

CP1448 'Changes to allowable software for Method 3 Proving Tests'



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About This Document

The purpose of this Change Proposal (CP) Consultation for CP1448 is to invite BSC Parties, Party Agents and other interested parties to provide their views on the impacts and the merits of CP1448. The Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG) will then consider the consultation responses before making a decision on whether or not to approve CP1448.

There are five parts to this document:

- This is the main document. It provides details of the solution, impacts, costs, and proposed implementation approach. It also summarises the SVG's initial views on the proposed changes.
- Attachment A contains the CP1448 Proposal Form.
- Attachments B and C contain the proposed redlined changes to deliver the CP1448 solution.
- Attachment D contains the specific questions on which we seek your views. Please use this form to provide your response to these questions, and to record any further views or comments you wish to be considered.

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1 Why Change?

What is a proving test?

A proving test is undertaken by a Half Hourly (HH) Data Collector (DC) and a HH Meter Operator Agent (MOA) whenever a HH Metering System needs to be installed or reconfigured.

A proving test involves the HHMOA asking the HHDC to obtain a HH Meter reading from the Metering System for a given Settlement Period. The HHMOA will then compare this reading to the reading it obtained when it installed or reconfigured the Metering System, to determine whether it has passed the test (if the readings match) or failed the test (if the readings do not match). This is usually a manual process for both Supplier Agents.

These tests are carried out to give assurance to the Supplier and the HHDC that correct information is being received from the Metering System. This is necessary as the data is used both to bill the customer and in Settlement.

Methods of proving tests

[BSC Procedure \(BSCP\) 502 'Half Hourly Data Collection for SVA Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'](#) and [BSCP514 'SVA Meter Operations for Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'](#) list four different methods for carrying out proving tests. 'Method 3' permits a MOA to use any software that it chooses to consider as its data retrieval system even if it does not have a protocol approval. 'Method 4' allows the HHMOA to use the Meter manufacturer's software to read information from the Meter as part of the proving test.

What is the issue?

Currently, there are ambiguities in the requirements between 'Method 3' and 'Method 4' of BSCP502 and BSCP514 for software used by MOAs for proving tests.

[CP1439 'Proving Test Permissible Software'](#) has been approved by the SVG for implementation in the November 2015 Release ([SVG174/04](#)). This CP amended BSCP502 and BSCP514 to allow the MOA to use other [BSCP601 'Metering Protocol Approval and Compliance Testing'](#) approved software during the proving test process under 'Method 4'. The intention of CP1439 was to encourage the HHMOA to collect data on an automated basis to aid with the proving test volumes for [Approved Modification P272 'Mandatory Half Hourly Settlement for Profile Classes 5-8'](#).

It was noted during the CP Consultation for CP1439 that 'Method 3' allows any software to be used, which does not have to be BSCP601-approved. This was in contrast to CP1439 which amended 'Method 4' to allow the use of BSCP601-approved software. When approving CP1439, the SVG noted that this was an anomaly between 'Method 3' and 'Method 4'. The SVG agreed that for robustness, software should also be BSCP601-approved under 'Method 3'. It therefore noted that a further change would be necessary to remove this allowable software anomaly between 'Method 3' and 'Method 4' ([SVG174](#)).



What is 'Method 3'?

Under 'Method 3' the MOA installs or reconfigures the Metering System, commissions it and records the HH reading while on site. When at the office, the MOA then uses its own data retrieval system to read the Metering System for the same HH Settlement Period as collected during the site visit. The MOA compares the HH Metered Data collected on site with the data retrieved at the office. The HHDC then collects data for a HH Settlement Period of its own choosing and sends this to the MOA. The MOA uses its data retrieval system to read the Meter for the same HH Settlement Period provided by the HHDC.

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Proposed solution

[CP1448 'Changes to allowable software for Method 3 Proving Tests'](#) was raised by ELEXON on 9 September 2015. It proposes changes to BSCP502 and BSCP514 such that, for providing test 'Method 3', the HHMOA will be required to use data retrieval software that has been approved under BSCP601. This removes the anomaly between Method 3 (under which the relevant software does not currently have to be BSCP601-approved) and Method 4 (under which it does).

This will provide assurance that the chosen software for a proving test does not pose any risk to Settlement, as the software will have been witness tested by ELEXON and approved by the Panel.

Proposer's rationale

We believe that this change will align with CP1439. Currently, under 'Method 3', a HHMOA is able to use any data retrieval system, which may not have an approval under BSCP601. In circumstances where a HHMOA uses unapproved software then either a new approval can be sought via BSCP601 or the MOA will need to choose an alternative proving test method.

We believe that the current arrangements under 'Method 3' undermine the requirement to use software that has been verified for Settlement use, and therefore pose a risk to Settlement. When CP1439 is implemented on 5 November 2015, if a HHMOA chooses to use proving test 'Method 4', then it must use either software that has been approved under BSCP601 or the Meter manufacturer's software. We therefore believe that 'Method 3' should also require this approval.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree with the CP1448 proposed solution?

Please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment D

Proposed redlining

Attachments B and C contain the proposed changes to BSCP502 and BSCP514 to deliver CP1448.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree that the draft redlining delivers the CP1448 proposed solution?

If 'No', please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment D

3 Impacts and Costs

Central impacts and costs

CP1448 will require changes to BSCP502 and BSCP514. No system changes are required and there will be no impact on BSC Agents.

The central implementation costs for CP1448 will be approximately £240 (one ELEXON man day) to implement the relevant document changes.

Central Impacts	
Document Impacts	System Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BSCP502BSCP514	<i>None</i>

BSC Party & Party Agent impacts and costs

CP1448 is expected to impact HHMOAs. We believe that minor process changes will be required to implement the solution but we seek confirmation of this through this CP Consultation.

No other BSC Parties or Party Agents are expected to be impacted.

BSC Party & Party Agent Impacts	
BSC Party/Party Agent	Impact
HHMOAs	Changes will be required to implement the solution.

CP Consultation Questions

Will CP1448 impact your organisation?

If 'Yes', please provide a description of the impact(s) on your organisation and any activities which you will need to undertake between the approval of CP1448 and the CP1448 Implementation Date (including any necessary changes to your systems, documents and processes). Where applicable, please state which of the roles that you operate as will be impacted and any differences in the impacts between each role.

Will your organisation incur any costs in implementing CP1448?

If 'Yes', please provide details of these costs, how they arise and whether they are one-off or on-going costs.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment D

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4 Implementation Approach

Recommended Implementation Date

CP1448 is proposed for implementation on **25 February 2016** as part of the February 2016 BSC Systems Release.

The February 2016 Release is the next available Release that can include this CP.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree with the proposed implementation approach for CP1448?

Please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment D

5 Initial Committee Views

SVG's initial views

The SVG considered CP1448 at its meeting on 29 September 2015 ([SVG176/06](#)).

The SVG had no initial comments on this CP and did not ask for any additional questions to be added to the CP Consultation.

Appendix 1: Glossary & References

Acronyms

Acronyms used in this document are listed in the table below.

Acronyms	
Acronym	Definition
BSC	Balancing and Settlement Code (<i>Industry Code</i>)
BSCP	Balancing and Settlement Code Procedure (<i>Code Subsidiary Document</i>)
CP	Change Proposal
CPC	Change Proposal Circular
DC	Data Collector (<i>Party Agent</i>)
HH	Half Hourly
MOA	Meter Operator Agent (<i>Party Agent</i>)
SVG	Supplier Volume Allocation Group (<i>Panel Committee</i>)

External links

A summary of all hyperlinks used in this document are listed in the table below.

All external documents and URL links listed are correct as of the date of this document.

External Links		
Page(s)	Description	URL
2	BSCPs page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/bsc-related-documents/related-documents/bscps/
2	CP1439 page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1439/
2	SVG174 page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/svg-174/
2	P272 page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/mod-proposal/p272-mandatory-half-hourly-settlement-for-profile-classes-5-8/
3	CP1448 page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1448/
5	SVG176 page on the ELEXON website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/svg-176/