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SEC Change Sub-Committee Meeting 41_1907

19 July 2022, 10:00 – 10:40

Teleconference

SECCSC_41_1907 – Final Minutes

Attendees:

Representing	CSC Member
Change Sub-Committee Chair	David Kemp (DK)
Large Suppliers	Emma Johnson (EJ)
	Emslie Law (EL)
Small Suppliers	Daniel Davies (DD)
Electricity Network Parties	Kelly Kinsman (KK)
Other SEC Parties	Alastair Cobb (AC)
	Beth Davey (BD)

Representing	Other Participants
DCC	Tom Rothery (TR) <i>(part)</i>
	Robin Seaby (RS)
Ofgem	Scott McPhillimy (SM)
SECAS	Rebecca Sawyer (RSa) <i>(Meeting Secretary)</i>
	Alison Beard (AB)
	Bradley Baker (BB)
	Mike Fenn (MF)
	Liz Woods (LW)
	Khaleda Hussain (KH) <i>(part)</i>
	Joe Hehir (JH)

Apologies:

Representing	CSC Member
Consumers	Ed Rees

1. Welcome and Introductions & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed members to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) meeting.

No comments were raised on the last meeting's minutes. The CSC **APPROVED** the minutes as written.

2. Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Action
40/01	SECAS and the DCC to work on producing guidance for the Gas Network Operators (GNOs) regarding the planned changes under MP128A. SECAS and the DCC will be developing this guidance in due course, following the outcome of the modification. Status: OPEN.
40/02	SECAS to update the MP209 Modification Report to clarify that Device Manufacturers would still need to carry out recertification for Devices with renewable Certificates. SECAS has added further detail to the Modification Report, highlighting Device Manufacturers would need to gain new Certificates in advance of the expiry of their existing Certificates. The process detail is to be included as an annex to the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC's) document 'Process for Performing Foundation Grade Evaluations (PPFGE)'. This is being drafted by the NCSC and will be updated once the process has been used. This item was proposed for closure. A CSC member (AC) requested that this action is to be kept open until the following meeting as the re-certification requirement is ongoing and needed to be included in the text. Status: OPEN.

3. SEC Modification Progression

MP102B 'Power Outage Alerts triggered by an OTA firmware upgrade - enduring solution'

SECAS (BB) presented the CSC with the final Modification Report for Modification Proposal [MP102B 'Power Outage Alerts triggered by an OTA firmware upgrade – enduring solution'](#).

A CSC member (BD) asked if the Global Unique Identifier (GUID) list produced by manufacturers is a one-off list and will remain static. SECAS (BB) confirmed that only certain existing Devices are affected by this issue, and that the list will not change.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** that MP102B should be progressed to the Report Phase

- **APPROVED** the Modification Report
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach
- **AGREED** that MP096 should be progressed as under Self-Governance

MP125 'Correcting Device Information for the ESME Variant'

SECAS (KH) presented the CSC with the final Modification Report for Modification Proposal [MP125 'Correcting Device Information for the ESME Variant'](#)

The CSC had no comments on this modification.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** that MP125 should be progressed to the Report Phase
- **APPROVED** the Modification Report;
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach; and
- **AGREED** that MP25 should be progressed as a Self-Governance Modification.

DP210 'RSA forecasts, orders and pay stock charges for Alt HAN Equipment'

SECAS (BB) presented the CSC with a summary of new Draft Proposal [DP210 'RSA forecasts, orders and pay stock charges for Alt HAN Equipment'](#).

Registered Supply Agents (RSAs) do not have permission (under SEC Section Z) to procure and send forecasts of Alternative Home Area Network (Alt HAN) equipment. This can only be performed by Relevant Supplier Parties (Small and Large Suppliers only). The Proposer suggests that not including Metering Equipment Managers (MEMs) will inhibit the roll out of Alt HAN equipment.

A CSC member (AC) asked if the Relevant Supplier Agent (RSA) User Role covers all the Parties that should be considered under this modification. Some small Suppliers use other third parties who may not be signed up as an RSA. They considered the principle of this modification should be to cover all the Parties that may be affected, to avoid further modifications being needed in the future.

A second CSC member (DD) agreed, considering that not all Alt HAN Users are RSAs and that it should be all the Parties who would need to be able to use this service that are covered, to avoid needing a second modification. The member also stated that participants don't need to be a DCC User to order Communications Hubs, they just need to be a SEC Party, and inquired if the same would apply to Alt HAN equipment.

A CSC member (DD) was also concerned over the timing and potential overlap with other Alt HAN related modifications already in flight. The member noted there were barriers for smaller Suppliers ordering Alt HAN equipment due to the minimum order levels. The member particularly highlighted [MP170 'Firmware updates to Point to Point Alt HAN Devices'](#), which relates to the 'Over the Air' (OTA) firmware updates for Alt HAN Devices, and queried if this new Draft Proposal might speed up the roll out of non-OTA Alt HAN Devices.

The CSC considered that the other Alt HAN-related modifications are likely to impact SEC Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification', however DP210 is expected to be a text-only change.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP211 'Aligning the SMI with the CPL'

SECAS (MF) presented the CSC with a summary of new Draft Proposal [DP211 'Aligning the SMI with the CPL'](#)

At present the SEC only caters for Devices being suspended if the Device Model has been removed from the Central Products List (CPL). The SEC doesn't explicitly cater for preventing a Device that isn't already on the CPL from communicating with the DCC.

There has been one instance where a firmware version was not on the CPL but continued to be live on the Smart Metering Inventory (SMI). Whilst this issue does not directly impact Consumers, there is an increased security risk that a consumer's Device could be operated with an incorrect or unauthorised firmware.

A CSC member (BD) queried how many Devices are known to be affected. SECAS (MF) explained that this exact number was not known and agreed to look into this as part of its further investigations into the issue.

A CSC member (AC) agreed that the Modification is low priority and enquired if any potential solution would require a DCC Systems change. SECAS (MF) considered that there could be a DCC System impact. A DCC representative (RS) explained that the impact was yet to be measured and so any potential impact was not yet known. Another member (DD) explained that an error message would be returned when attempting to read firmware which is not on the CPL, but that this wouldn't result in the suspension of DCC communications. The member considered changing this would likely have a Data Service Provider (DSP) impact. The DCC representative (RS) agreed.

The CSC requested clarification on the issue, noting the example given had where a Firmware version comes in two parts but only one part successfully installs. Members queried if this was the extent of the issue or if there could be whole new firmware versions that aren't on the CPL. SECAS (MF) stated that this was the only example given by the Security Sub Committee (SSC) Chair and that a valid version of the Firmware has previously been removed, but agreed to clarify the issue with the Proposer. A member (BD) queried whether the instance highlighted should be considered a failure.

The CSC agree that a cost benefit analysis should be undertaken on the number of Devices affected and the materiality of any associated security risks versus the likely cost and impact of any solution. The problem statement also needs to be discussed further with the SSC Chair for clarification on the issue.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP212 'Housekeeping Changes 2022'

SECAS (LW) presented the CSC with a summary of new Draft Proposal [DP212 'Housekeeping Changes 2022'](#).

This Draft Proposal is proposing to resolve a number of typographical and other housekeeping errors across a range of SEC documents that SECAS has identified and recorded in its housekeeping log.

SECAS recommended that this Draft Proposal remains in the Development Stage for one month until the next CSC meeting, to allow Parties a chance to review and comment on the proposed changes, which are available on the SEC website. Subject to the comments received, the CSC will then be asked to confirm that this should be approved as a Fast-Track Modification at the next CSC meeting.

There were no comments from the CSC on this Draft Proposal or the proposed approach.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** to leave DP212 in the Development Stage to allow time for comments on the draft legal text.

4. SEC Modification Timetables

SECAS (AB) provided an update on the timetables for Modification Proposals currently in the Refinement Process and the next main programme of work for each open modification.

Eight modifications will be discussed and voted on at the next Change Board meeting. The three modifications currently on the waiting list will be reactivated after this, as SECAS will then have enough capacity to take these forward. There will then be no modifications left on the waiting list.

The CSC:

- **APPROVED** the packages of work and the progression timetables outlined in the paper.

5. SEC Releases Update

SECAS (MF) presented an update on progress with the 2022 and 2023 SEC Releases.

The CSC had no comments on the updates in the paper.

The CSC:

- **NOTED** the update on the SEC Releases referenced in the paper.

6. Any Other Business (AOB)

The Chair highlighted that Joe Hehir was leaving SECAS after four years in the Change Management team, thanked him for his efforts during his time working on modifications, and wished him luck in his new role at the DCC. Other CSC members echoed this recognition.

There was no further business, and the Chair closed the meeting.

Next Meeting: 16 August 2022