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Security Sub-Committee (SSC) Statement on MP 262: Extending the Installation End Date for CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1

The SSC meeting on 8 May 2024 considered a presentation from SECAS on the SEC Modification proposal MP262 and discussed the potential impact for security.

To understand the scale of any security risk, the SSC noted that the DCC reported around 100,000 of these Devices have yet to be installed and, on the current run rate, it could take well over a year to install the outstanding Comms Hubs. The SSC noted that around 7,000 of these Devices are known to SSC having had security advice from NCSC following a CPA Risk Review and withdrawal of the CPA Certificate. The SSC also noted the TABASC view that it is not in the best interest of industry good practice to extend the installation date for these Devices.

Based on the information provided, the SSC noted that there isn't a specific security issue that has been identified to prevent the installation of these Devices. However, it is a fact that older Devices are not fully compliant with the latest CPA Security Characteristics and therefore have a higher risk of containing security vulnerabilities. It is important therefore that all Devices are kept up to date with the latest security firmware which should be upgraded prior to or as soon as possible after installation. The SSC notes that there have been instances where it has been important to maintain Installation and Maintenance End Dates to ensure that security firmware upgrades have been implemented to mitigate security risks.

SSC, 17 May 2024.