

Protocol Approval – ASL Holdings Ltd (ASLH)

Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG)

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Summary **In July 2021, we received an application from ASL Holdings Ltd (ASLH), a Half Hourly Data Collector (HHDC), for protocol approval of various Outstation types using its data collection software, MDR v3.4. We invite the SVG to note that we issued Certificates of Protocol Approval to ASLH for the various Outstation types.**

1. Background

- 1.1 An Outstation is a device that stores data (e.g. Half Hourly (HH) data and alarms) from a Meter, or Meters, for later transmission to a Half Hourly Data Collector (HHDC) or the Central Data Collection Agent (CDCA). An Outstation may be integral to, or separate from, a Meter.
- 1.2 A protocol, in the context of an Outstation, is the set of rules (or language) governing the communication of data between the Outstation and any other device connected to it. The manufacturer of the Outstation usually designs the protocol.

2. BSC requirements

- 2.1 Each HH [Code of Practice](#) (CoP) (i.e. CoPs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10) requires Outstation data to be to a format and protocol approved by the BSC Panel in accordance with [BSCP601](#)¹.
- 2.2 In order for the BSC Panel to approve² the protocol for an Outstation type, the protocol must undergo testing with each HHDC (or the CDCA) that wishes to collect data from that Outstation type for use in Settlement. Testing will verify that the HHDC (or the CDCA) can properly communicate with, and retrieve data from, the Outstation using their data collection instation (i.e. a computer). This is done by comparing the data retrieved using the HHDC's (or CDCA's) data collection instation, with the data retrieved using the Outstation manufacturer's software.
- 2.3 Under BSCP601, Elexon is responsible for agreeing a suitable test script with each HHDC (or the CDCA) and for witnessing the HHDC's (or the CDCA's) protocol testing. In the event of successful testing, Elexon needs to:
 - Issue a Certificate(s) of Protocol Approval to the applicant (usually the HHDC (or the CDCA), but it can be the Outstation manufacturer) on behalf of the BSC Panel;
 - Update the 'CoP Compliance and Protocol Approvals' list on the BSC Website;
 - Notify BSC Parties and BSC Party Agents of the protocol approvals (via our Newscast publication); and
 - Notify the BSC Panel (i.e. the relevant BSC Panel Committees, namely the SVG and/or the Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG)) of Certificates of Protocol Approval we issue and updates we make to the CoP Compliance and Protocol Approvals list.

¹ 'Metering Protocol and Compliance Testing'

² Under the BSC Baseline Statement, the BSC Panel has delegated responsibility for BSCP601 to its BSC Panel Committees, the Supplier Volume Allocation Group and the Imbalance Settlement Group. Under BSCP601, since [CP1174](#) was implemented in June 2007, if protocol approval testing is successful, Elexon can issue a Certificate of Protocol Approval to an applicant. Prior to June 2007 Elexon had to seek a decision from the relevant BSC Panel Committee before issuing a Certificate of Protocol Approval (or a Certificate of Compliance) to an applicant.

3. Protocol Approval application – ASL Holdings Ltd (ASLH)

3.1 In July 2021 Elexon received a protocol approval application from ASLH, in the role of an HHDC, for the following Outstation types:

- Elster PPM Issue 1
- Elster PPM Issue 2
- PRI Ltd/Secure Meters (UK) Ltd Calmu 3+
- Actaris Indigo +
- PRI Ltd/Secure Meters (UK) Ltd Premier P3****.
- Elster A1700 (Vision)
- Elster OPUS
- Kenda Meteor
- PRI Ltd/Secure Meters (UK) Ltd Calmu 3
- Actaris PXAR
- Siemens S4S
- Actaris ACE6000
- CEWE Prometer
- EDM I E10
- Landis + Gyr ZMD405, ZMD410, ZD405 & ZFD410
- Elster A11 & A23
- Landis & Gyr E650
- EM-Lite EMA1

3.2 We reviewed the protocol application and noted that ASLH are proposing to use MDR v3.4 as its data collection software. Since we have already approved these Outstation protocols, which are embedded within MDR v3.4, we issued Certificates of Protocol approval to ASLH for the above listed Outstation types.

4. Updates and notifications

4.1 In August 2021, we:

- Published an updated version (v56.0) of the '[CoP Compliance and Protocol Approval](#)' list to include these protocol approvals, under the name of ASL Holdings Ltd; and
- Issued a [Newscast](#) article notifying BSC Parties and BSC Party Agents of the protocol approvals.

5. Recommendations

5.1 We invite you to:

- a) **NOTE** we issued ASL Holdings Ltd (ASLH), a Half Hourly Data Collector, with Certificates of Protocol Approval for the various Outstation types;
- b) **NOTE** we updated the 'CoP Compliance and Protocol Approval' list to include these protocol approvals, under the name of ASL Holdings Ltd; and
- c) **NOTE** we issued a Newscast article notifying BSC Parties and BSC Party Agents of the protocol approvals.

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