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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Paper Reference:</b> | <b>TABASC_82_0610_05</b> |
| <b>Action:</b>          | <b>For Discussion</b>    |

## MP207 Business Requirements

### 1. Purpose

[MP207 'Allowing Registered Supplier Agents to Maintain Meter Firmware'](#) is currently undergoing the Refinement Process. The purpose of this paper is to seek the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee's (TABASC) input on the Proposed Solution before requesting a Preliminary Assessment from the Data Communications Company (DCC).

This paper provides the high-level business requirements and the more detailed considerations within each of these requirements. Both can be found in Appendix A.

### 2. Summary of MP207

This section summarises the key points of this Modification Proposal. More information is available in the Modification Report in Appendix B.

#### 2.1 What is the issue?

SEC Appendix E 'DCC User Interface Services Schedule' (UISS) and SEC Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification' (DUIS) both state that only Parties with either the DCC User Role 'Import Supplier' or 'Gas Supplier' can send Service Reference Variant (SRV) 11.1 'Update Firmware', SRV 11.3 'Activate Firmware' and SRV 11.4 'Update PPMID Firmware'. Parties with the User Role 'Registered Supplier Agent' are unable to send these SRVs, and therefore unable to manage the Firmware version on Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS) 2+ Devices they are registered to.

The responsibility for managing Device Firmware therefore sits solely with Supplier Parties, when it may be beneficial to outsource some of this functionality to RSAs.

Firmware management is essential for Suppliers and the wider industry, which relies on Smart Meter data for day-to-day processes and for the success of future programmes, such as Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) and achieving net-zero. It is also critical for asset funders, such as Meter Asset Providers (MAPs) and their investors, which rely on meters being installed and operated for many years.

### 3. Business requirements

Below are the business requirements, developed with the Proposer, the DCC and the Working Group.

| Business Requirements |                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ref.                  | Requirement                                                                                                         |
| 1                     | Enable Energy Supplier appointed RSAs (Registered Supplier Agents) to <i>Update Firmware</i> on Devices             |
| 2                     | Validation of Devices which the appointed RSAs are responsible for and have permission to manage                    |
| 3                     | Current firmware management security requirements must be maintained                                                |
| 4                     | Reporting mechanism to monitor and ensure Energy Suppliers are aware of the current state of their Device portfolio |
| 5                     | RSAs can access Alerts that are triggered by updating firmware                                                      |

Further information on the considerations and assumptions for these requirements is available in Annex A.

### 4. Discussions from the Working Group

The MP207 business requirements were presented to the September 2022 Working Group for feedback. The Working Group discussed the option of having Other Users, like MAPs and Meter Asset Managers (MAMs) to also be able to deploy Firmware. The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) noted that the User CIO (Competent Independent Organisation) Assessments for either RSAs or Other Users to deploy firmware will cause a negligible/no increase in assessment cost. The SSC also suggested that Prepayment Meter Interface Devices (PPMIDs) would not be included due to the PPMID deployment of Firmware was automatically Activated and therefore poses a Security risk. Working Group members queried the number of Parties and volume of Devices that this represents. A Working Group member added that the value is identifying which upgrades haven't worked. The Proposer noted RSAs will take responsibility for upgrades that haven't worked. A Working Group member added this is an additional route for Suppliers to manage their estate.

### 5. Questions for the TABASC

We seek the TABASC's view on the following questions to feed into the Modification Report and business requirements before we proceed with the Preliminary Assessment:

- Should Other Users (including MAPs & MAMs) be included into the scope of this modification?
- Will allowing RSAs (and Other Users) to Update Firmware impact the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture?
- Are there any additional considerations which should be drawn out during the Preliminary Assessment?

## 6. Next steps

Once the DCC has completed the Preliminary Assessment, the solution and costs will be presented to the Working Group for discussion prior to issuing for Refinement Consultation.

| Timetable                                                        |                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Event/Action                                                     | Date                            |
| TABASC feedback                                                  | 6 Oct 2022                      |
| <i>DCC Preliminary Assessment requested</i>                      | <i>10 Oct 2022</i>              |
| <i>DCC Preliminary Assessment returned (expected)</i>            | <i>31 Oct 2022</i>              |
| <i>Discuss DCC Preliminary Assessment with the Working Group</i> | <i>7 Dec 2022</i>               |
| <i>Refinement Consultation</i>                                   | <i>12 Dec 2022 – 9 Jan 2023</i> |

*Italics denote planned events that could be subject to change*

## 7. Recommendations

The TABASC is asked to:

- **PROVIDE** feedback on the questions posed above,
- **CONFIRM** that the business requirements address the identified issue, and;
- **PROVIDE** views on whether any additional context should be provided to the DCC for its Preliminary Assessment.

Elizabeth Woods

SECAS Team

29 September 2022

### Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** MP207 business requirements
- **Appendix B:** MP207 Modification Report