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MP083 ‘Change Coordination’

March 2020 Working Group Meeting summary

Overview

SECAS provided an overview of the issue identified by MP083 and the proposed solution.

Issue:

- User changes potentially impact DCC Systems
- Negative impacts already occurring
- DCC have no view of planned User changes

Proposed Solution:

- DCC Users report to the DCC on planned changes
- DCC provide a heat map to highlight high risk days, requesting Users to avoid
- DCC provide additional support on high risk days

The DCC presented slides highlighting the benefits of Change Coordination, amendments made to the Proposal following comments received previously, and outlining the issues.

Proposed obligations discussions

The Working Group voiced their strong objections to having an obligation placed on DCC Users to provide information to the DCC regarding changes to the Users Systems. Following similar discussions at a previous Working Group, Requirement 2 was added to avoid breach of an obligation in the case an urgent User System change was required. However, a Working Group member highlighted that although they would not have to submit the required information in such a scenario, they would still be required to notify the DCC that a change would be occurring. They further iterated that, in their experience of such scenarios under current arrangements, communicating with the DCC to notify it of changes, can be a struggle. DCC Working Group attendees did agree that further clarification on how to notify the DCC on User System changes would be useful.

The Working Group queried if some of the information defined in Requirement 1 is necessary for the DCC to be aware of. This is namely information pertaining to Firmware updates. It was viewed that this information was already provided to the DCC via other methods, and should not need to be provided again through Change Coordination.

It was agreed that SECAS would discuss with the proposer the future of the modification and if they would still like to progress. As there is strong objection to an obligation on DCC Users, it was commented again that this may be better suited as guidance. In such a case, the Working Group agreed that the Operations Sub-Group should be involved in the development of a guidance document.

Proposer was concerned that if Change Coordination was a recommendation, then there would be a lack of DCC Users providing the information. It was argued that even if it was an obligation, the DCC would struggle to get some Users providing the required information anyway. The Working Group stated that although they are opposed to an obligation, they understand and agree with the merits of Change Coordination and were happy to provide information, it did not need to be mandated. The Working Group requested more information about the pilot that had taken place and to review the spreadsheets that the DCC had requested should be completed.

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS will discuss with the Proposer their thoughts on the progression of MP083
- The Proposer will develop the '**User System Change Reporting Methodology**'
- Proposer to provide information on who was included in the pilot
- Following the above steps, SECAS and Proposer to engage with the Operations Sub-Group