

This document is classified as **White** in accordance with the Panel Information Policy. Information can be shared with the public, and any members may publish the information, subject to copyright.



MP214

‘Clarification of Acceptable DCC User IDs for Import and Export Suppliers’

Modification Report

Version 0.3

15 December 2022



Managed by



About this document

This document is a draft Modification Report. It currently sets out the background, issue, and progression timetable for this modification, along with any relevant discussions, views and conclusions. This document will be updated as this modification progresses.

Contents

1. Summary.....	3
2. Issue.....	3
3. Assessment of the proposal	4
Appendix 1: Progression timetable	5
Appendix 2: Glossary	5

This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** contains the redlined changes to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) required to deliver the Proposed Solution.

Contact

If you have any questions on this modification, please contact:

Ben Giblin

020 3934 8646

ben.giblin@gemserv.com

1. Summary

This proposal has been raised by Roxy Ali from the Data Communications Company (DCC).

As per the drafting of SEC Section H 'DCC Services' 1.5, SEC Parties are excluded from using the same DCC User identification (ID) for the User Roles 'Import Supplier' and 'Export Supplier' unless they are also a 'Gas Supplier'. This modification seeks to clarify what exceptions to this rule of using one ID number per User Role should be allowed within the SEC.

2. Issue

What are the current arrangements?

When a SEC Party wishes to become a DCC User it is required to use a unique ID number, applied by the SEC Panel, for each User Role it wishes to act in. This is to ensure that all messages sent via the DCC System are attributable to the originating Party and to the context in which they are being sent. Exceptions to the rule of using one ID number for each User Role are allowed within the SEC.

Specifically, SEC Section H1.5 states that when a Party wishes to register as a DCC User in the User Roles 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' and 'Gas Supplier', it can use the same ID number for each Role:

H1.5 "A Party wishing to act as a User in one or more User Roles shall propose to the DCC one or more identification numbers, issued to it by the Panel, to be used by that Party when acting in each such User Role. Each such identification number must be EUI-64 Compliant, and the same identification number cannot be used for more than one User Role, save that a Party may use the same identification number when acting in the combined User Roles of either, 'Import Supplier' and 'Gas Supplier' or 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' and 'Gas Supplier'."

What is the issue?

This wording in SEC Section H1.5 excludes a Party from using the same ID number for both the 'Import Supplier' and 'Export Supplier' User Roles unless it also intends to act in the 'Gas Supplier' User Role. This issue relates to the SEC wording only and will not require changes to processes or the DCC System to resolve.

What is the impact this is having?

The Proposer believes that the SEC is unnecessarily exclusionary on this point. Not allowing the use of the same User ID for the Import Supplier and Export Supplier User Roles means Parties must request multiple ID numbers from the SEC Panel. This has minor but unnecessary operational impacts on those Parties. The Proposer notes that the DCC frequently receive requests to use the same User ID for multiple roles. The DCC must also engage in further checks and monitoring to ensure these are assigned correctly. Managing multiple ID numbers for the same Party has a minor impact on DCC time and effort.

Impact on consumers

This issue does not currently have any impact on consumers.

3. Assessment of the proposal

Areas for assessment

The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) does not currently expect this change to have any material impact, but this will be validated as the modification is assessed and developed.

Upon initial review, SECAS suggested that the drafting could have been originally intended to stop a Dual Fuel & Export Supplier needing three IDs, but that it is worth also specifying that it is acceptable for an Import and Export Supplier that isn't also a Gas Supplier to use the same ID for both User Roles.

Sub-Committee input

SECAS engaged with the Chairs from the Operations Group (OPSG), the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and the Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) to confirm what input is required from these forums.

The OPSG and the TABASC Chairs advised that their Sub-Committees would need to assess the modification if it sought to make changes to the processes by which SEC Parties register as DCC Users.

The SSC representative advised the SSC would only need to provide input if the modification impacted User Entry Process Testing (UEPT). The Proposer confirmed that this is not within the scope of this modification.

The TABASC representative noted that the way DCC Users register themselves drives the way in which the DCC attributes its ID numbers and suggested that additional guidance to SEC Parties may be useful, which includes how this process is influenced by UEPT rather than treating it as a separate process. SECAS agreed to investigate this with the Proposer.

Observations on the issue

At the August 2022 Change Sub-Committee (CSC) a member noted that significant discussions have previously been held on the process by which SEC Parties obtain User IDs. If changes to this process are within the scope of this modification, then there will be DCC System impacts. The Proposer believes DCC System changes are not necessary as part of this modification as they are simply seeking to clarify in the SEC wording something that is already possible in practice.

SECAS presented this modification to the September 2022 CSC meeting where a member noted the original provisions were written during User Entry Process Testing (UEPT) and a series of

assumptions were made on Party activities and their specific roles. These assumptions were never ratified, and it has become clear that there is a more diverse set up to Party roles which needs to be reflected in the SEC.

At the September Requirements Workshop there was disagreement regarding whether the DCC would be able to implement this change without changing the DSP data system. After investigation, SECAS and the DCC confirmed that this modification can take place without fundamental changes to the DSP data system.

Appendix 1: Progression timetable

This Draft Proposal will be presented to the CSC on 20 September 2022 for conversion to a Modification Proposal and progression to the Refinement Process. Following this, the business requirements will be developed with the Proposer and the DCC before being presented to the Working Group and relevant Sub-Committees.

Timetable	
Event/Action	Date
Discussed with TABASC	5 Jan 2023
<i>Discuss modification with the Working Group</i>	<i>30 Jan 2023</i>
<i>Refinement Consultation</i>	<i>6 Feb 2023 – 27 Feb 2023</i>
<i>Modification discussed at Change Sub-Committee</i>	<i>20 Mar 2023</i>
<i>Modification Report Consultation</i>	<i>27 Mar 2023 – 17 Apr 2023</i>
<i>Vote at Change Board</i>	<i>24 Apr 2023</i>

Italics denote planned events that could be subject to change

Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DCC	Data Communications Company
ID	Identification
OPSG	Operations Group
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SMKI PMA	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority
SSC	Security Sub-Committee
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
UEPT	User Entry Process Testing