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Meeting TABASC_34_2009, 20th September 2018

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

Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC)

Final Minutes

Attendees:

Category	TABASC Members
TABASC Chair	Julian Hughes
Large Suppliers	Stephen Lovell (teleconference)
	Emslie Law (part)
	Stacey Brentnall
	Ashley Pocock
	Rochelle Harrison (teleconference)
Small Suppliers	Andy Knowles (teleconference)
Electricity Networks	Alan Creighton
Other SEC Parties	Tim Boyle
	Elias Hanna
Representing	Other Participants
Smart DCC	Sylvia Ovie
	Graeme Liggett (part)
	Steve Bull (part)
	Gary Bailey (part)
	Ana Raido (part)
BEIS	John Eager
Ofgem	Jenny Boothe (Part)
	Arik Dondi (Part)
SECAS	Phillip Twiddy
	Kayla Reinhart
	Rebecca Jones
	Abigail Hermon (part)
	David Kemp (part)
	Tim Newton (part)

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	Harry Jones (part)
Apologies	
Large Supplier	Graeme Weir
Small Supplier	James Kirk
Gas Networks	Leigh Page

1. DCC & Ofgem presentation on development of the CSS and the DSP Registration Data Interface

DCC & Ofgem provided presentations on the development of the CSS and the DSP Registration Data Interface to improve customer experience of switching, promoting fast reliable and cost-effective switching, with a go live date of 2020/2021. There are 5 switching programme phases of which Ofgem are at the beginning of phase 3, expecting to complete procurement early 2019, having finished phase 1 in 2016 and phase 2 shortly after. Ofgem advised that they are procuring the central registration service and centralised address management function, to which the TABASC discussed the introduction of a further source of address data and the implications this may have on Smart Metering. The TABASC was asked to consider if it was economical to maintain existing outbound RDP links from DSP to convey data to RDPs, or should the information be conveyed within the new flows via the CSS. Ofgem also put forward to the TABASC a step by step guide as to what will happen when a customer switches. The DCC provided the TABASC with an early view on the anticipated impacts on the Smart Metering ecosystem. Information indicating the installation of a Smart Meter will be shared with the CSS and is also expected to be transmitted through the old RDP data links to provide installation updates to the RDPs.

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

ACTION TABASC34/01: TABASC to consider how to approach the question of how Smart Metering should use the new address source from CSS.

ACTION TABASC34/02: TABASC Chair to write to CSS Programme Director at Ofgem regarding CSS project not considering the removal of legacy connections to RDPs.

2. Minutes and Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Update
TABASC23/01 The TABASC Chair noted that further work is required between the Operations Group and the TABASC to ensure duties are not duplicated across the Sub-Committees.	Update provided under agenda item 9. Action CLOSED .

<p>TABASC28/03</p> <p>The TABASC Chair to continue discussions with the Panel to determine the responsibility of the Release Implementation Document (RID).</p>	<p>This was discussed at the September Panel meeting and a MOD has been raised.</p> <p>Action CLOSED.</p>
<p>TABASC30/08</p> <p>The TABASC agreed to invite the relevant representatives to provide an update on the Joint Ofgem-and BEIS Smart Flexibility call for evidence in order to inform whether there are any impacts on the Technical and/or Business Architecture.</p>	<p>SECAS advised TABASC that BEIS is unable to provide a significant update until the Autumn. SECAS will remain in contact with BEIS to attend the October 2018 TABASC Meeting.</p> <p>Action ONGOING.</p>
<p>TABASC31/02</p> <p>DCC update to be provided on T3 Aerials at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Update Provided under agenda item 5.</p> <p>Action CLOSED.</p>
<p>TABASC32/02</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The DCC will be attending the October 2018 TABASC Meeting to provide an update.</p> <p>Action ONGOING.</p>
<p>TABASC32/04</p> <p>SECAS to facilitate a specific work piece engaging the SEC Panel to consider Panel Issue 2.</p>	<p>SECAS advised the TABASC that Panel discussed this at their September Meeting, and have asked the DCC to provide full details on what is driving the cost, specifically around Release 4. Once Panel have received this information they will have a meeting regarding this.</p> <p>Action ONGOING.</p>
<p>TABASC32/07</p> <p>SECAS to prepare a draft set of Terms of Reference for the meetings of the TBEC for TABASC discussions at the September meeting.</p>	<p>Update provided under agenda item 12.</p> <p>Action ONGOING.</p>
<p>TABASC33/01</p> <p>The TABASC Chair to write to the Panel to bring to its attention and highlight the Electric Vehicles Modification as an example under its Issue 2¹, noting the potential benefit to Smart Metering Systems which may be circumvented, as making changes to the DCC System is too complicated.</p>	<p>The Panel discussed the concerns around DCC costs. In addition to the work being undertaken by SECAS in supporting the DCC in getting greater transparency in costs, the Panel have agreed to hold a separate meeting to further explore the reasons for the high costs and what mitigating actions can be taken.</p> <p>Action CLOSED.</p>

¹ SEC Panel Issue 2: DCC System is circumvented, as making changes to it is too complicated

TABASC33/02 DCC and Ofgem to provide a joint presentation at the September 2018 meeting on the development of the CSS and the DSP Registration Data Interface to inform whether there are any impacts on the Technical and/or Business Architecture.	Update provided under agenda item 1. Action CLOSED .
TABASC33/03 The TABASC to develop a new risk to add to the TABASC Risk Register in relation to managing the approach to the sunset of 2G/3G mobile coverage, for TABASC consideration at its September 2018 meeting.	The proposed new Risk (TABASC11) will be restructured, with a 'parent' risk to cover technology obsolescence and a 'child' risk to address the WAN 2G/3G issue. The restructured risk will be brought to the October 2018 TABASC Meeting for consideration. Action ONGOING .
TABASC33/04 SECAS to liaise with DCC to ascertain the possibility of implementing SMETS 2 version 3.1 in November.	SECAS advised the TABASC that Panel have agreed to the delay, however an update is required from the DCC as to when they can actually deliver it into Live. Action ONGOING .

3. DCC Update

The DCC noted that Ofgem is requesting an impact assessment for Faster Switching changes and asked whether TABASC ought to maintain oversight of, or involvement in, faster switching, owing to the likelihood of impact on smart technical or business architecture. The TABASC agreed to request clarification from Panel as to whether this is a TABASC responsibility or if a separate body is required.

The TABASC **NOTED** the DCC Update

ACTION 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.

4. Product Proving update

Procurement activities in relation to Production proving are not commencing until October 2018. Therefore, the DCC was unable to provide an update on this occasion. The DCC agreed to come back to the October 2018 TABASC meeting and provide an update.

5. DCC T3 Aerials Solution Update

The DCC advised the TABASC that they do not have a solution for this as of yet but next month they will be issuing an RFI for a potential solution for WAN coverage gaps. The DCC is investigating whether use of the Universal Service Obligation for copper-based broadband coverage by 2020, requiring all households to be able to get broadband, could provide an economic alternative WAN solution and thereby supersede requirements for T3 aerials.

DCC expects that this solution could comply with all existing requirements as stated in the SEC, including security, and CSP contracts, although it could have new network providers. The TABASC were also informed by the DCC that T3 is still an option whilst trying to find an alternative solution, but a decision will be made on which solution will be used by the end of 2018. Following the outcomes of

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the related RFI which is expected to come back in 6 weeks, DCC are asked to return to TABASC to report the findings in January 2019.

The TABASC **NOTED** the verbal update.

ACTION TABASC34/04: DCC to present findings from the T3 Aerials RFI to the TABASC at the January 2019 Meeting.

6. Traffic Management Update

The DCC provided a presentation on the Traffic Management where the TABASC were asked to debate and discuss the information provided and consider any aspects which the DCC had not already considered.

Regarding northbound traffic management, the DCC advised the TABASC that they will be counting the number of Alerts being received from a specific device over a 30-minute window and, if the number is high, count Alerts by Alert type. If excessive numbers of the same Alert type are received, DSP will send 1 in 10 Alerts through to the recipient and also include an indication of how many Alerts of the same type have been received. The TABASC considered that it would be beneficial to rationalise the number of Alerts being sent by a Device so as to reduce network load. DCC agreed to consider whether it is feasible to constrain the number of Alerts on the Device. The TABASC generally agreed with the reason and approach for northbound traffic management.

Regarding southbound traffic management, capacity should be greater than forecast demand in almost all circumstances, but if peaks in demand exceed this then the service needs to be able to protect itself and Users while still continuing to operate in a predictable manner. The TABASC discussed the proposed throttling mechanism, the algorithm to calculate an 'Allocated Capacity' for each Service User and the means of calculating maximum capacity of the system. The TABASC also provided its views on:

- Distribution of loads across the system and requested DCC to consider dynamic load calculations for the calculation of System Capacity;
- Clamping usage down to only the level required not to overload the system rather than to a fixed pre-allocated value;
- Governance surrounding capacity / allocation arrangements, such as avoiding traffic management becoming a de facto alternative to providing sufficient bandwidth, fine-tuning capacity and allocation rules;
- Gearing capacity allocations to cater for different usage profiles such as the difference between using pre-pay and credit meters; and
- Definition of 'User' for allocation purposes to cater for many-to-one relationships between SEC Parties and EUI64 user ID's.

The TABASC **NOTED** the presentation.

ACTION TABASC34/05: The DCC to come back to the TABASC in the October 2018 Meeting to feedback after considering the raised points.

7. Sub-Committee update

The TABASC Chair informed the TABASC of the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) upcoming activities, including a device assurance workshop for SMETS1 on 25th September 2018, which TABASC

members have been invited to attend. There were no updates from any other Sub-Committees this month.

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

8. BEIS update

BEIS noted the following future consultation activity due to be published:

- SMETS 1 related consultations including response to SEMTS1 end date.
- Response to cohort consultation.
- Consultation on switching on Release 2 legal documents.

The TABASC **NOTED** the BEIS update.

9. TABASC Roles and Responsibilities: Sub-Committees Relationships

SECAS provided the TABASC with a presentation on the responsibilities and boundaries of each Sub-Committee, including which committee has primary involvement in appendices from the SEC. SECAS also informed the TABASC that the Sub-Committee chairs have regular meetings to ensure duties are not duplicated. The TABASC found the information provided useful and agreed that they do not need to look into this further.

The TABASC **NOTED** the presentation.

10. TABASC Members Election Update

SECAS presented the TABASC with an update on the members who are up for nomination and the tasks and timescales to be undertaken for the election process during this year's scheduled elections, including the date of which new members will take office. The TABASC agreed with the information provided and had no further comments.

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

11. TABASC Risk Register

SECAS discussed the updates made to the TABASC Risks and Risk Management Plans, specifically in relation to managing the approach to the sunset of 2G/3G mobile coverage and the change to wording regarding DCC systems being circumvented.

The TABASC **AGREED** that the proposed new Risk (TABASC11) should be restructured, with a 'parent' risk to cover technology obsolescence and a 'child' risk to address the WAN 2G/3G issue. DCC will be the owner of the WAN risk which will be brought to the October 2018 TABASC Meeting for consideration.

The TABASC **AGREED** to change Risk TABASC10 to be clear that the challenge is time and cost and not complexity.

12. Update on the formation of a replacement group to the TSIRS

SECAS provided the TABASC with a paper detailing the purpose, previous discussions and further development around a replacement group to the TSIRS. The TABASC Chair asked the TABASC if they had any questions regarding the suggested construct, to which the TABASC advised that they do not. The TABASC Chair asked the TABASC to email SECAS by close of play on Monday 24th September with suggestions on a name for the new group.

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

ACTION TABASC34/06: TABASC Members to email SECAS with ideas for the name of the group which will replace the TSIRS.

13. TABASC Activity Planner

This agenda item was deferred until the October 2018 TABASC Meeting.

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

No items of A.O.B were raised and the TABASC Chair closed the meeting.

15. 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 the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the Data Communications Company (DCC), and Ofgem, in relation to smart metering, whilst highlighting areas which may be of interest to the SEC Panel and/or SEC Parties.

16. Change Status Report – September 2018

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