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Modification Decision

SECMP0009:

Centralised Firmware Library

Summary

This Modification Proposal seeks to establish a Firmware Information Repository, with access provided to all Parties responsible for the management of Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS) 1 and/or SMETS2 meters.

Change Board Recommendation



- The Change Board believes that SECMP0009 does better facilitate the SEC Objectives. The Change Board therefore recommends that this Modification Proposal should be **approved**.

What stage is this document in the process?

01	Initial Assessment
02	Refinement Process
03	Modification Report
▶ 04	Decision

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SECMP0009
Modification
Decision

21st November 2018

Version 1.0

Page 1 of 6

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Content

1. Change Board discussions	3
2. Change Board Vote	5
3. Change Board recommendation	6

About this Document

This is the Modification Decision document for SECMP0009. This document provides a summary of the Change Board discussions and conclusions as well as its recommendation to the Authority on SECMP0009.



1. Change Board discussions

The view of the Change Board is that SECMP0009 does facilitate General SEC Objectives (a), (c), (d) and (f) and should be **approved**.

September 2018 Change Board discussions

One member believed that this modification would be a good first step in dealing with the Firmware issue, but more ambitious action would be needed in the future. DCC echoed this sentiment. Some members reiterated that most Suppliers would have preferred the initial solution, which was a Centralised Firmware Library, but due to Manufacturer pushback this will not be feasible, so a FIR would be better than nothing.

The Change Board highlighted support for this modification but there was discussion around the Security Sub-Committee's (SSC) recommendations that were highlighted in the Modification Report Consultation (MRC) responses, and the fact that these had not been added to the Final Modification Report (FMR). The Change Board also had questions around whether there would be archiving for entries, and the fact that this too was not covered in the modification documentation. SECAS clarified that the Firmware Information Repository (FIR) would only apply prospectively and not retrospectively, so would only apply to new Certified Products List (CPL) entries, as well as the fact that the spreadsheet would be locked and not able to be edited. It had also consulted the Working Group over the SSC's comments, and members confirmed they were happy with the proposed amendments. However, this could only be clarified in the report by first sending it back to the Panel.

All members voted to send the modification back to the Panel for the Modification Report to be updated with the SSC recommendations and Working Group clarifications around privacy issues.

November 2018 Change Board discussions

DCC felt that the solution of this modification acts a stop gap to the problem and that further work should continue on this topic. Another member agreed with this sentiment and felt that the modification would have benefitted from more development. However, the Change Board still believed this solution was a good first step to implement.



Views against the General SEC Objectives

Objective (a)¹

A majority of the Change Board believes that the modification better facilitates objective (a), to facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain, because it makes it easier for gaining Suppliers to have access to firmware versions and increase interoperability. The remaining members are neutral on this Objective.

Objective (c)²

A minority of the Change Board believes the modification facilitates objective (c), to facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain because it promotes efficient operations. The remaining members are neutral on this Objective.

Objective (d)³

A minority of the Change Board believes the modification better facilitates objective (d), to facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of electricity and gas through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems, as Suppliers now have better access to all firmware versions. The remaining members are neutral on this Objective.

Objective (f)⁴

A **minority** of the Change Board believes the modification better facilitates objective (f), to ensure the protection of Data and the security of Data and Systems in the operation of this Code as it will keep devices secure and protects Intellectual Property (IP) for manufacturers. The remaining members are neutral on this Objective.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Change Board believes that SECMP0009 is neutral against all remaining Objectives.

¹ Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.

² Facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of Energy through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems.

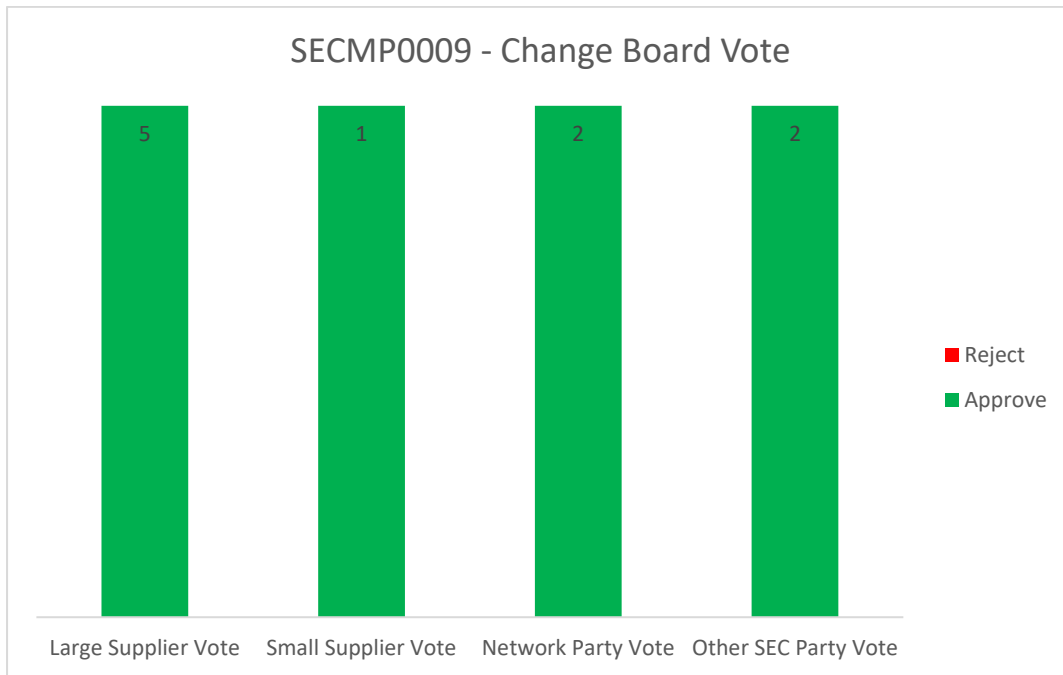
³ Facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of electricity and gas through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems.

⁴ Ensure the protection of Data and the security of Data and Systems in the operation of this Code.

2. Change Board Vote

This section sets out the breakdown of the Change Board’s vote.

The Change Board unanimously voted to approve SECMP0009.



SECMP0009
Modification
Decision

21st November 2018

Version 1.0

Page 5 of 6

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3. Change Board recommendation

The Change Board:

- **CONSIDERED** the Final Modification Report and Modification Report Consultation responses for SECMP0009;
- **RECOMMENDED** to the Authority to **APPROVE** SECMP0009 for implementation on 28th February 2019; and
- **PROVIDED** rationale as to why SECMP0009 better facilitates the General SEC Objectives.

SECMP0009
Modification
Decision

21st November 2018

Version 1.0

Page 6 of 6

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