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Action:	For Information

MP143 DCC Impact Assessment

1. Purpose

This paper presents the DCC's Impact Assessment for Modification Proposal [MP143 'Incorporating IRPs into GBCS v3 series'](#). **The purpose of this paper** is to present the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) with the Data Communications Company's (DCC's) Impact Assessment (Appendix B contains the DCC's full Impact Assessment), and to **seek the TABASC's views** on the DCC's response.

2. Summary of MP143

This section summarises the key points of this Modification Proposal. More information is available in the draft Modification Report in Appendix C.

2.1 What is the issue?

[MP098 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC - Batch 3'](#) was implemented in the November 2020 SEC Release. It incorporated 20 non-DCC System impacting Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs) into the GB Companion Specification (GBCS) v4.0 and Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications 2 (SMETS2) of that release.

Following feedback from the Technical Specifications Issue Resolution Sub-group (TSIRS) and Device Manufacturers this modification, originally raised with all 20 IRPs has now been amended to implement only five IRPs. Two of which are required by Device Manufacturers to remain compliant with the Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) scheme, and three that have subsequently been added into the GBCS v4.x series under other modifications.

2.2 What is the Proposed Solution?

As part of the IRPs, TSIRS develop the legal text to deliver the solution. They have provided amendments to the GBCS that will deliver the required changes. The proposed legal text can be found in Appendix A.

3. DCC Impact Assessment

The DCC has completed an Impact Assessment against the business requirements, and its response can be found in Appendix B.

In its response, the DCC has noted that there is no stated requirement for Communications Hub Firmware and Communications Hubs to be GBCS v3.3 compliant. Any changes required for a new GBCS v3.3 version can be accommodated in the DCC Total System by some relatively minor changes at the Data Service Provider (DSP), but the Communications Service Provider (CSP) impact can be significantly limited by not making changes to Communications Hub firmware.

3.1 CSP impacts

Using the approach detailed above, there is no requirement for CSP North or CSP South and Central to have GBCS v3.3 compliant Communications Hub nor GBCS v4.0 compliant Comms Hubs declared in the Central Products List (CPL). The Communications Hub upgrade path will be GBCS v3.2 to GBCS v4.1 directly. This limits the impacts on the CSP to interoperability testing, which is provisionally planned as shown below.

	GBCS v3.3 Devices	GBCS v4.1 Devices
GBCS v3.2 Comms Hub	No interoperability problem expected. Potential System Integration Testing (SIT) testing as part of SECMP0143.	No interoperability problem expected. Could use SLS emulator for Testing
GBCS v4.1 Comms Hub	No interoperability problem expected. Covered by SIT testing as part of the GBCS v4.1 Comms Hub firmware release using SLS emulator.	As part of GBCS v4.1 Communications Hub firmware delivery, a SLS emulator will be used in post-Pre-integration Testing (PIT), specifically to test CRP613.

3.2 DSP impacts

DSP changes that will be required to support the GBCS v3.3 for the Commercial Product List (CPL) validation and Command creation are as follows:

- The Central Products List processing needs to recognize GBCS v3.3 as a valid GBCS version
- Service Request processing requires mappings of GBCS Use Cases for GBCS v3.3 (which will be the same as GBCS v3.2)
- Regression testing in SIT related to device testing ensures GBCS v3.3 compliant Devices will be supported by DCC with a different version of DUIS

The DSP has noted that SIT will be required, but not User Integration Testing (UIT).

3.3 DCC implementation costs

The DCC has provided the full quote for the delivery of changes within MP193. The table below shows these costs broken down into Design, Build, PIT and SIT.

Breakdown of DCC costs					
Design	Build	PIT	SIT	TTO	Total
£5,416	£18,554	£8,920	£24,624	£0	£57,514

Note that these costs assume a release of just this SEC Modification without any other Modifications or Change Requests in the release, which is not truly reflective of what the post-PIT test costs or programme duration will look like. A calculation of those costs will be carried out when the contents of the future Release are finalised, and the post-PIT costs determined through a "Release CR" also referred to as a "Post-PIT CR".

3.4 DCC implementation timescales

The DCC has advised that to deliver these changes into the November 2022 SEC Release, a decision is required at the April Change Board. These changes are required in the November 2022 SEC Release to maximise the benefits by ensuring Devices currently installed in consumer premises remain compliant for CPA re-certification and therefore will not need to be exchanged.

4. Questions for the TABASC

We seek the TABASC's view on the following questions to feed into the Modification Report before we proceed with the Modification Report Consultation:

- Has the DCC's response materially changed since the Preliminary Assessment?
 - If it has, is this a beneficial or detrimental change?
- Is the DCC's solution cost-effective?
- Does the updated draft legal text fully and accurately deliver the technical solution?

5. Next steps

The TABASC feedback will be incorporated into the Modification Report and form part of the Modification Report Consultation. Following the consultation, the modification will be presented to the Change Board in April for decision.

6. Recommendations

The TABASC is asked to:

- **CONFIRM** that the DCC's response and solution option delivers the business requirements.
- **CONFIRM** that DCC's solution is cost-effective.
- **PROVIDE** views on whether the DCC's solution option has a negative impact on the technical and/or business architecture of either the DCC Systems or Users' systems.

Kev Duddy

SECAS Team

31 March 2022

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** MP143 legal text
- **Appendix B:** MP143 DCC Impact Assessment
- **Appendix C:** MP143 Modification Report