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June 2022 SEC Release (30 June 2022)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 8.0

17 May 2022



About this document

This document is a Smart Energy Code (SEC) Release Implementation Document (RID). It summarises the scope of the SEC Release, the impacts it will have, the timeline and testing strategy, the central costs that will be incurred, and the acceptance criteria for this release.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** contains the Data Communication Company's (DCC's) SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) for this release. This document is provided separately to this RID.

1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

- [SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'](#) will allow Parties and Devices reading the instantaneous values from the Gas Proxy function (GPF) to know the time on the Gas Smart Metering Equipment's (GSME's) clock when the value was provided.

Only the DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) and Message Mapping Catalogue (MMC) document changes required for SECMP0015 will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release alongside other DUIS and MMC changes. The functionality, including the DCC System and Data Services Provider (DSP) System changes, and the associated changes to the technical specifications will not be implemented until the November 2022 SEC Release (3 November 2022). Therefore, there will be no User impacts resulting from SECMP0015 in the June 2022 SEC Release.
- [SECMP0024 'Enduring Approach to Communication Hub Firmware Management'](#) will implement a new DCC Alert that will be sent to Suppliers upon firmware being activated on Communications Hubs which contains the Communications Hub firmware version.
- [MP104 'Security Improvements'](#) will implement a new DCC validation check to identify if DCC Users are Digitally Signing Extensible Markup Language (XML) format Service Requests and Signed Pre-Commands with a User Role Signing Private Key.
- [MP159 'Credit Cover Review'](#) will address inefficiencies within SEC Section J3 'Credit Cover' and clarify areas that have been previously misinterpreted.
- [MP195 'Security Sub-Committee guidance on Device Assurance'](#) will add an obligation on the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to develop and maintain a guidance document for Device security assurance.
- [MP199 'June 2022 SEC Release Supporting Changes'](#) will make minor additions and amendments to the DUIS which would ensure greater clarity.

No further modifications are expected to be added to the scope of this release.

DCC Change Requests

A list of any DCC Change Requests being implemented alongside this SEC Release will be provided here.

Concurrent implementation with ECoS

The June 2022 SEC Release will be tested alongside the Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) changes being implemented by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Both releases will uplift the DUIS which is why they are being targeted for implementation in parallel. They will also each uplift changes onto the test environments and into Production concurrently. The ECoS changes do not form part of this SEC Release, and so this RID does not cover the details of the impacts these will have.

2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes included in this release will have on participants and their systems, SEC documents and other industry Codes. This section assumes all targeted modifications will be approved for inclusion in this release.

SEC Party and DCC impacts

Participant impact matrix					
Modification	Suppliers	Electricity Networks	Gas Networks	Other SEC Parties	DCC
SECMP0015					
SECMP0024	✓				✓
MP104 ¹	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP159	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP195	✓			✓	✓
MP199					

The impacts on the different participants are summarised below. The business requirements for each Modification Proposal are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

SEC Party impacts	
Participant	Summary of impacts
All SEC Parties	- All DCC Users will have their Service Requests validated to check they have used an XML User Role Signing Private Key to sign XML format Service Requests and Signed Pre-Commands. - Any changes to the Credit Cover process will need to be adhered to by all SEC Parties – these changes are still being agreed. - Although SEC Parties are not directly impacted by the MP195 as this only places an obligation onto the SSC to develop and maintain a guidance document, they will be impacted indirectly by the guidance itself.
Supplier Parties	Suppliers will receive a DCC Alert once firmware Images are activated on CHs.
Electricity Network Parties	No additional impacts
Gas Network Parties	No additional impacts
Other SEC Parties	No additional impacts

¹ MP104 will impact all DCC Users.

DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
DCC User Interface Specification	A new DUIS version will be released to implement changes to existing Service Requests and to implement a new DCC Alert.
Data Services Provider (DSP)	- The following DSP components will be affected: - DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification (DUGIDS) updates, DUIS Service Requests, and MMC, Alerts and Messages - Updates to Service Request processing - The DSP will build a mechanism to track the Certificates used by Service Users to sign the Service Requests - The DSP will amend the Service User validation checks to verify that the Service Request submitted by a Service User has been signed using the XML Signing Certificate
Communication Services Providers (CSP)	The CSPs will implement the associated system changes resulting from SECMP0007.
Regulatory changes	Any changes to the Credit Cover process will need to be adhered to by all SEC Parties – these changes are still being agreed.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A 'Definitions and Interpretation'
- Section G 'Security'
- Section J 'Charges'
- Schedule 11 'TS Applicability Tables'
- Appendix AB 'Service Request Processing Document'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AF 'Message Mapping Catalogue'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

SEC document impact matrix						
Document	SECMP 0015	SECMP 0024	MP104	MP159	MP195	MP199
Section A			✓	✓	✓	
Section G					✓	
Section J				✓		
Schedule 11	✓	✓	✓			✓
Appendix AB			✓			
Appendix AD	✓	✓	✓			✓
Appendix AF	✓					

The document impacts for some modifications are provisional based on the current understanding of the solutions. Some solutions are still at early stages of assessment, and the impacts will be updated as these modifications evolve.

The approved changes to each document are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

Technical documentation versions and validity

The following versions of each of the Technical Specifications will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release:

Technical Specification impact matrix					
Tech Spec	New Version	SECMP0015	SECMP0024	MP104	MP199
DUIS	v5.1	✓	✓	✓	✓
MMC	v5.1	✓			

Other code impacts

No other Codes are impacted as a result of this SEC Release.

3. Implementation timeline

This section lists the provisional timeline for the implementation of this release.

This timeline includes dates for approval of the TAD, dates for when the System Integration Testing (SIT) and User Integration Testing (UIT) test phases are planned to commence and complete, and key governance steps for the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) and other Sub-Committees to complete.

Please note that dates for the submission and approval of the SIT and UIT Completion Reports and the commencement and closure of the UIT window are provisional and may change nearer the time. These dates are based on the anticipated schedule for Operations Group (OPSG), Testing Advisory Group (TAG) and CSC meetings and will be confirmed as the DCC prepares the TAD.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
18 Jun 2021	Panel baselines RID for system-impacting modifications	The Panel will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.
22 Sep 2021	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
29 Sep 2021	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
Oct 2021	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
17 Nov 2021	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
24 Nov 2021	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will review the TAD and incorporate it into the RID.
7 Dec 2021	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
21 Dec 2021	CSC baselines RID for non-system-impacting modifications	The CSC will review the RID for non-DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and re-baseline the document to include these.
31 Jan 2022	SIT commences	
8 Mar 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
5 Apr 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
18 May 2022	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
3 May 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
5 May 2022	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins.
19 May 2022	UIT commences	
25 May 2022	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
14 Jun 2022	OPSG reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation on whether the release should be implemented as planned. <i>Preliminary reviews of progress will be scheduled across preceding meetings.</i>
21 Jun 2022	CSC go/no-go decision	The CSC will review the status of the release against the acceptance criteria and will determine if the release should be implemented as planned.
22 Jun 2022	Test Participants to provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion
29 Jun 2022	UIT window closes	
30 Jun 2022	Release go-live	The changes are implemented.

4. Test strategy

This section covers the testing approach that will be taken by the DCC as part of the implementation of this release.

DCC's testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document has been provided as Annex A to this document. This covers the DCC's approach to SIT.

User testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document has been provided as Annex A to this document. This covers the DCC's approach to UIT.

5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) in implementing this release.

DCC costs

The total DCC implementation costs of this release are £1,006,881, not including Application Support costs.

The DCC has provided the following cost breakdown for each DCC System impacting modification in this release via the individual DCC Impact Assessments:

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs					
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	SIT	UIT	Implement to live	Application Support
SECMP0015	N/A ²				
SECMP0024	£202,395	£309,608		N/A	N/A
MP104	£360,992	£66,230		£67,656	Early Life Support: £13,124 ³ Application Support: £27,666 ⁴

² The SECMP0015 implementation costs will be allocated to the November 2022 SEC Release, which includes all implementation of the SECMP0015 System changes and associated testing.

³ Application Support costs have been calculated for the period after Part 1 of the solution is implemented and are referred to as Early Life Support.

⁴ Application Support costs after Go Live for Part 2 of the solution, with Part 1 switched off, are calculated for the 12 months after Go Live.

No impact on operational costs have been identified.

Costs which are not split by each of the five categories in the tables are for those modifications where only one DCC Service Provider is impacted. These costs are available to named recipients from SEC Parties upon request to SECAS by emailing sec.change@gemserv.com.

The DCC has provided standalone costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live for each modification for inclusion in their Modification Reports as part of the Impact Assessment. Once the scope of the release is confirmed and the Preliminary Assessments for all candidate modifications are complete, the DCC will produce a combined Preliminary Assessment. This will provide a combined estimated cost for each of these stages when the modifications are delivered as a single package.

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur five days effort, equating to around £3,000, to update and implement the changes to the SEC. SECAS estimate a maximum of 20 days of effort, equating to around £12,000, will be needed for project management of the release. This cost has already been accounted for in the SECAS budget, and so Parties will not incur any additional costs.

6. Acceptance criteria

The following criteria will need to be met before the release can go live.

Prior to go-live, the OPSG and the TAG will review the status of the release against these criteria. They will provide a recommendation to the CSC on whether to implement the release as planned. The CSC will review these recommendations and will determine then if the release should or shouldn't be implemented as planned.

Operational acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has brought to readiness all the new and changed components needed to provide the new services. This will include completing the service design and proving the service operations capability.
2. The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release.
3. The DCC has proven that the new services can be operated alongside, and integrated with, the existing services.
4. The DCC has assessed the risk posed by existing problems and defects in the existing live service, and the implications these will have for the revised service.
5. The DCC has assessed and addressed the impact on Users arising from any issues, defects or workarounds within the new services.
6. The DCC has demonstrated that lessons learnt from previous SEC Releases and other DCC changes have been taken on board.

7. The DCC has demonstrated there will be no detrimental impact on consumers' experience.
8. The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes.
9. SECAS will be ready to implement the approved changes to the SEC on the agreed implementation date.
10. SECAS has brought to readiness all the new and changed components that it is responsible for that are needed to support the new services.

Testing acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has developed the coding for each approved change and confirmed it will be able to deploy this to the production environment on the agreed implementation date.
2. The DCC has completed and closed each test phase against the agreed exit criteria specified in the TAD.
3. The DCC has successfully completed regression testing.
4. The DCC has allowed adequate opportunity for Users to test the changes prior to deployment.
5. The DCC has confirmed that there are no Severity 1 or 2 defects outstanding that would be deployed to the live environment.
6. The DCC has produced a clear resolution plan for any outstanding Severity 3, 4 or 5 defects and that the number of remaining testing issues is within the agreed threshold figures specified in the TAD.
7. The DCC has demonstrated that the SIT and UIT test environments were aligned to the solution being deployed to the production environment; if there were any differences, these were identified and the risks these posed demonstrably managed.

Appendix 1: Version control

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
0.1	11 Jun 2021	First draft issued to the Panel to baseline the scope of the release on the DCC Systems.
1.0	18 Jun 2021	Version baselined by the Panel to cover the proposed scope of the release on the DCC Systems.
2.0	24 Jun 2021	Updated following the withdrawal of MP117 and to reflect DCC's proposed DUIS and MMC versioning.
3.0	7 Sep 2021	Updated following the approval of SECMP0024 and MP104 and to reflect the agreed 2022 CSC meeting dates.
3.1	14 Dec 2021	Updated for the full scope of the release and the updated timeline, presented to the CSC to be baselined.

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
		This includes the additions of MP096, MP159, MP167 and MP186 being added to scope.
4.0	21 Dec 2021	Version baselined by CSC to cover the full scope of the release.
5.0	27 Jan 2022	Updated following MP109 being added to scope.
6.0	15 Mar 2022	Updated to reflect MP167 and MP186 being removed from scope and MP195 and MP199 being added to scope.
7.0	4 May 2022	Update following the approval of MP159 and MP195 and following MP109 moving to the November 2022 SEC Release.
8.0	17 May 2022	Corrections to document impact matrix.

Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
ACB	Access Control Broker
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
CSP	Communication Services Provider
DCC	Data Communication Company
DSP	Data Services Provider
DUGIDS	DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
GPF	Gas Proxy Function
GSME	Gas Smart Metering Equipment
MMC	Message Mapping Catalogue
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SSC	Security Sub-Committee
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
XML	Extensible Markup Language
UIT	User Integration Testing