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Meeting TABASC_36_1511, 15 November 2018

10:00 – 16:00, Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place, London EC3M 4AJ

Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC)

Draft Minutes

Attendees:

Category	TABASC Members
TABASC Chair	Julian Hughes
Large Suppliers	Stephen Lovell
	Stacey Brentnall
	Ashley Pocock
	Rochelle Harrison
	James Nixon (*teleconference, alternate*)
Small Suppliers	James Kirk (*teleconference*)
Electricity Networks	Alan Creighton
Gas Networks	Leigh Page

Representing	Other Participants
Smart DCC	Simon Harrison
	Asif Nawab (*part*)
	Graeme Liggett (*part*)
BEIS	Joe Howard (*alternate*)
SECAS	Phillip Twiddy
	Rebecca Jones
	Kayla Reinhart
	Alison Beard (*part*)

Apologies	
Other SEC Parties	Elias Hanna
Other SEC Parties	Tim Boyle
Small Suppliers	Andy Knowles
Large Suppliers	Emslie Law

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Update
TABASC32/02 The TABASC requested more transparent cost and solution update on the approach to Production Proving, specifically in relation to the enduring strategic solution from DCC.	Update provided under agenda item 6. Action: **ONGOING.**
TABASC32/04 SECAS to facilitate a specific work piece engaging the SEC Panel to consider Panel Issue 2.	It was noted that the DCC presented to the SEC Panel an Independent study of SEC Modifications including details on Improvements to DCC's ability to deliver change efficiently, economically and effectively. It was noted that the DCC has agreed with the SEC Panel to carry out a benchmarking study which should ascertain whether DCC costs are comparable with similar examples across other industries. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC34/03 TABASC to seek clarification from Panel as to whether Faster Switching changes is a TABASC responsibility or if a separate body is required.	There was a presentation intended to be presented to SEC Panel in November; however, was deferred due to ongoing work at Ofgem. Action: **ONGOING.**
TABASC34/04 DCC to present findings from the T3 Aerials RFI to the TABASC at the January 2019 Meeting.	This action will be left as ongoing until January 2019. Action: **ONGOING.**
TABASC34/05 The DCC to respond to the comments raised by the TABASC regarding the DCC traffic management update.	An update was provided under agenda item 2. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/01 SECAS to summarise the responses to the Smart Appliances consultation.	An update will be provided at the December 2018 TABASC meeting. Action: **ONGOING.**

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TABASC35/03 The TABASC to respond to the CSS Programme Director at Ofgem regarding the governance arrangements and to help CSS to implement the changes and provide support where necessary.	An update was provided under agenda item 8. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/04 The TABASC to consider the letter from the CSS Programme Director in greater detail at the November 2018 TABASC meeting.	An update was provided under agenda item 8. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/05 SECAS to raise to SEC Panel the issue of governance regarding the DCC taking over testing with particular emphasis on who holds the DCC accountable if they are operating the service with the SEC Panel Chair.	The TABASC Chair wrote to the SEC Panel Chair regarding the DCC Testing Services Governance on 2 November 2018. The SEC Panel Chair has raised the issue with the Panel Members ex-committee requesting greater transparency of the proposed operating model and services. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/06 SECAS to raise who is going to validate the DCC testing services governance business case with the SEC Panel Chair.	The SEC Panel Chair has written to the DCC to propose the need to consult on the business case, with oversight by SEC Panel Sub-Committees. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/07 SECAS to contact BEAMA and EUA to determine whether Devices are planned to comply with SMETS 2 version 3.0 or version 3.1.	An update was provided under agenda item 10. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/09 SECAS to confirm whether the Change Board Sub-Committee Terms of Reference are aligned with the draft TSIRS Terms of Reference.	An update was provided under agenda item 7. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/10 SECAS to provide the TABASC with a summary of the second iteration of the Effectiveness Review Survey responses at the November 2018 TABASC meeting.	An update was provided under agenda item 9. Action: **CLOSED.**
TABASC35/11 BEIS representative to provide an update on electric vehicle innovation project and its use of the smart metering infrastructure.	An update was provided under agenda item 5. Action: **CLOSED.**

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2. DCC Update

Central Switching Service (CSS) Retail Energy Location

The DCC provided the TABASC with a presentation on the Retail Energy Location (REL) Service being provided by CSS highlighting which form of address data will be used in CSS and interacting systems. The DCC advised that 80% of failed switches were due to incorrect address data because the customer Meter Point was not the same address that the Network Operators held. There is an intention therefore that the REL will provide the official address that the local authorities hold for the customer. DCC advised that where a GB Standardised Address exists for a Meter Point Location, the GB Standardised Address becomes the REL. Where there is no GB Standardised Address for a Meter Point Location, the Meter Point Location becomes the REL until a GB Standardised Address match can be found.

Having more than one meter connected to the Communications Hub may indicate that the site is a multi-fuel premise and CSS can leverage this data to attempt to join two addresses where address matching algorithms have failed. The TABASC noted the improvements planned to address the data issues; however, TABASC requested that the matching algorithm is made available to inform Suppliers' use of it. The DCC advised the TABASC that they would confirm what happens when the Gas supply is at a different location to the meter point address, and report back at a future TABASC meeting.

The TABASC **NOTED** the presentation and provided feedback related to the Technical and Business Architecture aspects.

General DCC Update

The DCC noted that they are developing an options paper on enduring Change of Supplier solutions for consultation in 2019 looking for implementation in 2021. The DCC also noted the plan for re-procurement of the DSP and TSP contracts, highlighting there are options to extend the contract for a year at a time for up to 3 years. The TABASC were interested in what assistance the DCC foresee needing as part of the re-procurement project and noted the need to understand the potential impacts on the Technical and/or Business Architectures.

DCC Traffic Management Update

The DCC provided the TABASC with a presentation on traffic management providing answers to the questions which TABASC raised during the TABASC_34_2009 Traffic Management Update presentation. The DCC advised that they have a finite physical capacity and provided the TABASC with a graph of an On-Demand Traffic profile over a 7-day period. The proposal is to mitigate a risk of peaks in traffic exceeding capacity causing unpredictable behaviour. The DCC noted that the network infrastructure already has a mechanism in place whereby the F5 Load balancer will respond with an HTTP 503 (system busy) error if it is unable to forward a transaction to the Message Gateways. This will result in all excess traffic being rejected, regardless of the request source or Service Request Variant.

The TABASC discussed User Role weightings in the allocation formula. The DCC confirmed that the allocation formula uses the charging statement weighting and included a redistribution of each of the current weighted User Roles including Gas Transporters and Registered Supplier Agents (RSAs). The formula should also include the pre-payment multiplier to reflect higher pre-payment volumes, therefore a configurable pre-payment weighting has been added. The DCC highlighted that it intends to incorporate all TABASC feedback and to raise the associated SEC Modification Proposal in December 2018.

The TABASC **NOTED** the presentation.

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3. Sub-Committee Update

Security Sub-Committee (SSC)

The TABASC Chair highlighted to the TABASC that the SSC had asked the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) whether to upgrade the file signing cryptography. The NCSC advised that there was no urgency to do this now; however, the longer file signing cryptography should be considered in future, when services are re-procured.

Smart Meter Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA)

The TABASC Chair noted the challenges that SMKI PMA are facing regarding Device Manufacturers obtaining Certificates for their Devices. It was noted that the SMKI PMA were considering the security risks associated with making Device Certificates available to non-Parties using the SMKI Portal via the Internet.

The TABASC were also informed of the activities of the Operations Group, particularly regarding the discussion around the Communications Hubs road map provided by the DCC where the DCC is expected to collaborate with Users to provide clarity on upgrade paths for Communications Hubs Firmware and DUIS versions. It was also noted that a Business Process Issues log was being created by the Operations Group, which may lead to architectural issues being identified and transferred to the TABASC. Lastly, it was noted that the DCC Maintenance Schedule activities may lead to TABASC consideration of DCC architecture, to minimise the impact of maintenance outages.

The TABASC **NOTED** the Sub-Committee Update.

4. Oversight and Input on Industry Development

SECAS presented an overview of industry developments relating to the challenges around Export Business Process and Supplier receipt of alerts and log entries.

The DCC has published a number of business processes detailing export meter business scenarios that may impact export suppliers. The TABASC noted that there was no particular issue identified with export supplier processes.

It was noted that export suppliers would be aware of import supplier activities through legacy data flows. SECAS recommended that the DCC work should complete as intended before assessing whether any additional work will be required. Following these activities, the TABASC will determine whether any changes are required to the Business Architecture Document (BAD) or Business Architecture Module (BAM).

It was noted that DUIS and GBCS appear to clearly define behaviour for alerts and logs entries generated and that DCC is best placed to confirm that the end-to-end systems operate as expected.

SECAS noted that issues relating to Feed-In Tariff (FIT) Licensees who are not Users would not be a SEC or TABASC responsibility.

The TABASC **AGREED** that:

- TABASC/SECAS await the outcome of DCC investigations into Import & Export Supplier process interactions before taking any further action; and
- no further action should be taken regarding receipt of Alerts or creation of log entries or non-User FIT Licensees.

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5. BEIS Update

BEIS noted that they had shared slides on the Electric Vehicle (EV) Invitation To Tender (ITT) with the TABASC prior to the meeting but advised they could not answer any questions other than through the formal route at this time due to procurement constraints.

The TABASC **NOTED** the BEIS update.

6. DCC Production Proving

The DCC highlighted that they are finalising the design of Production Proving including the use of Registration Data Provider (RDP) service providers to provide the RDP data required. The DCC noted that there are two options to provide service on behalf of the DCC. The DCC noted that they are discussing necessary security requirements and will be taking this to the SSC to agree compliance. The TABASC noted its interest in understanding the revised technical solution and the revised business case associated with the enduring strategic solution.

The TABASC **NOTED** the DCC Production Proving update.

7. TABASC35/09 – TSIRS Arrangement Update

SECAS provided the TABASC with a flow chart setting out the Technical Specification Issue Resolution Sub-group (TSIRS) and Change Sub-Committee interactions. The TSIRS group will be responsible for resolutions to issues, whether they be explanations only or other changes ultimately requiring SEC modifications. TSIRS group will co-ordinate with the Change Sub-Committee who will then decide whether the issue should undergo further refinement or if it is sufficiently concluded to allow it to go to SEC Panel for approval to go straight to SEC Modification consultation stage.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update and provided feedback on the process.

8. TABASC to consider the letter from CSS Programme Director

The TABASC were provided with the response letter from the CSS Programme Director.

Based on feedback received from the TABASC, SECAS will provide a response on the lessons learnt from Supplier Rollout.

The TABASC were requested to consider the below three options regarding retention of SSH File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) RDP interfaces:

- Retain the SFTP interfaces
- Replace the SFTP interfaces as part of CSS programme concurrent with inbound interfaces; or
- Replace the SFTP interfaces as part of a later modification.

Ofgem is obtaining information to consider removing the outbound RDP interfaces (i.e. DSP to RDP), and request that the TABASC determine which option to progress once the information is provided. The TABASC Chair noted that CSS have since raised questions with the DCC regarding the cost of either option for RDP interfaces, and the DCC confirmed they are looking at this and will have the answer by December 2018. CSS will then advise the TABASC if there is a business case for the removal of the outbound interfaces. Should the business case be positive, it will be necessary for the DCC to raise a SEC modification to provide CSS with the necessary vires to implement the changes.

The TABASC **AGREED** responses to the questions raised in the response letter.

ACTION TABASC36/01: The Chair to provide a TABASC response to the Ofgem CSS Programme Director letter response.

9. Effectiveness Review Responses Summary & Panel Data Quality RFI

SECAS provided a paper summarising the responses received from the second iteration of the Effectiveness Review questionnaire that was issued in September 2018. It was noted that responses were received from a Large Supplier and Distributor. Despite the low response level, SECAS noted that there was a level of consistency between the main issues affecting effectiveness the issues raised in the recent Panel issued Data Quality Request for Information (RFI). The TABASC were advised that the results of the Panel Data Quality RFI were presented to the SEC Panel who decided that further action is required. It was noted that some of the issues are already being assessed. If the cause and solution rests with the DCC, then DCC shall continue to progress resolution. If the issue is wider than DCC then SECAS are to take ownership under an Operations Group steering group, who are then to send issues to other Sub-Committees where relevant.

The TABASC **NOTED** there is further analysis being undertaken to assess each issue and **AGREED** to consider those issues in relation to the Technical and/or Business Architecture**.**

10. SMETS version and TS Applicability Tables update

SECAS advised the TABASC that they had contacted industry regarding the approach for setting installation and maintenance end dates for SMETS2 v3.0 and start dates for SMETS2 v3.1. It was noted that the feedback received is that industry is intending to release Devices complying with SMETS2 v3.1, and not SMETS2 v3.0.

After considering the responses, the TS Applicability Tables have been updated with installation and maintenance end dates of 7 November 2018 for SMETS2 v3.0, with associated equivalent start dates of 8 November 2018 for SMETS2 v3.1. This was implemented as part of the SEC 6.2 designation on 7 November 2018.

The TABASC **NOTED** the contents of the paper.

11. Summarising Smart Appliance Consultation responses

This agenda item was deferred to the December 2018 TABASC meeting.

12. Revisit SMETS1 Service Release Business Architecture Document & Technical Architecture Document Review Approach

This agenda item was deferred to the December 2018 TABASC meeting.

13. TABASC Risk Register

This agenda item was deferred to the December 2018 TABASC meeting.

14. TABASC Activity Planner

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This agenda item was deferred to the December 2018 TABASC meeting.

15. Newsletter

SECAS highlighted to TABASC that the SECAS newsletter is being issued bi-weekly to drive engagement. The Newsletter will be a standing agenda item for sub-committee meetings going forward for members to put forward to SECAS proposed items for inclusion.

The TABASC **NOTED** the verbal update.

16. Any Other Business (A.O.B)

TABASC Membership Update

Following the call for nominations in September, the new list of TABASC Members were presented to the TABASC.

DCC Communications Hub Firmware Management Consultation

SECAS questioned if the TABASC believe they should respond to the consultation which opened on 5 November 2018 and closes on 17 December 2018. The TABASC Members agreed that they will be responding separately but believe that the TABASC as a group should also respond.

ACTION TABASC36/02: SECAS to draft a response to the DCC Communications Hub Firmware Management consultation for TABASC consideration at the December 2018 meeting.

There was no further business and the TABASC Chair closed the meeting.

17. Transitional Governance Update

The Transitional Governance Update is a compendium of activities occurring in the Smart Metering Implementation Programme (SMIP). The paper provides a high-level overview of any relevant publications, responses and consultations issued by BEIS, the DCC, and Ofgem, in relation to smart metering, whilst highlighting areas which may be of interest to the SEC Panel and/or SEC Parties.

18. Change Status Report – November 2018

The monthly Change Status Report provides information on the progress of SEC Modifications and Releases, covering the November 2018 SEC Panel recommendations and decisions.

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