPE`.

### Data Pages

The actions in this section are performed only when `PAGE_TYPE` is `PAGE_TYPE_DATA`.

If `SWAP_IN_PLACE` is 0, the firmware checks that the destination page is a Pre-Guest page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

If `SWAP_IN_PLACE` is 1, the firmware checks that the `SRC_PADDR` equals `DST_PADDR`. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. The firmware then checks that the page is in the Pre-Guest state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

The firmware checks that the `RMP.ASID` of the destination page matches the `ASID` of the guest. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_OWNER`.

The firmware uses the `IV` field in the metadata entry and the guest's `OEK` to unwrap the contents of the source page with `Aead_Unwrap()` with no `AAD`. The firmware checks that the produced authentication tag is equal to `AUTH_TAG` in the metadata entry. If not, the firmware returns `BAD_MEASUREMENT`.

The firmware clears the `VALID` flag in the metadata entry.

The firmware writes the plaintext produced by Aead\_Unwrap() into the destination page and updates the RMP of the destination page as follows:

- Sets the RMP.GPA to GPA in the metadata entry
- Sets the RMP.VMSA to 0
- If VMPLs are enabled, sets the VMPL permission masks in the RMP entry to the VMPL permission masks in the metadata entry

If PAGE\_VALIDATED in the metadata entry is 1, the firmware transitions the destination page into a Pre-Swap page.

### **Metadata Pages**

The actions in this section are performed only when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_MDATA.

The firmware checks that SWAP\_IN\_PLACE is 0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that the destination page is a Firmware page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware uses the IV field in the metadata entry and the guest's OEK to unwrap the contents of the source page with Aead\_Unwrap() with no AAD. The firmware checks that the produced authentication tag is equal to AUTH\_TAG in the metadata entry. If not, the firmware returns BAD\_MEASUREMENT.

The firmware clears the VALID flag in the metadata entry.

The firmware writes the plaintext produced by Aead\_Unwrap() into the destination page.

The firmware then transitions the destination page into a Metadata page by setting the RMP.GPA of the destination page to the GCTX\_PADDR of the guest.

### **VMSA Pages**

The actions in this section are performed only when PAGE\_TYPE is PAGE\_TYPE\_VMSA.

The firmware checks that SWAP\_IN\_PLACE is 0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that PAGE\_SIZE indicates a 4 KB page size. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE.

The firmware checks that the destination page is a Pre-Guest page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the RMP.ASID of the destination page matches the ASID of the guest. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_OWNER.

The firmware uses the IV field in the metadata entry and the guest's OEK to unwrap the contents of the source page with `Aead_Unwrap()` with no AAD. The firmware checks that the produced authentication tag is equal to `AUTH_TAG` in the metadata entry. If not, the firmware returns `BAD_MEASUREMENT`.

The firmware clears the `VALID` flag in the metadata entry.

The firmware writes the plaintext produced by `Aead_Unwrap()` into the destination page and updates the RMP of the destination page as follows:

- Sets the `RMP.GPA` to `GPA` field in the metadata entry
- Sets the `RMP.VMSA` to 1
- If VMPLs are enabled, sets the VMPL permission masks in the RMP entry to the VMPL permission masks in the metadata entry

If bit 9 of `SEV_FEATURES` of the `VMSA` is 1, the firmware sets the `GUEST_TSC_SCALE` and `GUEST_TSC_OFFSET` fields of the `VMSA` as follows:

`GUEST_TSC_SCALE` := `GCTX.DesiredTscFreq` / (mean native frequency)  
`GUEST_TSC_OFFSET` := `GCTX.PspTscOffset`

If `PAGE_VALIDATED` in the metadata entry is 1h, the firmware transitions the destination page into a Pre-Swap page.

## Status Codes

**Table 93. Status Codes for `SNP_PAGE_SWAP_IN`**

Status	Condition
<code>SUCCESS</code>	Successful completion.
<code>INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE</code>	The platform is not in the <code>INIT</code> state.
<code>INVALID_PARAM</code>	MBZ fields are not zero.
<code>INVALID_ADDRESS</code>	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
<code>INVALID_GUEST</code>	The guest is invalid.
<code>INVALID_GUEST_STATE</code>	The guest is not in the correct state.
<code>INACTIVE</code>	The guest is not activated.
<code>INVALID_MDATA_ENTRY</code>	The metadata entry is not correct.
<code>BAD_MEASUREMENT</code>	The page does not match the metadata entry's authentication tag.
<code>INVALID_PAGE_STATE</code>	A page was in the incorrect state.
<code>INVALID_PAGE_OWNER</code>	A page was not owned by the guest.
<code>INVALID_PAGE_SIZE</code>	A page was not the correct size.
<code>UPDATE_FAILED</code>	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.24 SNP\_PAGE\_RECLAIM

This command reclaims Metadata, Firmware, Pre-Guest, and Pre-Swap pages.

### Parameters

**Table 94. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_PAGE\_RECLAIM Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	PAGE_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPAs of the page. The page size is determined by PAGE_SIZE.
	11:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	PAGE_SIZE	Indicates page size. 0 indicates a 4 KB page. 1 indicates a 2 MB page.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that PAGE\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that RMP.Immutable equals 1. If not, the firmware returns SUCCESS without taking any further actions. The firmware then checks that the page is either a Metadata, Firmware, Pre-Guest, or Pre-Swap page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that PAGE\_SIZE equals the RMP.PageSize of the page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_SIZE. If the page size is 2 MB, the firmware then checks that PAGE\_PADDR is 2 MB aligned. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware transitions the provided page according to Table 95.

**Table 95. State Transitions Triggered by the SNP\_PAGE\_RECLAIM Command**

Original State	New State
Metadata	Reclaim.
Firmware	Reclaim.
Pre-Guest	Guest-Invalid.
Pre-Swap	Guest-Valid.

## Status Codes

**Table 96. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_RO\_RESTORE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_ADDRESS	The address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	The page is not in the correct state.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	The page is not the correct size.

## 8.25 SNP\_PAGE\_UNSMASH

This command combines 512 pages of 4 KB in size into a single 2 MB page in the RMP.

### Parameters

**Table 97. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_UNSMASH Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	PAGE_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPAs of the page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that PAGE\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that each 4 KB page in the 2 MB region starting at PAGE\_PADDR meets the following requirements.

- Each page has RMP.PageSize that indicates a 4 KB page.
- Each page has RMP.Immutable equal to 1.
- Each page has RMP.VMSA equal to 0.
- All pages are in the same state.
- If VMPLs are enabled, then all pages have identical VMPL permissions.
- All pages have RMP.ASID set identically and must not be zero.

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the range of guest physical pages are 2 MB total in size, 2 MB aligned, and consecutive. The firmware also checks that PAGE\_PADDR is 2 MB aligned. If either check fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware then turns the 4 KB pages into one 2 MB page. The resulting page is in the same state as its constituent pages.

## Status Codes

**Table 98. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_UNSMASH**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was in the incorrect state.

## 8.26 SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST

This command sends a guest message to the firmware and returns the firmware response. See Chapter 7 for details.

### Parameters

**Table 99. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:0	In	REQUEST_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of the request message. See Chapter 7 for details.
10h	63:0	In	RESPONSE_PADDR	Bits 63:0 of the sPA of the response message See Chapter 7 for details.

**Table 100. Message Header Format**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	255:0	AUTHTAG	Message authentication tag. If the authentication tag for the designated algorithm is shorter than 32 B, the first bytes of AUTHTAG are used and the remaining bytes must be zero. The authentication tag authenticates the bytes from 20h to the end of the encrypted payload.

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
20h	127:64	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	63:0	MSG_SEQNO	The sequence number for this message. Used to construct the IV.
30h	7:0	ALGO	The AEAD used to encrypt this message. See Table 101.
31h	7:0	HDR_VERSION	The version of the message header. Set to 1h for this specification.
32h	15:0	HDR_SIZE	The size of the message header in bytes.
34h	7:0	MSG_TYPE	The type of the payload. See Table 102.
35h	7:0	MSG_VERSION	The version of the payload.
36h	15:0	MSG_SIZE	The size of the payload in bytes.
38h	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
3Ch	7:0	MSG_VMPCK	The ID of the VMPCK used to protect this message.
3Dh	7:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
3Eh	15:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
40h-5Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.
60h		PAYLOAD	Encrypted payload.

**Table 101. AEAD Algorithm Encodings**

Value	Algorithm
0	Invalid
1	AES-256-GCM
All other encodings reserved.	

**Table 102. Message Type Encodings**

Value	Message Type	Message Version
0	Invalid	-
1	MSG_CPUID_REQ	1
2	MSG_CPUID_RSP	1
3	MSG_KEY_REQ	1
4	MSG_KEY_RSP	1
5	MSG_REPORT_REQ	1
6	MSG_REPORT_RSP	1
7	MSG_EXPORT_REQ	1

Value	Message Type	Message Version
8	MSG_EXPORT_RSP	1
9	MSG_IMPORT_REQ	1
10	MSG_IMPORT_RSP	1
11	MSG_ABSORB_REQ	1
12	MSG_ABSORB_RSP	1
13	MSG_VMRK_REQ	1
14	MSG_VMRK_RSP	1
15	MSG_ABSORB_NOMA_REQ	1
16	MSG_ABSORB_NOMA_RESP	1
17	MSG_TSC_INFO_REQ	1
18	MSG_TSC_INFO_RSP	1
All other encodings reserved.		-

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. The firmware then checks that the page at `GCTX_PADDR` is in the Context state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST`.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the `GSTATE_RUNNING` states. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST_STATE`.

The firmware checks that `REQUEST_PADDR` and `RESPONSE_PADDR` are valid sPAs. The firmware checks that the response message will not cross a 4kB system physical page boundary when written. If either of these checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware checks that the request and response page sizes indicated by the RMP are 4 KB. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_SIZE`.

The firmware checks that the response page is a Firmware page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

The firmware constructs the incoming 96-bit IV. The firmware sets bits `IV[63:0]` to the `MSG_SEQNO` and bits `IV[95:64]` to 0h.

The firmware unwraps the message by setting the parameters of `Aead_Unwrap()` to the following:

- C: PAYLOAD



- A: Bytes 30h to 5Fh of the request message
- IV: Constructed IV
- K: The guest's VMPCCK identified by MSG\_VMPCCK
- T: AUTHTAG

The firmware checks that the Aead\_Unwrap() did not indicate inauthenticity. If the Aead\_Unwrap() function did report inauthenticity, the firmware returns BAD\_MEASUREMENT.

The firmware checks that the guest's message count of the VMPCCK used to unwrap this message will not overflow by processing this message. If this check fails, the firmware returns AEAD\_OFLOW.

The firmware checks that MSG\_SEQNO is one greater than the guest's message count for the VMPCCK used to unwrap this message. If not, the firmware returns AEAD\_OFLOW.

The firmware checks that HDR\_VERSION is supported by this ABI version and that the HDR\_SIZE matches the expected size for the given header version. When HDR\_VERSION is 1h, then HDR\_SIZE must be 60h. The firmware also checks that MSG\_VERSION is supported by this ABI. If any of these checks fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that MSG\_TYPE is a valid message type. The firmware then checks that MSG\_SIZE is large enough to hold the indicated message type at the indicated message version. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware creates a message in response to the guest's message. The firmware sets MSG\_SEQNO of the response message to one greater than the MSG\_SEQNO of the request message. The firmware then constructs a new IV and wraps the message by setting the parameters of Aead\_Wrap() to the following:

- P: PAYLOAD plaintext
- A: Bytes 30h to 5Fh of the request message
- IV: Bits 95:0 of the IV
- K: The guest's VMPCCK identified by VMPCCK\_ID

The firmware constructs the IV by setting IV[63:0] to MSG\_SEQNO and setting IV[95:64] to 0h.

The firmware writes the resulting authentication tag into AUTHTAG and writes the ciphertext into PAYLOAD.

The firmware then increments the guest's message count for the VMPCCK count by two to account for both the request message and the firmware's response message.

## Status Codes

**Table 103. Status Codes for SNP\_GUEST\_REQUEST**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the correct state.
INACTIVE	The guest is not activated.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page was in the incorrect state.
INVALID_PAGE_SIZE	A page was not the correct size.
AEAD_OFLOW	The message sequence number was incorrect, or the guest's message count would overflow.
BAD_MEASUREMENT	The message failed to authenticate.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.27 SNP\_DBG\_DECRYPT

This command enables developers to read encrypted memory in debug-enabled VMs.

### Parameters

**Table 104. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_DBG\_DECRYPT Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:12	In	SRC_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the source 4 KB region to decrypt.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:12	In	DST_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the destination page to store the decrypted data.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. The firmware checks that `GCTX_PADDR` is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST`.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the `GSTATE_LAUNCH` or `GSTATE_RUNNING` guest state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_GUEST_STATE`. The firmware then checks that the guest is activated. If not, the firmware returns `INACTIVE`.

The firmware checks that the guest's policy allows debugging. If not, the firmware returns `POLICY_FAILURE`.

The firmware checks that `SRC_PADDR` and `DST_PADDR` are valid sPAs. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware checks that the page containing the 4 KB region to decrypt is a Pre-Guest, Pre-Swap, Guest-Invalid, or Guest-Valid page. The firmware also checks that the destination page is a Firmware page. If either check fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

The firmware checks that the source page containing the 4 KB region is owned by the indicated guest. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_OWNER`.

***Note:** This command always operates on 4 KB regions despite the page size indicated by the RMP entries. If the underlying page is a 2 MB page, the firmware uses the RMP entry for the 2 MB page for the RMP checks.*

The firmware decrypts the contents of the 4 KB region at `SRC_PADDR` with the guest's VEK and writes the plaintext to `DST_PADDR`.

## Status Codes

**Table 105. Status Codes for `SNP_DBG_DECRYPT`**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is not valid.
INACTIVE	The guest is not active.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the RUNNING or LAUNCH states.
POLICY_FAILURE	The guest policy disallows debugging.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid or misaligned.

Status	Condition
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page is not in the correct state.
INVALID_PAGE_OWNER	A page is not owned by the guest.
UPDATE_FAILED	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.28 SNP\_DBG\_ENCRYPT

This command enables developers to write to encrypted memory in debug-enabled VMs

### Parameters

**Table 106. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_DBG\_ENCRYPT Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
00h	63:12	In	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
08h	63:12	In	SRC_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the 4 KB region to be encrypted.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:12	In	DST_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the 4 KB region page to store the encrypted data.
	11:0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST. The firmware then checks that the guest is activated. If not, the firmware returns INACTIVE.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_LAUNCH or GSTATE\_RUNNING guest state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that the guest's policy allows debugging. If not, the firmware returns POLICY\_FAILURE.

The firmware checks that SRC\_PADDR and DST\_PADDR are valid sPAs. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that the destination 4 KB region is a Pre-Swap or a Pre-Guest page. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_STATE`.

The firmware checks that the destination page containing the 4 KB region is owned by the indicated guest. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PAGE_OWNER`.

***Note:** This command always operates on 4 KB regions despite the page size indicated by the RMP entries. If the underlying page is a 2 MB page, the firmware uses the RMP entry for the 2 MB page for the RMP checks.*

The firmware encrypts the contents of the source 4 KB region at `SRC_PADDR` with the guest's VEK and writes the ciphertext to `DST_PADDR`.

## Status Codes

**Table 107. Status Codes for `SNP_DBG_ENCRYPT`**

Status	Condition
<code>SUCCESS</code>	Successful completion.
<code>INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE</code>	The platform is not in the INIT state.
<code>INVALID_GUEST</code>	The guest is invalid.
<code>INACTIVATE</code>	The guest is not activated.
<code>INVALID_GUEST_STATE</code>	The guest is not in the RUNNING or LAUNCH states.
<code>POLICY_FAILURE</code>	The guest policy disallows debugging.
<code>INVALID_ADDRESS</code>	An address is invalid or misaligned.
<code>INVALID_PARAM</code>	MBZ fields are not zero.
<code>INVALID_PAGE_STATE</code>	A page is not in the correct state.
<code>INVALID_PAGE_OWNER</code>	A page is not owned by the guest.
<code>UPDATE_FAILED</code>	Update of the firmware internal state or a guest context page has failed.

## 8.29 `SNP_PAGE_SET_STATE`

This command transitions Firmware pages to the HV-fixed page state. This operation cannot be undone until there is an RMP reinitialization or a system reset.

This command is available starting in version 1.52.

## Parameters

**Table 108. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_PAGE\_SET\_STATE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:0	-	-	Reserved.
8h	63:0	In	LIST_PADDR	sPA of the RANGE_LIST structure. See Table 109.

**Table 109. Layout of the RANGE\_LIST Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	N	Number of elements in the RANGE_ARRAY.
4h	31:0	-	Reserved. Should be zero.
8h – (8h + N*16)		RANGES	Array of N elements of type RANGE. See Table 110.

**Table 110. Layout of the RANGE Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	63:12	BASE	Specifies the sPA of the first byte of the range. The address is formed by setting bits [63:12] to BASE and bits [11:0] to 0h.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
8h	31:0	PAGE_COUNT	Number of 4kB pages in this range.
Ch	31:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If LIST\_PADDR is an invalid sPA, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. If a range in RANGES contains an invalid address, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

Each RANGE element must be 2MB aligned. If not, the firmware returns SEV\_STATUS\_INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that the pages containing the ranges enumerated in the RANGES structure are either in the C Default or Firmware page state with RMP.Page\_Size set to 0. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE. If the PAGE\_COUNT field of a range is zero, the firmware ignores the range as if it were not provided.

The firmware ignores pages that are in the Default page state. For pages in the Firmware state, the firmware transitions the page to the HV-fixed page state.

If the firmware detects an error while processing the ranges, it will revert any changes made to the RMP before returning an error status code.

## Status Codes

**Table 111. Status Codes for SNP\_PAGE\_SET\_STATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid or misaligned.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	A page is not in the correct state.

## 8.30 SNP\_VLEK\_LOAD

This command loads a VLEK to supplant the VCEK in scenarios where the hypervisor wishes to use a signing key that is not chip unique.

The hypervisor retrieves the wrapped VLEK hashsticks from the AMD KDS service by providing the CHIP\_ID and TCB version similarly to the retrieval of the VCEK. The KDS then will provide a wrapped VLEK. The hypervisor then invokes this command to load the retrieved VLEK.

The version of the VLEK indicated in the TCB\_VERSION of the WRAPPED\_VLEK structure must be equal to the ReportedTcb at the time of load. If any firmware command causes the ReportedTcb to change, the previously loaded VLEK is deleted and a VLEK associated with the new ReportedTcb must be reloaded.

On SNP\_SHUTDOWN, the VLEK is deleted.

This command is available in version 1.54. For firmware versions 1.55 and beyond, this command is present when the Vlek feature bit is set.

## Parameters

**Table 112. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_VLEK\_LOAD Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	7:0	In	VLEK_WRAPPED_VERSION	Version of the wrapped VLEK hashstick structure. Must be 0h.
5h–7h		In	-	Reserved.

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
8h	63:0	In	VLEK_WRAPPED_PADDR	SPA of a wrapped VLEK hashstick. The wrapped VLEK hashstick format is specified in Table 113.

**Table 113. Layout of the WRAPPED\_VLEK\_HASHSTICK Structure (Version 0h)**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	95:0	IV	IV used to wrap chip-unique key.
Ch—Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h—18Fh		VLEK_WRAPPED	VLEK hashstick wrapped with a chip-unique key using AES-256-GCM.
190h	63:0	TCB_VERSION	The TCB version associated with this VLEK hashstick.
198h—19Fh		-	Reserved. Must be zero.
1A0h	127:0	VLEK_AUTH_TAG	AES-256-GCM authentication tag of the wrapped VLEK hashstick and TCB_VERSION.

## Actions

The firmware reads the wrapped VLEK hashstick structure pointed at by VLEK\_WRAPPED\_PADDR. If TCB\_VERSION of the VLEK structure is not equal to the ReportedTcb, the command fails with BAD\_SVN.

The firmware uses AES-256-GCM to unwrap the VLEK and to authenticate the provided VLEK hashstick structure. The VLEK\_WRAPPED field is encrypted, and bytes 190h—19Fh are additionally authenticated data. If the authentication fails, the firmware returns BAD\_MEASUREMENT.

The firmware saves the unwrapped VLEK hashstick to internal memory.

On failure, this command does not delete the existing VLEK, if present.

## Status Codes

**Table 114. Status Codes for SNP\_VLEK\_LOAD**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
BAD_SVN	ReportedTcb is not equal to TCB_VERSION.
BAD_MEASUREMENT	Failed to authenticate wrapped VLEK hashstick.



## 8.31 SNP\_TSC\_INFO

The SNP\_TSC\_INFO command outputs GUEST\_TSC\_SCALE, GUEST\_TSC\_OFFSET, and TSC\_FACTOR for a given guest.

### Parameters

**Table 115: CMDBUF\_SNP\_TSC\_INFO Command Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:0	-	Reserved.
8h	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the system physical address of a page donated to the firmware by the hypervisor to contain the guest context.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
10h	63:0	TSC_INFO_PADDR	System physical address of a location that the firmware will write the TSC_INFO structures. See Table 39.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the TSC\_INFO\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that TSC\_INFO\_PADDR page is a Firmware or Default page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

### Status Codes

**Table 116. Status Codes for SNP\_TSC\_INFO**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the INIT state.
INVALID_PARAM	MBZ fields are not zero.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An address is invalid for use by the firmware or is misaligned.
INVALID_GUEST	The guest is invalid.
INVALID_GUEST_STATE	The guest is not in the correct state.

## 8.32 SNP\_HV\_REPORT\_REQ

The Host OS can directly request that the firmware construct a guest attestation report.

A Host OS requests an attestation report by constructing an SNP\_HV\_REPORT\_REQ as specified in Table 117.

### Parameters

**Table 117. CMDBUF\_SNP\_HV\_REPORT\_REQ Message Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
00h	31:0	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:2	-	Reserved.
	1:0	KEY_SEL	Selects which key to use for generating the signature. 0: If VLEK is installed, sign with VLEK. Otherwise, sign with VCEK. 1: Sign with VCEK. 2: Sign with VLEK. 3: Reserved. Present if Vlek feature bit is set.
08h-0Bh	63:12	GCTX_PADDR	Bits 63:12 of the sPA of the guest context page.
	11:0	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
0Ch-0Fh	63:0	HV_REPORT_PADDR	sPA of a location that the firmware will write the MSG_REPORT_RSP Message Structure.

### Actions

The firmware checks that the platform is in the INIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. The firmware then checks that GCTX\_PADDR is a Context page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST.

The firmware checks that the guest is in the GSTATE\_RUNNING states. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_GUEST\_STATE.

The firmware checks that HV\_REPORT\_PADDR is a valid sPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

The firmware checks that HV\_REPORT\_PADDR page is a Firmware or Default page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The requestor may generate attestation reports for any Guest VMPL value. The desired VMPL is provided by the guest in the request message.

Upon receiving a request for an attestation report, the firmware constructs the report according to Table 23.

The firmware generates a report ID for each guest that persists with the guest instance throughout its lifetime. In each attestation report, the report ID is placed in REPORT\_ID. If the guest has an associated migration agent, the REPORT\_ID\_MA is filled in with the report ID of the migration agent.

If MaskChipKey is 0, the firmware signs the attestation report with either the VCEK or VLEK based on the key selection made in KEY\_SEL. The firmware will return INVALID\_KEY to the guest if any of the following conditions occur:

- KEY\_SEL is 0, the VLEK is not loaded, and VcekDis is 1.
- KEY\_SEL is 1 and the VcekDis is 1.
- KEY\_SEL is 2 and the VLEK is not loaded.

The firmware uses the systemwide ReportedTcb value as the TCB version to derive the VCEK or VLEK. This value is set by the hypervisor. The firmware guarantees that the ReportedTcb value is never greater than the installed TCB version.

If MaskChipKey is 1, the firmware writes zeroes into the SIGNATURE field instead of signing the report.

## Status Codes

**Table 118. Status Codes for CMDBUF\_SNP\_HV\_REPORT\_REQ**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PARAM	Incorrect parameter.

## Return Information

See Table 23. ATTESTATION\_REPORT Structure for the returned data.

## 8.33 SNP\_RMP\_CREATE

Initializes the RMP while SYSCFG[SNPEn] is not set.

Software does not need to suspend executions of legacy (non-SEV) guests or set VM\_HSAVE\_PA to 0h during this command. However, software and devices must not write to the RMP starting at invocation of this command until SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL completes successfully. This exclusion also applies to the SNP x86 instruction set.

**Note:** Execution of the SNP x86 instruction set will fault if SYSCFG[SNPEn] is not set.

Software can cancel the creation of the RMP by invoking SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL with the CANCEL flag set.

## Parameters

**Table 119. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_RMP\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:3	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	2	In	TIO_EN	Indicates SEV-TIO will be enabled.
	1	In	LIST_PADDR_EN	0: LIST_PADDR is not valid 1: LIST_PADDR is valid
	0	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
8h	63:0	In	LIST_PADDR	SPA of the RANGE_LIST structure. See Table 109.
10h-39h		-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that SNP is in the UNINIT state. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

Checks that the RmpInstallPending and RstInstallPending are cleared. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware ensures the following system requirements are met:

- SYSCFG[SNPEn] is cleared.
- SYSCFG[MFDm] must be set across all cores.
- HWCR[SmmLock] (MSR C001\_0015) must be set identically across all cores.

The following MSRs must be set identically across all cores:

- All MTRRs
- IORR\_BASE

- IORR\_MASK
- TOM
- TOM2

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

The firmware ensures that the following requirements for the RMP have been met:

- On platforms that support Segmented RMP, RMP\_CFG[SegmentedRmpEn] must be cleared.
- RMP\_BASE and RMP\_END must be set identically across all cores.
- RMP\_BASE must be 1 MB aligned.
- RMP\_END – RMP\_BASE + 1 must be a multiple of 1 MB.
- RMP is large enough to protect itself.

If any of the above checks fail, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS.

Except for SYSCFG[SNPEn], the firmware saves each of the checked MSR values and the locations of the event log, PPR log, and completion wait buffers of the IOMMU to its internal memory.

If LIST\_PADDR\_EN is 1, then the firmware checks that LIST\_PADDR is a valid SPA. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. If a range in RANGES contains an invalid address, the firmware returns INVALID\_ADDRESS. For this check, a range overlapping the RMP is not considered an invalid address.

The firmware makes the RMP read-only. Software must not attempt to write to the RMP after this command is invoked. The firmware marks all pages as hypervisor except:

- The pages containing the RMP are set to the Firmware state.
- The pages containing the IOMMU event log, PPR log, and completion wait buffers are read-only and cannot be assigned to a guest.
- If LIST\_PADDR\_EN is 1, the pages in LIST\_PADDR are set to the HV-fixed state.
- All MMIO ranges are set to the HV-fixed state.

The firmware also initializes any microarchitectural data structures within the RMP.

The firmware sets the RmpInstallPending internal flag.

## Status Codes

**Table 120. Status Codes for SNP\_RMP\_CREATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An invalid address was provided.

Status	Condition
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.

## 8.34 SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL

Completes the initialization of the RMP. Before invoking this command, software must set SYSCFG[SNPEn] and SYSCFG[VMPLen] on all cores and must set VM\_HSAVE\_PA on all cores to zero. While SYSCFG[SNPEn] is set, software must not execute the VMRUN instruction until after RMP\_INSTALL completes successfully.

### Parameters

**Table 121. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_RMP\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer.
4h	31:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	CANCEL	Requests that the RMP not be installed and RmpInstallPending be cleared.
8h-1Fh	-	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that RmpInstallPending is set. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If CANCEL is set, the firmware performs the following actions and then returns SUCCESS.

- Removes the write protection on the RMP.
- Marks that the RMP must be re-initialized before SNP\_INIT\_EX can successfully complete.
- Clears RmpInstallPending.
- Clears SYSCFG[SNPEn] and SYSCFG[VMPLen] if they were set.

Firmware performs the following checks:

- SYSCFG[SNPEn] is set on all cores.
- SYSCFG[VMPLen] is set on all cores.
- VM\_HSAVE\_PA is 0h on all cores.
- Checks that the MSRs saved in RMP\_CREATE have not changed.

If any of the above checks fail, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

The firmware initializes the IOMMU to perform RMP enforcement. The firmware then forces a TLB invalidation across all cores and IOMMUs.

Finally, the firmware clears the RmpInstallPending bit and records that the RMP is initialized so that SNP\_INIT\_EX can successfully complete with INIT\_RMP cleared. Finally, the firmware clears the RmpInstallPending bit and records that the RMP is initialized so that SNP\_INIT\_EX can successfully complete with INIT\_RMP cleared.

## Status Codes

**Table 122. Status Codes for SNP\_RMP\_INSTALL**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An invalid address was provided.
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.

## 8.35 SNP\_RST\_CREATE

RST\_CREATE command sets up the RMP Segment Table (RST) environment to allow for the RMP segments to be created and installed.

### Parameters

**Table 123. Layout of the CMDBUF\_RMP\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:3	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	2	In	TIO_EN	Indicates SEV-TIO will be enabled.
	1	In	LIST_PADDR_EN	0: LIST_PADDR is not valid 1: LIST_PADDR is valid
	0	-	-	SPA of the RANGE_LIST structure. See Table 109.
8h	63:0	In	LIST_PADDR	SPA of the RANGE_LIST structure. See Table 109.
10h-39h	-	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks that SNP is in the UNINIT state. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

Checks that the `RmpSegInstallPending` and `RstInstallPending` are cleared. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE`.

The firmware checks that the Segment Map size has been initialized.

The firmware ensures the following system requirements are met:

- `SYSCFG[MemoryEncryptionModEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores. (SEV must be enabled.)
- `SYSCFG[SecureNestedPagingEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `SYSCFG[VMPLEn]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `SYSCFG[MFDm]` must be set to 1 across all cores.
- `VM_HSAVE_PA` (MSR C001\_0117) must be set to 0h across all cores.
- `HWCR[SmmLock]` (MSR C001\_0015) must be set to 1 across all cores.

The following MSRs must be set identically across all cores:

- All MTRRs
- `IORR_BASE`
- `IORR_MASK`
- `TOM`
- `TOM2`

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_CONFIG`.

The firmware also ensures that the following requirements for the RMP have been met:

- `RMP_CFG[SegmentedRmpEn]` must be set.
- `RMP_CFG[RmpSegSize]` must be set.
- `RMP_CFG` and `RMP_BASE` must be set identically across all cores.
- `RMP_BASE` must be 1 MB aligned.

If any of the above checks fails, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware makes the RST read-only. Software must not attempt to write to the RST after this command has been invoked. Software is expected to set `RmpSegmentBase` in at least one RST entry to the SPA of the RMP for that segment. However, firmware does not check this.

The firmware initializes the IOMMU to perform RMP enforcement.

The firmware sets the `MappedSize` fields of each RST entry to zero and initializes any microarchitectural data structures within the RST.



The firmware sets the RstInstallPending internal flag.

## Status Codes

**Table 124. Status Codes for SNP\_RST\_CREATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An invalid address was provided.
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.

## 8.36 SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE

RMPSEG\_CREATE command creates the RMP segment allowing for the segment to be installed.

### Parameters

**Table 125. Layout of the CMDBUF\_RMSEG\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:16	In	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	15:0	In	SEGMENT	The index of the RMP segment to initialize.
8h-39h	-	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

### Actions

The firmware checks that RstInstallPending is set and RmpSegInstallPending is cleared. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

The firmware checks that RmpSegmentBase in the RST entry for the segment is contained within the segment and that this segment has not already been installed. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

If this call is the first SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE command, then the firmware checks for a SEGMENT of 0. If not, then the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

If this call is not the first SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE command, then the firmware checks for a SEGMENT value of 1 greater than the previous SNP\_RMPSEG\_CREATE SEGMENT value. If not, then the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that the `SEGMENT` value is not larger than the maximum for this specific program. If not, then the firmware returns `INVALID_PARAM`.

If `LIST_PADDR_EN` is 1, then the firmware checks that `LIST_PADDR` is a valid SPA. If not, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. If a range in `RANGES` contains an invalid address, the firmware returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`. For this check, a range overlapping the RMP is not considered an invalid address. Software may place ranges that partially or completely fall outside of this RMP segment's coverage. The firmware will ignore all subranges that fall outside the segment.

The firmware checks that each page of this RMP segment is covered either by this RMP segment or is covered by an RMP segment that has been previously initialized with `SNP_RMPSEG_INSTALL`, else returns `INVALID_ADDRESS`.

The firmware makes the target RMP read-only. Software must not attempt to write to the RMP after this command is invoked. The firmware marks all pages as hypervisor except:

- The pages containing the RMP are set to the Firmware state.
- The pages containing the IOMMU event log, PPR log, and completion wait buffers are read-only and cannot be assigned to a guest.
- If `LIST_PADDR_EN` is 1, the pages in `LIST_PADDR` are set to the HV-fixed state.
- All MMIO ranges are set to the HV-fixed state.

The firmware also initializes any microarchitectural data structures within the RMP.

The firmware sets the `RmpSegInstallPending` internal flag.

## Status Codes

**Table 126. Status Codes for `RMP_CREATE`**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_ADDRESS	An invalid address was provided.
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.
INVALID_PARAM	An invalid parameter was provided.

## 8.37 `SNP_RMPSEG_INSTALL`

The `RMPSEG_INSTALL` command installs an RMP segment that has been created.

## Parameters

**Table 127. Layout of the CMDBUF\_RMP\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer.
4h	31:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	CANCEL	Requests that the RMP segment not be installed and RmpSegInstallPending be cleared.
8h-1Fh	-	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks RmpSegInstallPending is set. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If CANCEL is set, the firmware zeroes the MappedSize field of the previously installed segment, makes the RMP segment writeable again, clears the RmpSegmentInstallPending bit, and returns SUCCESS.

Firmware checks that VM\_HSAVE\_PA is 0 on all cores. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

Firmware writes the MappedSize field restored from the saved value.

Firmware invalidates the TLBs on all cores and IOMMUs, invalidates the RST caches, and removes the write protection on the RMP segment. The firmware then clears the RmpSegInstallPending bit.

## Status Codes

**Table 128. Status Codes for RMP\_CREATE**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.

## 8.38 SNP\_RST\_INSTALL

The RST\_INSTALL command completes the RMP initialization.

## Parameters

**Table 129. Layout of the CMDBUF\_RMP\_CREATE**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer.
4h	31:1	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.
	0	In	CANCEL	Requests that the RST not be installed and RstInstallPending be cleared.
8h-1Fh		-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

## Actions

The firmware checks RmpSegInstallPending is clear and RstInstallPending is set. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PLATFORM\_STATE.

If CANCEL is set, the firmware removes the write protection from the RST, clears SYSCFG[SNPEn], clears RstInstallPending, reclaims IOMMU buffers, and marks that the RMP must be re-initialized. The firmware then returns SUCCESS.

The Firmware checks that the RST is protected by an RMP segment. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_CONFIG.

The firmware clears RstInstallPending and marks that the RMP has been initialized.

## Status Codes

**Table 130. Status Codes for RMP\_CREATE**

Status	Condition
INVALID_PLATFORM_STATE	The platform is not in the UNINIT state.
INVALID_CONFIG	An invalid configuration exists.

## 8.39 FEATURE\_INFO

This command returns the contents of CPUID Fn8000\_0024 to provide information regarding the features present in the SEV firmware currently loaded. The caller provides the value of the ECX input index and returns the CPUID subfunction of that index. The CPUID instruction treats all subfunctions of Fn8000\_0024 as reserved.

The output of this command may be provided to the guest via the CPUID page in SNP\_LAUNCH\_UPDATE as well as through the CPUID reporting guest message MSG\_CPUID\_REQ.

This command is available if bit 3 of offset 8h of the output buffer of SNP\_PLATFORM\_STATUS is 1.

## Parameters

**Table 131. Layout of the CMDBUF\_SNP\_FEATURE\_INFO Structure**

Byte Offset	Bits	In/Out	Name	Description
0h	31:0	In	LENGTH	Length of this command buffer in bytes.
4h	31:0	In	ECX_IN	Subfunction index of CPUID Fn8000_0024.
8h	63:0	In	FEATURE_INFO_PADDR	System physical address of the FEATURE_INFO structure to write the output to.

**Table 132. Layout of the FEATURE\_INFO Structure (Version 1h)**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
0h	31:0	EAX	See Section 3.7
4h	31:0	EBX	
8h	31:0	ECX	
Ch	31:0	EDX	

## Actions

The firmware checks the FEATURE\_INFO\_PADDR is a valid address, is 8-byte aligned, and does not cross a page boundary. If any of these checks fail, the firmware returns INVALID\_PARAM.

The firmware checks that FEATURE\_INFO\_PADDR points to a Firmware page or Default page. If not, the firmware returns INVALID\_PAGE\_STATE.

The firmware writes feature information into the FEATURE\_INFO structure at FEATURE\_INFO\_PADDR. The information written into FEATURE\_INFO is determined by the ECX\_IN. Section 3.7 specifies the returned information for each ECX\_IN.

Fn8000\_0024\_x00 is always valid when this command is present. To determine if other indices are valid, the MaxIndex (Fn8000\_0024\_EAX\_x00[31:0]) indicates the maximum valid subfunction index. If ECX\_IN is greater than MaxIndex, then this command will return INVALID\_PARAM and will not write to the FEATURE\_INFO structure.

## Status Codes

**Table 133. Status Codes for SNP\_FEATURE\_INFO**

Status	Condition
SUCCESS	Successful completion.
INVALID_PARAM	Incorrect parameter or out of range ECX_IN value.
INVALID_PAGE_STATE	Incorrect page state.

## Chapter 9      APPENDIX: Common Algorithms

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### 9.1      Aead\_Wrap()

**Inputs:**

- P: Zero or more bytes to be encrypted and authenticated
- A: Zero or more bytes to be authenticated
- IV: Initialization vector (at most 96 bits)
- K: Key used to encrypt and authenticate the plaintext and AAD (256 bits)

**Outputs:**

- C: The encrypted plaintext
- T: Authentication tag (128 bits)

**Algorithm:**

- If  $\text{len}(\text{IV}) < 96$ , then let  $\text{IV}' = 0^{96-\text{len}(\text{IV})} \parallel \text{IV}$ . Otherwise,  $\text{IV}' = \text{IV}$
- Let  $(C, T) = \text{GCM-AEK}(\text{IV}', P, A)$
- Return  $(C, T)$

### 9.2      Aead\_Unwrap()

**Inputs:**

- C: Zero or more bytes to be decrypted and authenticated
- A: Zero or more bytes to be authenticated
- IV: Initialization vector (at most 96 bits)
- K: Key used to encrypt and authenticate the plaintext and AAD (256 bits)
- T: Authentication tag (128 bits)

**Outputs:**

- P: The decrypted plaintext or indication of inauthenticity
-

**Algorithm:**

- If  $\text{len}(\text{IV}) < 96$ , then let  $\text{IV}' = 0^{96-\text{len}(\text{IV})} \parallel \text{IV}$ . Otherwise,  $\text{IV}' = \text{IV}$
- Let  $P = \text{GCM-ADK}(\text{IV}', C, A, T)$
- Return  $P$



# Chapter 10 APPENDIX: Digital Signatures

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The SNP firmware uses digital signatures to sign objects such as the attestation report and to validate signatures such as the ID block. The supported algorithms and their encodings are described in Table 134, Table 135, Table 136, and Table 137.

**Table 134: Encoding for Signing Algorithms**

Signing Algorithm	Encoding
ECDSA P-384 with SHA-384	1h
<i>All other encodings are reserved.</i>	

Elliptic curves are defined in Table 135.

**Table 135. ECC Curve Identifier Encodings**

ECC Curve	Encoding
P-384	2h
<i>All other encodings are reserved.</i>	

The ECDSA P-384 with SHA-384 signature format is defined in Table 136.

**Table 136. Format for an ECDSA P-384 with SHA-384 Signature**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
000h	575:0	R	R component of this signature. Value is zero-extended little-endian encoded.
048h	575:0	S	S component of this signature. Value is zero-extended little-endian encoded.
090h–1FFh	-	-	Reserved.

The ECDSA P-384 public key format is defined Table 137.

**Table 137. Format for an ECDSA P-384 Public Key**

Byte Offset	Bits	Name	Description
000h	31:0	CURVE	Curve ID. 2h indicates P-384. All other encodings are reserved.
004h	575:0	QX	X component of this signature. Value is zero-extended little-endian encoded.
04Ch	575:0	QY	Y component of this signature. Value is zero-extended little-endian encoded.
094h–403h	-	-	Reserved. Must be zero.

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