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SECMP0037 'Pairing Local PPMIDs'

1st Working Group

8th August 2017 10:00 – 16:00

Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place, London, EC3M 4AJ

Meeting Headlines

Attendees:

Organisation	Working Group Member
Utilita (Proposer)	Andy Knowles
British Gas	Rochelle Harrison
SSE	Emslie Law (Teleconference)
SSE	Andrew Warner
Global-365	William Wilson
E.ON	Stacey Brentnall
Landis + Gyr	Elias Hanna
Chameleon Technology	Tom Moore

Representing	Other participants
SECAS	Talia Addy (Chair)
	Selin Ergiden (SECAS Modification Support)
	Caroline Gundu (SECAS Modification Support)
	Kevin Atkin (Technical Support)
DCC	Parmjeet Dayal
	Chris Barlow

Apologies:

Representing	Working Group Member
SSE	Nigel Hullett
SSE	Samantha Cannons

Geotogether	Ferenc Vanhoutte

Modification Proposal overview

SECAS provided an overview of SECMP0037, highlighting the current arrangements and the proposed changes. The modification seeks to remove the requirement on Communications Hub (CH) to apply 60-minute limit for device connection.

Current arrangements and proposed solution

Currently, when the CH is turned on for the first time at a customers' premises, the CH only allows HHT to connect within a 60-minute window.

To add any Device to a Home Area Network (HAN), Suppliers send a Service Request (SR) to the Data Communications Company (DCC) to request the addition of the device. Subject to DSP checks, the DSP then creates the resulting Command to the Communications Hub Function (CHF). This Command can again be sent to the CH via the CSP or in a Hand-Held Terminal (HHT). For an HHT:

- Supplier requests a copy of the Command, which is returned to them via the DCC
- Supplier loads that Command onto the HHT
- When the HHT attempts to connect to the CHF, it does so using the ZigBee InterPAN.

The Working Group (WG) discussed the current arrangements, noting the 60-minute time limit

The proposed solution is to lift the 60-minute time restriction to so that replacement devices can be connected at any time locally (so without needing CSP WAN connectivity).

Working Group consideration of the issue and solution

The Proposer noted that Suppliers cannot be sure when the customer will receive and turn on a replacement Device that is posted to them. The supplier can send a command to the CH for connection but in no / poor Wide Area Network (WAN) situations the CH may not get the Command and action it to cover the time when the replacement Device is turn on (the Command to the CH only allows the replacement Device to connect for a maximum of one hour after the Command arrives).

The WG discussed that this modification could be used in conjunction with SECMP0038, but it is also technically possible to implement it separately.

A WG member noted that the 60-minute limit on HHT joining from power on was tested as part of Commercial Product Assurance (CPA). Removing it would change CPA Security Characteristics and may therefore require re-certification testing of CH. The WG agreed that if this were the case, this would have high costs associated with it.

The WG concluded that they are not convinced that the issue identified is valid as there is no evidence or data to support it. Also, the WG agreed that the proposed solution is not ideal due to the potential cost associated with it.

Next steps

The WG agreed that they need to better understand:

- The security implications of this modification,

- The security related costs of implementing this modification.

ACTION_0808_01 – SECAS to request further input from the SSC.

Administered by

Gemserv