SEC Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE JUNE 2022 SEC NEWSLETTER!

Welcome to the June 2022 SEC Newsletter!

This edition includes the latest on the June SEC release, the results of the Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey, the published Security Controls Framework, as well as the usual updates from SEC Change, SMDA, and SECAS events.

We hope you enjoy this edition, please contact us at the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) if you have any topics you would like to see covered in an upcoming newsletter.

Governance

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS – WE DID GREAT!

Customer satisfaction and experience is at the forefront of what we do and is taken very seriously. Every year we ask our customers how we are doing, and I am pleased to report that overall, the results were very positive.

The survey results also identified some areas of focus which will drive further improvements to the services we deliver in line with our continuous improvement culture. An action plan has been created which focusses on areas such as technical language used in documents, SEC Panel and Sub-Committee meetings, website enhancement and Modification support. The survey results can be found here.

- **100%** rated the overall quality of documents received as Excellent/V Good, **a 14% increase** from last survey
- **92%** rated the timeliness of documents received as Excellent/V Good, **a 16% increase** from last survey
- **83%** rated the clarity of purpose on documents received as Excellent/V Good, **a 12% increase** from last survey

- **88%** rated the timeliness of the SECAS information as Excellent/V Good, **a 15% increase** from last survey
- **80%** rated the availability of SECAS information as Excellent/V Good, **a 7% increase** from last survey
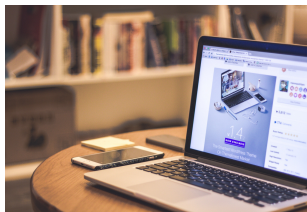
- **71%** rated the clarity of information on the SEC website as Excellent/V Good, **a 7% increase** from last survey

- **95%** rated the meeting facilities as Excellent/V Good, a **9% increase from last survey**

- **50%** rated the quality of legal drafting produced during modification process as Excellent/V Good, **a 30% increase from last survey**
- **50%** rated the encouragement of industry debate during the modification development process as Excellent/V Good, **a 10% increase from last survey**

- **89%** rated how well their queries were answered by the helpdesk staff as Excellent/V Good, **a 16% increase from last survey**

Governance

ARE YOU READY FOR THE JUNE 2022 SEC RELEASE?

The June 2022 SEC Release goes live this Thursday 30 June 2022. It will contain BEIS-led changes to support the Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) arrangements as well as DCC System impacting changes, including **MP104 'Security Improvements'**, **which requires action from DCC users.**

MP104 requires each Service Request or Signed Pre-Command to be digitally signed using a Smart Metering Key Infrastructure (SMKI) Organisation Certificate with a Remote Party Role of 'xmlSign'. If this is not the case, the DCC will cease processing the communication and notify you, i.e., the request will fail DCC validation and be rejected. You need to ensure that you are ready for this change. If you do not expect to be ready to comply with the new requirements introduced by MP104 by 30 June 2022, please contact the DCC urgently at mods@smartdcc.co.uk.

If you want to know more about the changes being made in the June SEC release, click here for the list of approved Modification Proposals being implemented. If you have any questions, please contact the Change Team.

PUBLICATION OF THE SECURITY CONTROLS FRAMEWORKS (SCF) V2.7

The Security Controls Framework (SCF) V2.7 Part 1 and Part 2 has now been published.

The SCF Part 1 has been updated to include:
- The move to a hybrid model for Assessments, i.e., virtual as well as on site locations
- Updating of FAQ questions

The SCF Part 2 has been updated to include:
- Addition of areas to the 'What the User CIO might expect to see – Implementation'
- Alignment with changes to SEC G6.4 (b)
- Clarity regarding Assessment Scheduling in line with the Assurance Window and the exceptions process

CPL REMOVAL DATES FOR L&G AND EDMI DEVICES WITH EXPIRED SECURITY CERTIFICATES – JANUARY 2023

The Security Sub Committee (SSC) met on 22 June 2022 and considered requests with associated business justifications from SEC Parties to defer the removal of the L+G and EDMI Devices from the Central Products List (CPL). The SSC decided to maintain the L+G and EDMI Devices with expired security certificates on the CPL until 27 January 2023. The SSC emphasised that this is a **FINAL date** and any Devices installed before that date should have the firmware upgraded as soon as possible after installation. After 27 January 2023, the only actions that can be carried out on any Device operating the listed firmware versions will be to upgrade to a later firmware version or to update security certificates. Please contact the Security team if you have any queries on this.

Governance

SMART METER DEVICE ASSURANCE (SMDA) SCHEME UPDATE

Full Assurance testing is now available against all the SEC releases up to the November 2021 SEC Release Baseline. The impact assessment for the June 2022 SEC Release has confirmed that no changes are required to SMDA testing. All Baselines and the Test Specification Library are available on the SMDA website here.

Three tolerated issues, two common issues and one device specific issue have been added to SMDA-246 – Tolerated Issues for Partial Assurance, and SMDA-252 – Tolerated Issues for Full Assurance. The updated versions of these document are available on the SMDA website here.

An independent review has been commissioned by the SEC Panel to assess the scope of the SMDA Scheme and its value to the wider industry. The review is expected to complete in September 2022. The outcomes of this review will determine the long-term objectives of the Scheme.

Opportunities are available for Small and Large Suppliers to join the SMDA Sub-Committee and the Management Panel Sub-Group. Both groups meet every two months to discuss SMDA technical requirements, progress solutions and improvements. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact smdaso@gemserv.com.

• •

Events

UPCOMING SECAS EVENTS

SEC Panel Q&A Session - 15 July 2022
SEC Parties are invited to join the Annual SEC Panel Q&A webinar on 15 July 2022. Parties will have the chance to put their questions to the SEC Panel and Sub-Committee Independent Chairs, learn about highlights from the previous year and hear about the year ahead. Please submit any questions you would like to see answered by the Panel on the day by contacting the SECAS Helpdesk before **8 July 2022**.

SEC Parties can register to attend the session here.

Alt HAN Co: What Suppliers need to know – 19 July 2022
This webinar will provide the chance to hear latest key Alternative Home Area Network Company (Alt HAN Co) updates for Suppliers. Please share any topics or questions you would like to see covered in the webinar by contacting the SECAS Helpdesk by **12 July 2022**.

SEC Parties can register to attend the session here.

Introduction to the SEC – 4 October 2022
SEC Parties are invited to attend the 'Introduction to the SEC' webinar on 4 October 2022.
Are you new to your role in smart metering? Has your Party recently acceded to the SEC? This webinar offers you the opportunity to build your knowledge of the SEC and get to grips with the basics from SECAS, SMDA and Alt HAN Co.

SEC Parties can register to attend the session here.

SECAS WEBINAR PRESENTATION SLIDES AND RECORDINGS

Our twice-yearly **Introduction to the SEC Webinar** took place on 17 May 2022. It was great to see this so well attended, with over 60 attendees on the day and many more registered to receive the recording. This knowledge building session was aimed at those new to Smart Metering or having recently acceded to the SEC. Once logged in, SEC Parties can view the presentation slides and video recordings of all our recent webinars here.

If there are any topics that you'd like to be covered at future webinars, please contact the SECAS Helpdesk.

Modifications

NEW DRAFT PROPOSAL

There has been one new Draft Proposal raised since the last newsletter. You are invited to provide feedback to the Change Team to help us understand whether this issue affects you:

MP208 'Northbound Prioritisation of N56 Alerts'

When a consumer requests a Prepayment top up at a shop, if it takes longer than 30 seconds to return an N56 Alert the transaction will time out and the consumer's funds may be held by the Payment Service Provider (PSP). This can result in multiple attempts, resulting in further funds being held by the PSP and making them unavailable to the consumer. PSP refunds can take between three to ten days. This will impact Small and Large Suppliers and the DCC.

REFINEMENT CONSULTATIONS

There are currently eight open Modification Report Consultations. You are invited to provide feedback to the Change Team to help us understand your views on whether the modifications should be approved:

MP096 'Distribution Network Operator (DNO) Power Outage Alerts' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Electricity Network Parties DCC
MP128A 'Gas Network Operators SMKI Requirements' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Gas Network Parties
MP160 'Certificate Signing Request forecasting' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** All SEC Parties
MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS)' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Other SEC Parties DCC
MP181 'Meter Asset Provider and Device Manufacturer access to asset related data held by the DCC' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Friday 15 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Other SEC Parties DCC
MP186 'Section D Review (2020): further enhancements' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** All SEC Parties
MP204 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs) into the SEC – Batch 8' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Other SEC Parties DCC
MP209 'Lifetime Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) Certificates' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Other SEC Parties DCC

Publications

OPEN INDUSTRY CONSULTATIONS WEBPAGE

Please visit our Open Industry Consultations webpage for details of consultations that may be of interest to SEC Parties. If you are aware of a consultation that should be added, please contact the SECAS Helpdesk.

For other publications that may be of interest to you, please view the Operations Report in the June 2022 WHITE SEC Panel Meeting 105 Documentation. SEC Parties can also view the Transitional Governance Update (TGU) Paper in the June 2022 GREEN SEC Panel Meeting 105 Documentation.

SECAS HELPDESK

Please contact the SECAS Helpdesk with any questions and a member of the team will be happy to help. Helpdesk hours are **Monday-Friday 9-5pm (excluding bank holidays)**.

Key Governance Meeting Dates

6 July	**SEC Monthly Working Group Meeting – July 2022**
7 July	**Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting 79**
12 July	**Operations Group Meeting 75**
13 July	**Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 95**
13 July	**Security Sub-Committee Meeting 150**
15 July	**SEC Panel Meeting 106**
19 July	**Change Sub-Committee Meeting 41**
25 July	**Operations Group Meeting 76**
27 July	**Testing Advisory Group Meeting 92**
27 July	**Security Sub-Committee Meeting 151**
27 July	**Change Board Meeting 68**