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November 2020 SEC Release (5 November 2020)

SEC Release Implementation Document Version 3.0

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About this document

This document is a Smart Energy Code (SEC) Release Implementation Document (RID). It summarises the scope of the SEC Release, the impacts it will have, the timeline and testing strategy, the central costs that will be incurred, and the acceptance criteria for this release.

This document will be updated periodically as the release develops.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** will contain the Data Communication Company's (DCC's) SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) for this release – this document will be produced by the DCC at a later date.

1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals have been approved for inclusion in this release:

- [SECMP0062 'Northbound Application Traffic Management – Alert Storm Protection'](#) will put in place a traffic management system for Alerts issued by Devices to protect the DCC System and Service Users against alert storms originating from a single Device. SECMP0062 is being implemented in two parts, with the first part of the solution, the mechanism for throttling Alerts, being implemented in the June 2020 SEC Release. The second stage of the solution will be implemented in this release and will cover the changes to allow Users to be notified of throttled Alerts via the metadata in the Alerts that are allowed through.
- [MP081 'Alignment of DUIS and CHISM to reflect current DCC Processing'](#) will align the SEC to accurately reflect the DCC processing.

Targeted Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals will be included in this release if a decision to approve is received by the respective cut-off dates:

- [SECMP0067 'Service Request Traffic Management'](#) proposes to define a maximum system capacity, operating threshold and appropriate Service User allocations. When the DCC System reaches this operating threshold, traffic management of the Service Requests will become active. Service Users who are exceeding their allocation will then have their requests throttled down to either their stated allocation or the operating threshold (whichever is greater).
- [MP093 'Implementing IRP511 and CRP535 to support GBCS v3.2 devices'](#) proposes to fully deliver the functionality of two resolution proposals, IRP511 'Set Clock Alerts Refs in Alert Tables Incorrect' and CRP535 'Restoring Removed Devices from the HAN'. These had been intentionally left out of the November 2019 SEC Release in order to reduce any potential impact on testing for the Initial Operating Capacity (IOC).

No further modifications that impact on DCC Systems are expected to be added. Any further modifications that do not impact on DCC Systems will be added to the scope of this release by the SEC Panel in May 2020.

DCC Change Requests

A list of any DCC Change Requests being implemented alongside this SEC Release will be provided here in due course.

2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes included in this release will have on participants and their systems, SEC documents and other industry codes. This section assumes all targeted modifications will be approved for inclusion in this release.

SEC Party and DCC impacts

Participant impact matrix					
Modification	Suppliers	Electricity Networks	Gas Networks	Other SEC Parties	DCC
SECMP0062	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SECMP0067	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP081					
MP093					✓

The impacts on the different participants are summarised below. The business requirements for each Modification Proposal are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

SEC Party impacts	
Participant	Summary of impacts
Supplier Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppliers will be notified of when Alerts have been throttled via the metadata in Alerts that have been allowed through. Suppliers may find their Service Requests subject to throttling if their usage exceeds their allocated capacity during times of high traffic.
Electricity Network Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Network Parties will be notified of when Alerts have been throttled via the metadata in Alerts that have been allowed through. Electricity Network Parties may find their Service Requests subject to throttling if their usage exceeds their allocated capacity during times of high traffic.
Gas Network Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas Network Parties will be notified of when Alerts have been throttled via the metadata in Alerts that have been allowed through. Gas Network Parties may find their Service Requests subject to throttling if their usage exceeds their allocated capacity during times of high traffic.
Other SEC Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Device manufacturers will need to ensure that devices are built to the revised specifications resulting from these modifications. Other SEC Parties will be notified of when Alerts have been throttled via the metadata in Alerts that have been allowed through. Other SEC Parties may find their Service Requests subject to throttling if their usage exceeds their allocated capacity during times of high traffic.

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DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
DCC User Interface Specification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) version will be released to implement the changes to the metadata for Alerts when throttling is taking place.

SEC document impacts

The following documents will be updated in this release:

- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Appendix I 'CH Installation and Maintenance Support Materials'
- Appendix AB 'Service Request Processing Document'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AE 'DCC User Interface of Connection'
- Appendix AF 'Message Mapping Catalogue'

Each of these documents is impacted by the following modification(s):

SEC document impact matrix				
Document	SECMP0062	SECMP0067	MP081	MP093
Section H		✓		
Appendix I			✓	
Appendix AB		✓		
Appendix AD	✓		✓	✓
Appendix AE				✓
Appendix AF				✓

The document impacts for SECMP0067 are provisional based on the current understanding of the solution. The impacts will be updated following the DCC Impact Assessment.

The approved changes to each document will annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

Technical documentation validity

The versions of the technical documentation being introduced or updated by this release will be documented here once confirmed. This will include any applicable Validity Period start and end dates.

Other Code impacts

No other Codes are impacted as a result of this release.

3. Implementation timeline

This section lists the planned timeline for the implementation of this release.

This timeline includes the dates on which decisions on modifications are anticipated, dates for when the System Integration Testing (SIT) and User Integration Testing (UIT) test phases are planned to commence and complete, and key governance steps for the Panel and the Sub-Committees to complete.

Please note that the DCC is currently working with the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) to determine the most effective testing approach for this SEC Release. Dates for the production of the TAD, testing windows and the submission and approval of the SIT and UIT Completion Reports will be provided following these discussions.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
15 Nov 19	Panel baselines RID for system-impacting modifications	The Panel will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.
15 May 20	Panel baselines RID for non-system-impacting modifications	The Panel will review the RID for non-DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and re-baseline the document to include these.
	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	
	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will provide a view to the Panel on whether this document is suitable for use.
	Panel reviews SEC Release TAD	The Panel will review the TAD and incorporate it into the RID.
	SIT commences	
	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins
	UIT commences	
	Panel approves SIT Completion Report	An ad-hoc meeting may be needed to obtain this approval earlier.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
	Test Participants provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion Once the scope of the release has been baselined, the DCC will propose a plan to support a six-week UIT window, whilst considering the constraints around the SEC governance timetable. Further updates will be supplied in Jan 20.
	UIT window closes	
	DCC submits UIT Completion Report and evidence against the testing acceptance criteria	
	DCC submits evidence against the operational acceptance criteria	
	TAG reviews UIT Completion Report and status against the testing acceptance criteria	The TAG will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether UIT has been completed successfully and on whether the release should be implemented as planned.
	Operations Group reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The Operations Group will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether the release should be implemented as planned.
	Panel approves UIT Completion Report	
	Panel go/no-go decision	The Panel will review the status of the release against the acceptance criteria and will determine if the release should be implemented as planned.
05 Nov 20	Release go-live	The changes are implemented.

4. Test strategy

This section covers the testing approach that will be taken by the DCC as part of the implementation of this release.

DCC's testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to SIT.

User testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to UIT.

5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) in implementing this release.

DCC costs

The total DCC implementation costs of this release have not yet been determined.

The DCC has provided the following cost breakdown for each DCC System impacting modification in this release:

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs				
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	SIT	UIT	Implement to live
SECMP0062	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SECMP0067	<i>£1,646,355</i>	TBC	TBC	TBC
MP093	<i>£245,000</i>	TBC	TBC	TBC

No impact on operational costs have been identified.

Costs in italics are estimated costs provided in the Preliminary Assessments. Firm costs will be provided in the Impact Assessments.

The full set of changes for SECMP0062 will be developed as part of the development of part 1. The DUIS changes will then be left dormant until this release goes live. As such, the full costs for this modification have been allocated to the release which includes part 1.

The DCC will provide standalone costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live for each modification for inclusion in their Modification Reports as part of the Impact Assessment. Once the scope of the release is confirmed and the Preliminary Assessments for all candidate modifications are complete, the DCC will produce a combined Preliminary Assessment. This will provide a combined estimated cost for each of these stages when the modifications are delivered as a single package. Where possible, these combined costs will also be provided in the respective Modification Reports.

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur two days effort, equating to around £1,200, to update and implement the changes to the SEC. SECAS estimates a maximum of 20 days of effort, equating to around £12,000, will be needed for project management of the release. This cost has already been accounted for in the SECAS budget, and so Parties will not incur any additional costs.

6. Acceptance criteria

The following criteria will need to be met before the release can go live.

Prior to go-live, the Operations Group and the TAG will review the status of the release against these criteria. They will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether to implement the release as planned. The Panel will review these recommendations and will determine then if the release should or shouldn't be implemented as planned.

Operational acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has brought to readiness all the new and changed components needed to provide the new services. This will include completing the service design and proving the service operations capability.
2. The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release.
3. The DCC has proven that the new services can be operated alongside, and integrated with, the existing services.
4. The DCC has assessed the risk posed by existing problems and defects in the existing live service, and the implications these will have for the revised service.
5. The DCC has assessed and addressed the impact on Users arising from any issues, defects or workarounds within the new services.
6. The DCC has demonstrated that lessons learnt from previous SEC Releases and other DCC changes have been taken on board.
7. The DCC has demonstrated there will be no detrimental impact on consumers' experience.
8. The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes.
9. SECAS will be ready to implement the approved changes to the SEC on the agreed implementation date.
10. SECAS has brought to readiness all the new and changed components that it is responsible for that are needed to support the new services.

Testing acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has developed the coding for each approved change and confirmed it will be able to deploy this to the production environment on the agreed implementation date.
2. The DCC has completed and closed each test phase against the agreed exit criteria specified in the TAD.
3. The DCC has successfully completed regression testing.
4. The DCC has allowed adequate opportunity for Users to test the changes prior to deployment.

5. The DCC has confirmed that there are no Severity 1 or 2 defects outstanding that would be deployed to the live environment.
6. The DCC has produced a clear resolution plan for any outstanding Severity 3, 4 or 5 defects and that the number of remaining testing issues is within the agreed threshold figures specified in the TAD.
7. The DCC has demonstrated that the SIT and UIT test environments were aligned to the solution being deployed to the production environment; if there were any differences, these were identified and the risks these posed demonstrably managed.

Appendix 1: Version control

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
0.1	12 Sep 19	First draft issued to the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), the Operations Group and SEC Parties for comment.
0.2	08 Nov 19	Updated draft following comments from the TABASC and the Operations Group presented to Panel to be baselined.
1.0	15 Nov 19	Version baselined by the Panel to cover the proposed scope of the release on the DCC Systems.
2.0	22 Jan 20	Updated to reflect the change in scope on the DCC Systems and revised acceptance criteria agreed by the Panel on 17 Jan 20.
3.0	25 Feb 20	Updated for the approval of SECMP0062 and for MP081 being moved to this release.

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
DCC	Data Communication Company
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
IOC	Initial Operating Capability
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
UIT	User Integration Testing



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