

# **Consultation**

## **November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document**

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**Author: DCC Regulations**

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# Table of Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Scope of Release</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.1. SEC Modifications</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1.1. Approved Modification Proposals (DCC Systems impacting)	3
2.1.2. Targeted Modification Proposals (DCC System impacting)	3
2.1.3. Non-System Impacting Modifications	4
<b>3. Overall Approach</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4. Consultation Questions for Respondents</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5. Consultation Process</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6. Next Steps</b>	<b>5</b>

# 1. Introduction

Under SEC Section D10.18, DCC has an obligation to produce a SEC Release Testing Approach Document which defines the approach to testing changes to DCC Systems which arise as a result of a SEC Release. The draft November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document published alongside this document has been produced to satisfy the requirements set out in SEC Sections D10.18 – D10.20.

This consultation is seeking views on the draft November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document. The draft November 2021 Testing Approach Document published alongside this consultation document defines the approach to testing to be undertaken by both DCC and Testing Participants.

The draft November 2021 Testing Approach Document sets out:

- the testing objectives for that release, including the assurance to be achieved;
- the testing strategy that will be followed;
- the consequences of the testing strategy, including costs and risk in business terms; and
- any requirements to undertake DCC User testing, along with how DCC shall support Users to undertake testing.

**The closing date for this consultation is Friday 26 February 2021.**

## 2. Scope of Release

### 2.1. SEC Modifications

#### 2.1.1. Approved Modification Proposals (DCC Systems impacting)

The following modifications have been approved for inclusion in this Release:

- [SECMP0007 'Firmware Updates to IHDs and PPMIDs'](#) will allow Over-the-Air (OTA) firmware updates to be delivered to Prepayment Interface Devices (PPMIDs) and Home Area Network (HAN) Connected Auxiliary Load Control Switches (HCALCSs).<sup>1</sup>
- [MP090 'Incorporation of Non GBCS Non-Mandated Alerts into the SEC'](#) will change the GB Companion Specification (GBCS) to include Non GBCS Non-Mandated (NGNM) Alerts.

#### 2.1.2. Targeted Modification Proposals (DCC System impacting)

The following modifications have been targeted for inclusion in this Release:

- [MP0077 'DCC Service Flagging'](#) proposes to replace the 'W' and 'S' DCC Service Flags with an 'N' and an 'I' Flag allowing DCC Users to tell the difference between Devices on a

<sup>1</sup> Note the Data Service Provider (DSP) elements for SECMP0007 will be implemented as part of the November 2021 SEC Release. The Communication Service Provider (CSP) changes will be implemented as part of the June 2022 SEC Release.

Smart Metering System that are Active, installed but not commissioned or decommissioned.

- [MP105 'Sending SR11.2 to Devices in Suspended State'](#) proposes to add Service Request (SR) 11.2 'Distribute Firmware' to the exception list for the E5 (Failed Authorisation – Invalid Device Status) authorisation check.

### 2.1.3. Non-System Impacting Modifications

Any further modifications that do not impact on DCC Systems will be added to the scope of this Release by the SEC Panel.

## 3. Overall Approach

The approach to testing of the November 2021 SEC Release will include several defined Test Phases which will be conducted sequentially. Test Phases will be undertaken in appropriate test environments. Any testing which can be reasonably and cost-effectively undertaken prior to SIT should be undertaken during PIT. The SIT Phase will include DCC Service Provider User Acceptance Testing activity, which will operate concurrently with Solution Testing.

DCC will provide a UIT service that allows each User to test the interoperability of its User Systems with the Modified DCC Total Systems (including via the Self-Service Interface), and to simultaneously test the interoperability of User Systems and Devices with the Modified DCC Total Systems. UIT-A and UIT-B will be made available on the same basis as the Testing Services provided in accordance with Section H14 of the SEC.

Each Test Phase will be subject to defined test scenarios where appropriate, with business scenarios to be used as the basis of testing. The documentation supporting each test phase will specify the detailed testing to be employed during that test phase. Test scenarios may, within the context of the individual Test Phases, be represented by defined sequences of Service Requests or other relevant activities.

## 4. Consultation Questions for Respondents

Number	Consultation Questions
Q1	Do you support the overall approach and scope of the November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document? Please provide rationale for your views.
Q2	Do you have any other comments on the draft November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document? Please provide details and rationale for your views.

**Table 1 – Summary of Consultation Questions**

## 5. Consultation Process

This consultation closes at **17:00 on Friday 26 February 2021**. Please email your response to [consultations@smartdcc.co.uk](mailto:consultations@smartdcc.co.uk).

Contents of responses may be (where not marked confidential) shared with other stakeholders. Please state whether all or any part of your response is confidential. Please note that responses in their entirety (including any text marked confidential) will be shared with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and may be made available to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority).

If you have any questions in relation to this consultation, please contact [regulation@smartdcc.co.uk](mailto:regulation@smartdcc.co.uk).

## 6. Next Steps

For elements relating to SEC Modification changes, the SEC requires that the Panel review this document, along with any subsequent amendments. Because the November 2020 DCC Testing Approach Document will be used to further develop the November 2020 SEC Release Implementation Document, DCC considers that it will require implicit Panel approval as part of that document in accordance with D10.15.

The expected go-live date is 4 November 2021. However, this date may change with the support of the Panel and approval of Ofgem.

DCC will discuss the draft November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document with the TAG and will seek feedback from members of that group.

Once this consultation closes on 25 February 2021, DCC will consider all responses received and make any amendments to the November 2020 DCC Testing Approach Document which are required. We will return to the TAG to discuss any amendments made to the November 2020 DCC Testing Approach Document and seek the group's explicit approval of the entire document.

We expect that the November 2021 DCC Testing Approach Document will be incorporated into the SEC Release Implementation Document for the November 2021 SEC Release and the SEC Modification elements presented to the Panel for approval during its meeting on 12 March 2021 (or a later date agreed with the Panel).