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Action:	For Decision

MP216 DCC Preliminary Assessment

1. Purpose

MP216 '[Incorporation of Category 2 Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC - Batch 9](#)' is currently undergoing the Refinement Process. The purpose of this paper is to seek the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee's (TABASC's) feedback on the Preliminary Assessment completed by the Data Communications Company (DCC).

2. Summary of MP216

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?

Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs) identify and resolve issues in the Technical Specifications documents of the SEC. This modification proposes IRPs which require changes to the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS).

IRP640

The Boost Function Event Log is a single log capable of storing entries for the most recent 25 Boost Periods on an Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) or a Standalone Auxiliary Proportional Controller (SAPC). There is currently ambiguity as to which of the two date-times (start time or end time) should be used as the selection criteria, for determining which log entries are to be returned. Additionally, there is also missing detail from GBCS Table 7.3.8 for the Boost Function Event Log.

IRP658

When processing firmware updates, a Device will have its own policy regarding whether it attempts to transfer a Manufacturer image from the Communications Hub. Although the specifications are not intended to be prescriptive in that matter, currently Devices may require a stored image on that Device to be activated before it can process further updates. If this is the case, then in the situation where a new version of firmware is released and distributed but subsequently is discovered to have a security vulnerability or other issue, then there is no means to replace it prior to activation.

2.2 What is the Proposed Solution?

The Proposed Solution is to incorporate these IRPs into the SEC to add clarity and consistency to the Technical Specification. These changes have been discussed and approved by the TSIRS as part of the closure of each IRP.

IRP640

This will specify that the end date-time should be used to select data for the Boost Function Event Log. It will also add the missing data to the affected GBCS tables.

IRP658

This IRP is intended to make it a stated requirement that an Over-the-air (OTA) Client in a Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) / ESME / SAPC or Home Area Network Connected Auxiliary Load Control Switch (HCALCS) must not prevent replacement of an un-activated Upgrade Image that it may already be holding.

3. DCC Preliminary Assessment

3.1 Summary

- The DCC has performed an initial assessment of these IRP's and consider them to be non-DCC System impacting but will require DCC System integration testing (SIT).
- There will be no costs associated with Design, Build, and Pre-Integration Testing (PIT), and no Full Impact Assessment is required as the changes will be included in the post-PIT Change Request associated with the chosen SEC Release.

3.2 Critical Software

The proposed solution approach encompasses the following steps:

1. Update emulators.
2. Update modules dependencies.
3. Add new system tests.
4. Run regression tests.
5. Run manual tests on NUC (Intel Next Unit of Computing)
6. Update documentation.
7. Perform release activities.

3.3 Emulators

It is possible that the current range of emulators will need to be updated to address these defects as part of the SEC Release. This will be evaluated as part of the post-PIT CR and will not be specifically associated with this modification.

4. Questions for the TABASC

We seek the TABASC's views on the following questions to feed into the discussions with the Working Group:

- Does the Preliminary Assessment fulfil the Proposed Solution?
- Is there any additional feedback relating to the Preliminary Assessment?

5. Next steps

This will be discussed at the Change Sub-Committee meeting in January where SECAS will recommend this moves to Report Phase. A Modification Report Consultation will be issued on 23 January 2023. It is anticipated this will be voted on at the February 2023 Change Board meeting.

6. Recommendations

The TABASC is asked to:

- **CONFIRM** that the Preliminary Assessment fulfils the Proposed Solution, and;
- **PROVIDE** views and feedback on the DCC's Preliminary Assessment.

Ben Giblin

SECAS Team

14 December 2022

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** MP216 DCC Preliminary Assessment
- **Appendix B:** MP216 Modification Report