Consultation

June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document

Version: 1.0
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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 arising from a SEC Release. The draft June 2022 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 June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document. The draft June 2022 Testing Approach Document published alongside this consultation document defines the approach to testing to be undertaken by both DCC and Testing Participants.

The draft June 2022 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 Wednesday 27 October 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).[1]

- SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values' will allow Users and Devices reading the instantaneous values from the Gas Proxy Function (GPF) to know the time on the Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) clock when the value was provided.[2]

- SECMP024 'Enduring Approach to Communications Hub Firmware Management' will introduce a new DCC Alert that will be sent to Energy Suppliers upon firmware being activated on Communications Hubs.

- MP104 'Security Improvements' will implement a change to check that the DCC User has used an XML User Role Signing Private Key to Digitally Sign each Service Request and Signed Pre-Command and shall cease processing the communication and notify the DCC User if this is not the case.

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[1] 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) system changes will be implemented as part of the June 2022 SEC Release. Firmware will be made available and deployed post June 2022 Release.

[2] Note the June 2022 Release includes associated DCC User Interface Specification changes only. DCC System changes associated with this Modification Proposal will be implemented in the November 2022 SEC Release.

2.1.2. Targeted Modification Proposals (DCC System impacting)

No further Modification Proposals are expected to be added to the scope of this Release.

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 Change Sub-Committee.

3. Overall Approach

The approach to testing of the June 2022 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 Solution Testing by DCC Service Providers.

DCC will provide a UIT service that allows each User to test the interoperability of its User Systems with the Modified DCC Total Systems and to simultaneously test the interoperability of User Systems and Devices with the Modified DCC Total Systems. The UIT environment shall be made available in accordance with the Enduring Test Approach Document (ETAD) – Appendix J 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 draft June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document? Please provide rationale for your views.
Q2	Do you have any other comments on the draft June 2022 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 Wednesday 27 October 2021**. Please email your response to 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.

6. Next Steps

For elements relating to SEC Modification changes, the SEC requires that the Panel (now delegated to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC)) review this document, along with any subsequent amendments. DCC considers that it will require implicit CSC approval as part of that document in accordance with D10.15.

The expected go-live date is 30 June 2022. However, this date may change with the support of the CSC and approval of Ofgem.

DCC will discuss the draft June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document with the TAG and will seek feedback from members of that group.

DCC notes that consultation periods are usually 3 to 4 weeks, however as there is not a TAG meeting in December, DCC considers it necessary to undertake a two-week consultation period.

Once this consultation closes on 27 October 2021, DCC will consider all responses received and make any amendments to the June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document which are required. We will return to the TAG to discuss any amendments made to the June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document and seek the group's explicit approval of the entire document.

DCC expect that the June 2022 DCC Testing Approach Document will be incorporated into the SEC Release Implementation Document for the June 2022 SEC Release and the SEC Modification elements presented to the CSC for approval during its meeting on 18 January 2022 (or a later date agreed with the CSC).