ELEXON

CP Progression Paper

‘Change the number of characters used to specify Market Participant Role Codes in the Market Domain Data’

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Committee

Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG)

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About This Document

You can find the definitions of the terms and acronyms used in this document in the BSC Glossary[1].

This document provides information on a new Change Proposal (CP) and outlines our proposed progression timetable for this change, including when it will be issued for CP Consultation in the next suitable Change Proposal Circular (CPC) batch.

We are presenting this paper to the SVG on 7 November 2023 to capture any comments or questions from Committee Members on this CP before we issue it for consultation.

There are 3 parts to this document:

- This is the main document. It provides a summary of the solution, impacts, anticipated costs, and proposed implementation approach, as well as our proposed progression approach for this CP.
- Attachment A contains the CP proposal form.
- Attachment B contains the proposed redlined changes to deliver the CP solution.

[1] https://www.elexon.co.uk/glossary/?show=all

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1. Summary

Why change?

‘Market Participant Role Code’ is a single character alphanumeric value which is used as a unique identifier for certain Market Roles. There are 36 possible Role Codes to be allocated to different Market Participant Roles, which are defined in the Market Domain Data (MDD).

Currently, all the alphanumeric Role Codes have been allocated and are either in use or have been reserved by the Market Wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Programme for use from the beginning of the MHHS Transition Period.

Although some Role Codes will become available after the end of the MHHS Transition Period, which is scheduled for late 2026, it is highly likely that there will be a need for new Role Codes to be allocated before then.

In order for new Market Roles to be created in the future, a change to the format of the ‘Market Participant Role Code’ Data Item is required to increase the number of available Role Codes. Moving to a two-character alphanumeric value would provide hundreds of new potential Market Participant Role Codes.

Solution

Amend the Logical Format of the ‘Market Participant Role Code’ from ‘Char(1)’ to ‘Char(2) to make a significant number of new Role Codes available.

Impacts and costs

The following BSC Configurable Items specify or refer to the format of the ‘Market Participant Role Code’ Data Item, so must be amended:

- BSCP509 Appendix 01: MDD Entity Change Request Forms[2];
- BSCP509 Appendix 2: MDD Change Request Entity Validation[3]; and
- SVA Data Catalogue Volume 2[4];

The Market Domain Data Management (MDDM) system would need to be amended to enable it to include 2-character Market Participant Role Codes[5].

The Supplier Volume Allocation Agent (SVAA) software should not be impacted, as it would not need to process any 2-character Market Participant Role Codes[2].

This change will require an update to the REC’s EMAR Data Specification to amend the logical format of ‘Market Participant Role Code Data Item’ (J0001) from ‘Char(1)’ to ‘Char(2)’.

Recipients of Market Messages that include the J0001 may be required to amend their systems to allow them to continue to receive and process the flows with the new Char(2) format for Market Participant Role Code.

Not sure where to start?

We suggest reading the following sections:

- Have 5 minutes? Read section 1
- Have 15 minutes? Read sections 1, 4, 5 and 6
- Have 30 minutes? Read all sections
- Have longer? Read all sections and the annexes and attachments

[2] https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/bsc-procedures/bscp509-appendix-01-mdd-entity-change-request-forms
[3] https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/bsc-procedures/bscp509-appendix-02-mdd-change-request-entity-validation
[4] https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/business-definition-documents/sva-data-catalogue-volume-2
[5] BSCCo is awaiting our Service Provider’s Impact Assessment which will provide a definitive statement of the impact on the legacy SVAA and MDDM systems and the cost and duration of the project required to deliver the necessary changes.

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However BSCCo understands that only those Data Transfer Network (DTN) users that have adopted the “Fixed File” format for their DTN Gateway will be required to amend their systems to be able to process the new Char(2) format for this CP. BSCCo has already contacted those Market participants which currently use the Fixed File format to raise their awareness of this proposed change, and will continue to do so during the lifecycle of this change.

BSCCo will seek to confirm the full impact of this change via the CP1582 consultation process.

Implementation

This CP is proposed for implementation on 7 November 2024, the implementation date for the November 2024 Release of BSC Systems.

November 2024 will give participants over 6 months from the SVG decision to implement the change, if approved. However, we will establish the appropriate lead time, which could be more than six months, through the industry consultation on this change, and the proposed implementation date could change as a result.

Governance of Cross-Code Impact

As the proposed solution to CP1582 impacts the Electricity Market Architecture Repository (EMAR) Data Specification (DS), which is a Retail Energy Code (REC) product, this CP should be considered to have “Cross-Code” impact.

However, the REC’s approach to the governance of such Cross-Code changes is that each Data Item and Market Message (Data Flow) included in the EMAR DS has a Code-owner (e.g. REC, BSCCo, DCUSA (Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement)).

As the J0001 is specified as a “BSC-owned” Data Item in the EMAR Data Specification, and there are no structural charges to any of the Market Messages that include the J0001, the proposed change only requires approval through BSC governance; no formal REC Change Proposal is required.

Note that REC CP R0132 was raised in relation to this change but was subsequently withdrawn.

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2. Why Change?

What is the issue?

'Market Participant Role Code' is a single character alphanumeric value which is used as a unique identifier for certain Market Roles. This provides 36 possible Role Codes to be used by different Market Participant Roles.

Currently, all of the alphanumeric Role Codes have been allocated and are either in use or have been reserved by the Market Wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Programme for use from the beginning of the MHHS Transition Period.

Although some of the existing Role Codes will become available after the end of the MHHS Transition Period, which is scheduled for late 2026, it is highly likely that there will be a need for new Role Codes to be allocated before then.

BSCCo has discussed with Electralink, who provide the DTN service, whether using upper and lower case alphabetical characters could be used for different role codes and whether any of the 'special characters' in the DTN handbook could be used to provide new Role Codes in addition to the 36 alphanumeric values currently available, in order to remove or delay the need for this change.

BSCCo has investigated whether it would be possible to generate new Market Participant Role Codes without changing the Format of the J0001 – the two possible approaches identified were:

1. Using lower-case and upper-case versions of the same letter (e.g. 'a' and 'A') to represent different Market Participant Roles; and

2. Using 'special characters (e.g. '&', '*', '$') for Market Participant Role Codes.

Regarding 1 - Electralink has confirmed to BSCCo that DTN file headers will only accept upper case characters for Market Participant Role Codes, which rules out this approach.

Regarding 2 - Electralink has confirmed to BSCCo that that only one of the 'special character' set, the hyphen ("-"), would be allowed for all uses of the Market Participant Role Code. However, this would only make one new Role Code available, which would not be sufficient to mitigate the risk around the lack of available role codes.

Consequently, a change to the format of the 'Market Participant Role Code' Data Item is required to increase the number of available Role Codes. Moving to a two-character alphanumeric value would provide hundreds of new potential Market Participant Role Codes; just using the numeric values that would become available (10-99) would be sufficient to meet all foreseeable need for new Role Codes.

Background

The 'Market Participant Role Code' is a single character alphanumeric value which is used as a unique identifier for certain Market Roles.

It is defined in MDD Entity 21 "Market Role"[6] and is used:

- in the definition of other MDD Entities;

[6]MDD Entity 21 will become Industry Standing Data (ISD) Entity 21 from the beginning of the MHHS Programme Transition Period

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- in the header of all Market Messages sent across the Data Transfer Network (DTN) to define the sender and the recipient;
- in the main body of six Market Messages sent across the DTN (as the J0001 Data Item):
    - D0269 Market Domain Data Complete Set v002 (BSC-owned);
    - D0269 Market Domain Data Complete Set v004 (BSC-owned);
    - D0270 Market Domain Data Incremental Set v002 (BSC-owned);
    - D0270 Market Domain Data Incremental Set v002 (BSC-owned);
    - D0383 Notification of Commissioning Information (BSC-owned); and
    - D0331 Update Green Deal Market Data (REC-owned).

BSCCo is aware the 36 available alphanumeric Market Participant Role Codes:

- are currently in use; or
- have been reserved by the Market Wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Programme, for use from the beginning of the Transition Period.

Elexon has investigated the use of all current Role Codes and has identified that the Role Code K 'Profile Administrator' could be repurposed, as it hasn't been used in the last five years and the sole participant no longer performs this function:

However, BSCCo is aware that there is a REC CP ('R0043') that, if approved, will require a new Market Participant Role Code in June 2024.

Consequently, it is likely that there would be no Market Participant Role Codes available to BSCCo to allocate to new Market Roles between June 2024 and October 2026 at the earliest. This would be a significant impediment to the implementation of new Electricity Market solutions.

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3. Solution

Proposed solution

Amend the Logical Format of the ‘Market Participant Role Code’ in MDD from ‘Char(1)’ to ‘Char(2)’ in BSC documentation.

Amend the specification of the Market Participant Role Code Data Item (J0001) in the REC’s EMAR DS.

Proposer’s rationale

This change is necessary to allow BSCCo to allocate new Market Participant Role Codes when required.

Without this change, no new Market Participant Role Codes could be allocated, which would be a significant impediment to the implementation of new Electricity Market solutions.

Potential Drawbacks of the Proposed Solution

In addition to its inclusion in six Market Messages, the Market Participant Role Code is also used twice in the Header of every Market Message sent across the DTN, as the “From Participant” and the “To Participant”.

There are three possible configurations for DTN Gateways:

- Fixed File format
- Variable File Format; and
- Poll File Format

BSCCO’s understanding is that only users of the Fixed File would need to change their systems to accommodate the change to ‘Char(2)’ for the implementation of CP1582.

BSCCo will seek to confirm our understanding of this and any other drawbacks around the proposed solution from the CP1582 consultation, and will take any comments received into account in the CP1582 change report.

Proposed redlining

Updates have been made to the below BSC Configurable Items and can be found in Attachment B:

- BSCP509 Appendix 1
- BSCP509 Appendix 2
- SVA Data Catalogue Volume 2

In addition, we have specified the required change to the J0001 in the EMAR DS

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4. Impacts and Costs

BSC Party & Party Agent impacts and costs

BSC Party & Party Agent Impacts	
BSC Party/Party Agent	Impact
All BSC Parties and SVA Party Agents that use the DTN	The proposed change will make updates to all Market Messages and therefore Parties and Party Agents will need to consider the impact this has on their system(s).

Central impacts and costs

Central impacts

Amendments will be required to the BSC Configurable Items shown in the table below and to the MDD Management software system to update the Market Participant Role code from Char(1) to Char(2).

Central Impacts	
Document Impacts	System Impacts
• BSCP509 Appendix 1 • BSCP509 Appendix 2 • SVA Data Catalogue Volume 2	• MDDM

Impact on BSC Settlement Risks

Impact on BSC Settlement Risks
No direct material impacts expected on any Settlement Risks, although any changes to market messages can increase risk in general.

Impact on Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS)

Impact on MHHS
A MHHS Change Request would be required to amend any new or amended systems, including Industry Standing Data, to change any definition of 'Market Participant Role Codes' to Char(2).

Central costs

The central implementation costs for this CP are to be confirmed via a Service Provider Impact Assessment;

BSCCo costs will be <£1k to amend BSC Configurable Items.

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5. Implementation Approach

Recommended Implementation Date

This CP is recommended for implementation on 7 November 2024, the implementation date for the November 2024 Release of BSC Systems.

November 2024 will give participants over 6 months from SVG decision to implement the change, although we will seek to confirm implementation timescales via consultation. We are consulting on impacts of a later release should this be needed, the preferred implementation is November 2024.

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6. Proposed Progression

Progression timetable

The table below outlines the proposed progression plan for this CP:

Progression Timetable	
Event	Date
CP Progression Paper presented to SVG for information	7 November 2023
CP Consultation	13 November 2023 – 8 December 2023
CP Assessment Report presented to SVG for decision	9 January 2024
Proposed Implementation Date	7 November 2024 (November 2024 Release)

CP Consultation questions

We intend to ask the standard CP Consultation questions for this CP. An additional question around the impact of the change on fixed file formats is included.

Standard CP Consultation Questions
Do you agree with the proposed solution?
Do you agree that the draft redlining delivers the proposed solution?
Will this CP impact your organisation?
Will your organisation incur any costs in implementing this CP?
Do you agree with the proposed implementation approach for this CP?

Additional CP Consultation Questions
Which DTN Gateway configuration do you use: • Fixed File format • Variable File format • Pool File format
What would the impact be of implementing this CP in February 2025 to your organisation?

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7. Recommendations

We invite you to:

- **NOTE** the proposed progression timetable for the CP; and
- **PROVIDE** any comments or additional questions for inclusion in the CP Consultation.

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