

SECAS Guidance Notes: SEC Party Signifiers

What does the Signifier Guidance cover?

This document outlines the process of obtaining Party and [Registration Data Provider](#) (RDP) Signifiers, which are Smart Energy Code (SEC) unique identifiers that are not Extended Unique Identifier (EUI)-64 Compliant. They are used to uniquely identify a SEC Party or RDP. SEC Party and RDP Signifiers can also be linked to specific Public Keys in [DCC Key Infrastructure](#) (DCCKI) Certificates.

You can find your Signifier, Organisation Number and ID Allocation range in the [ID Allocation spreadsheet](#) (which can be accessed once you have [logged in](#)). For more information, please see the [ID Allocation webpage](#).

‘Interim’ Signifiers

‘Interim’ Signifiers were issued by SECAS to a number of SEC Parties and RDPs from January 2015 to June 2015. ‘Interim’ Signifiers were established to facilitate the services provided for the start of DCC Operational Services. ‘Interim’ Signifiers were in the form of ‘AAA123’. If a SEC Party (or RDP) was allocated an ‘Interim’ Signifier, that ‘Interim’ Signifier is treated as its only Signifier.

SEC Party Signifiers

Once you [become a SEC Party](#), SECAS will issue you with a SEC Party Signifier, an Organisation Number and an EUI-64 Compliant ID range. These can all be located in the ID Allocation Spreadsheet.

Registration Data Provider (RDP) Signifiers

An RDP can request an RDP Signifier from the SEC Panel. EUI-64 Compliant Identifiers (for the purpose of RDP IDs) and RDP Signifiers will be allocated when a Network Party informs SECAS of an RDP. These can all be located in the ID Allocation Spreadsheet.

Signifiers in DCCKI Certificates

Within the DCCKI Certificate Profile for Infrastructure Certificates, the field ‘Subject’ exists. This field can be linked to Signifiers. DCCKI Infrastructure Certificates are used to establish Transport Layer Security (TLS) sessions to the [DCC User Interface Specification](#) (DUIS) and [Registration Data Interface Specification](#) (REGIS).

Appendix A – Signifier Calculation

The table on the next page details the calculation based on whether the organisation is a Party or RDP and its 3-digit Organisation Number in hexadecimal format. The calculation is provided so that the DCC, SEC Parties and RDPs can, by calculation only, test whether a Signifier is valid and find the set of EUI-64 numbers it relates to.

The Organisation Number calculation is illustrated by means of Microsoft Excel functions. All letters in Signifiers are upper case. A **nibble** in the table means one of the three hexadecimal digits in the Organisation Number.

Character	Calculation	Excel calculation ('OrganisationNumber' is a cell containing the Organisation Number expressed as a 3-digit hexadecimal number)
Letter 1	R if this an RDP; P if it is a SEC Party	
Letter 2	The letter of the alphabet identified by the least significant digit of the Organisation Number. So, a nibble value of 0 gives the letter A, 1 gives B through to F giving P.	=CHAR(CODE("A") + HEX2DEC(MID(DEC2HEX(OrganisationNumber,3),3,1)))
Letter 3	The letter of the alphabet identified by the middle digit of the Organisation Number. So, a nibble value of 0 gives the letter A, 1 gives B through to F giving P.	=CHAR(CODE("A") + HEX2DEC(MID(DEC2HEX(OrganisationNumber,3),2,1)))
Numbers 1 and 2	The decimal equivalent of the most significant digit of the Organisation Number. So, 0 gives 00, 1 gives 01 through to F giving 15	=TEXT(HEX2DEC(MID(DEC2HEX(\$D3,3),1,1)),"00")
Number 3	A check digit calculated over the decimal value of the Organisation Number. It uses the MPAN check digit algorithm calculated over the three digits.	If A1 contains the formula =TEXT(OrganisationNumber,"0000") then the check digit is given by: =TEXT((MOD(MOD(SUM((MID(A1,1,1)*3), (MID(A1,2,1)*5), (MID(A1,3,1)*7), (MID(A1,4,1)*13),11),10)),"0")

If you have any questions, please either call 020 7090 7755 or email the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).