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SECMP0002 ‘Add New Command to Reset Debt Registers’

27th October 2016

Meeting 4 Final Minutes

Attendees:

Working Group 1 Member	Organisation
Mark Pitchford (SECMP0002 Proposer)	Npower
Tim Newton (SECMP0005 Proposer)	EON
Emslie Law (SECMP0006 Proposer)	SSE
Chris Spence	EDF Energy
Marc Bowden	In Home Displays

Representing	Other attendees
DCC	Stuart Scott
	Jon Kearney
SECAS	Sebastian Rattansen (Chair)
	Urszula Thorpe (Technical Support)
	Sasha Townsend (Meeting Secretary)

1. SECMP0002: ‘Add New Command to Reset Debt Registers’

1.1 Working Group’s consideration of Preliminary Assessment

The WG reviewed the DCC Preliminary Assessment (PA) for this modification with the aim to get in a position to request a DCC Impact Assessment (IA). The below options and clarifications were discussed.

Potential alternative solution

The DCC presented a potential alternative solution that would involve the use of a single Service Request Variant (SRV) with a choice of Debt Register to reset, rather than the three separate SRVs to reset a Debt Register originally proposed. It was clarified that this option would involve the same number of execution paths and would not have any further impacts to Parse and Correlate. Whilst

noting pros and cons for both solutions, the WG and Proposer agreed that the prospect of ensuring the number of SRVs is kept to a minimum is beneficial and it was agreed that this option is therefore preferred.

Anomaly Detection clarification

Clarification 1 in the DCC PA requested confirmation whether Attribute Limit Anomaly Detection for Commands to Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) as well as Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) was required. SECAS advised the WG that this will be raised with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) at their next meeting on 8th November 2016, to seek clarity.

Testing clarifications

Clarifications 2 and 3 in the PA requests confirmation on the requirements for GBCS for Industry (GFI) test tool, Reference Test Data Set (RTDS), and Meter Emulators in order to support enduring industry testing. WG discussions followed on whether the costs of these tool will be allocated per Modification Proposal or per Release. The DCC informed the WG that it is difficult to show costs per modification in PAs/IAs as there are efficiencies to be gained when multiple changes are included in one Release.

With regards to meter emulators, it was noted that the use of these should reduce in an enduring environment. However, the DCC questioned whether Devices would be readily available for the DCC's testing within suitable timescales.

SECAS highlighted that the questions in relation to user testing are applicable to all Modification Proposals that will impact DCC and DCC User Systems and are not specific to SECMP0002. These will be considered as part of the Panel's discussions on principles on modification testing in Releases. It was also highlighted that there have been some discussions on the potential merge of the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) expertise in to the Technical and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) on an enduring basis. The WG considered that this could provide additional clarity and requested that ongoing updates are provided.

In order to proceed to a DCC IA, the WG agreed to omit these requirements as part of this modification. However, a WG Member expressed concerns with regards to the urgency of confirming these requirements by noting that previous industry discussion have not suggested SECMP0002 is a priority. Whilst recognising these concerns, it was emphasised that it is not part of the WG's responsibilities to prioritise or unduly discriminate between other Modification Proposal.

HAN interoperability

With regards to the DCC request for clarification on Home Area Network (HAN) interoperability and Communication Hub (CH) backward compatibility, SECAS advised that they will update the SDD to reflect previous WG discussions.

ACTION WG1_05/02(SECMP2): SECAS to seek clarification from the SSC on Attribute Limit Anomaly Detection for GSME and ESME Commands.

ACTION WG1_05/03(SECMP2): SECAS to update SDD with agreed clarifications.

1.2 Pros and Drawbacks

In order to assist the drafting of the WG Consultation document, SECAS provided the WG with an overview of the pros and drawbacks of the modification that have already been identified by the Proposer and the WG. The WG agreed with the pros and identified an additional drawback. It was noted that from DCC Live until the implementation of SECMP0002, Suppliers would need to operate a workaround to reset Debt Registers to zero, which may diminish the business case for this modification.