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SOLUTION DEVELOPMENT REPORT

I0285 ORGANISATIONS WITH MULTIPLE ROLE TYPES EES AND SDEP ACCESS

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1 CHANGE OVERVIEW

It is currently not possible for organisations with multiple role types to have the same person be able to access all assigned role types within the Secure Data Exchange Portal (SDEP) without having a unique email address for each role type.

2 BACKGROUND

REC Change R0162 Access to SDES for Gas Networks revealed that the way the Secure Data Exchange Portal (SDEP) is currently set up, that if organisations with multiple role types wish to have the same operational staff work on both role types then they require a unique email address to log in to each role type. Email address is the only valid login option at present.

This means that if one organisation is both a Distribution Network Operator (DNO) and a Gas Transporter (GT), or an Energy Supplier and a Metering Equipment Manager (MEM), their operational staff need two unique email addresses to log in to both role types. This can lead to inefficiencies, unnecessary administrative burdens and a poor user experience.

GTs and MEMs do not currently have access to SDEP, but it is expected they both may in the future. This REC Issue has been raised as an enabling change for R0162, which in turn would be useful for R0253 Theft - DNO/Networks not providing photos as GTs having access to SDEP would provide a secure method of providing photos to Energy Suppliers.

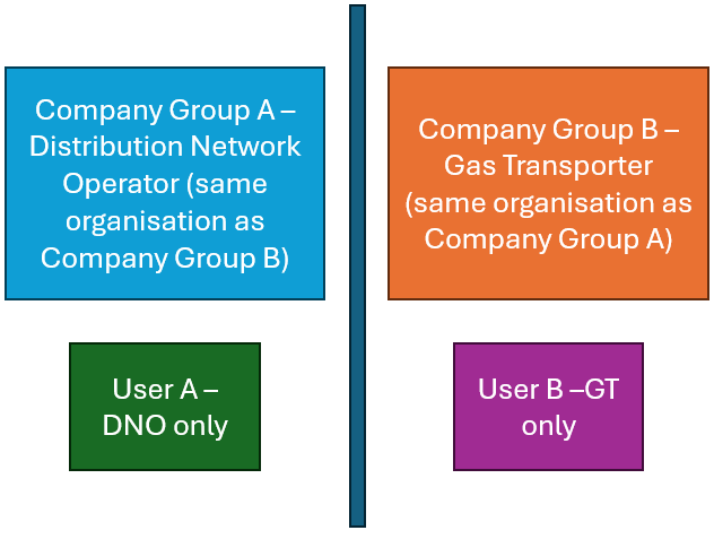
Further information on the background of this Issue is available in the Proposal Plan published on the REC Portal here.

3 PROPOPSED SOLUTION OVERVIEW

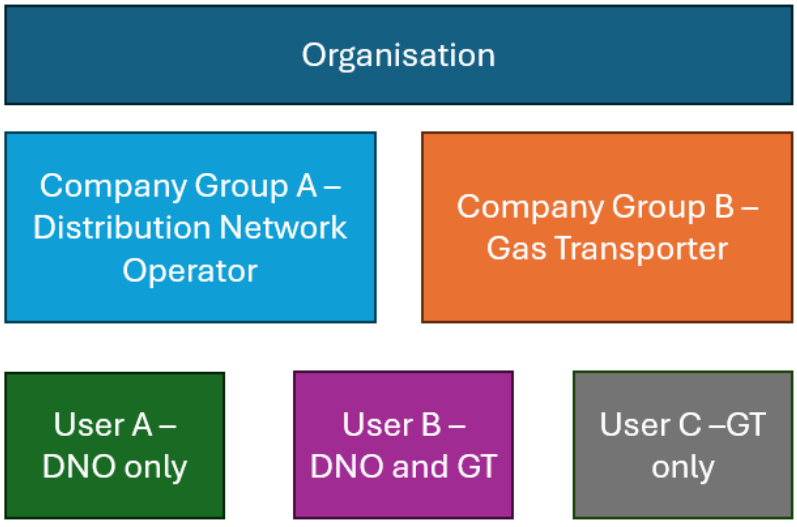
3.1 OVERVIEW

The current set up for ECOES and SDEP is a user is assigned to a company group, which has one role type (e.g. Energy Supplier), with their email address as a login. This email address cannot be linked to one than one company group. Even if an organisation has several company groups, they are entirely separate within the system with no cross over of users.

The only way to have one individual be assigned to two company groups, is for that individual to use two separate email addresses (e.g. john.smith@company.org and john.smith1@company.org), one attached to each company group.



This Issue proposes to introduce a new organisation level, with multiple company groups sitting underneath it (if required), with users being able to be added to more than one company group. Each company group will still have a Master Admin User (MAU), but there will be a new Organisation MAU (sitting at the organisation level) introduced – see section 3.3 of this report for more information on Organisation MAUs.



3.2 TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The requirements provided to the Electricity Enquiry Service (EES) and SDEP Provider included:

- An ECOES user requiring SDEP access for multiple company groups within their organisation must be able to log into ECOES using a Single Email Address (SEA) and access SDEP for those company groups whilst using the SDEP module.
- An ECOES user account will have a default company group.
- An ECOES user will have the ability to select a different company group while using the SDEP function.
- Once authenticated in ECOES, users must be able to access SDEP without needing to re-authenticate or log in again.
- MAUs will be able to add users to their company group, even if that email address is already logged against a different company group within the same organisation. They will not be able to add users to any company group they are not the MAU for within their organisation.
- There is no requirement for MAUs to be unique for company groups under the same organisation.
- Users must only be able to access data permitted under their assigned company group and associated permissions (e.g. not have access to GT data while logged in as a DNO).
- There is a need to configure at system what company group types a single email address can belong to (e.g. if it is determined that under licence conditions, an Energy Supplier and a DNO cannot have the same operational staff, there is a need to disallow this combination. This should be configurable, so the solution is future proofed).

The ability to switch between different company groups using the same email address will be applicable to SDEP only, the same functionality will not be applied to ECOES.

3.3 ORGANISATION MAU

This Issue would see the introduction of a new Organisation MAU, sitting at the organisation level above the company group MAUs. There is no requirement for the Organisation MAU to be unique to any company group MAU. The Organisation MAU will be able to:

- Manage the set up of any company groups required to sit under the organisation level;
- Set up and edit any company group MAUs for company groups within their organisation; and
- Add users to any company group within their organisation.

3.4 DRAFT LEGAL TEXT

Changes to Schedule 1 – Interpretations and Definitions, the EES Service Definition and SDES Service Definition are required to support the implementation of this Issue.

The legal text changes to deliver the proposed solution to I0285 can be found here.

4 OUTPUTS OF SERVICE PROVIDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A Service Provider impact assessment has been conducted with C&C as the EES and SDEP Provider.

They have confirmed:

- As part of the implementation of this Issue, a migration task would be required to move all existing company groups to sit under an organisation.
- As I0285 delivers changes based on the same code base as R0122 SDEP Review Improvements (2) - Usability, so the design/build/test for I0285 would not be able to begin until the design/build/test for R0122 has completed. It will however be able to begin before R0122 is implemented.
- The total cost for design, build and test is £106,231, with no on-going costs identified.
- The total time required for design, build and test is 127 days (~25 weeks).