

UMSUG paper – Related Meters in BSCP520

1. Purpose

This document is highlighting changes to the use of Related Meters in the unmetered activities.

This document proposes changes to BSCP520 to reflect the June 2019 MRA Related Meters MAP.

The document also considers the future use of the Meter Timeswitch Class/Code (MTC) to differentiate between related and non-related MTC.

2. Related Meters Background

Related Meters have been used since 1998 to relate up to four MPANs for a single customer inventory. Up until recently this has required the MPANs to be identified using a range of MTC for non-related and related MPANs. This identification was intended to ensure that if one of the MPANs in the related group changes supplier, then all the related MPANs should transfer together. Where they do not, the old supplier is required to object to a partial change of supplier.

The Ofgem led Faster Switching programme has initiated a series of changes to the MRA to implement a series of changes. The first suite of changes was implemented in June 2019.

3. Related MPAN Indicator

The June 2019 MRA release created a new data item in the registration system known as the Related MPAN Indicator¹ (J2245) to determine if an MPAN is in a Related MPAN relationship, or not. Suppliers have been tasked with updating the registration system with these relationships for metered and unmetered Related MPANs. For the unmetered MPANs the UMSOs have sent lists to the Suppliers for them to action by early July. Suppliers create and amend these relationships using the D0386 - Manage Metering Point Relationships.²

In the future, the faster switching framework will use this indicator to enforce the change of supplier of all MPANs which are linked through established Metering Point Relationships when a request for change of supplier is processed. This will automate what has historically been a weak framework.

As a consequence of the package of changes MAP29³ - The MRA Agreed Procedure for Managing NHH Related Metering Points, was revised. This includes requirements for UMSOs and Suppliers when the relationships changes:

Step 1b – UMSO advises Supplier of Related Metering Points

4.7 Where the UMSO notifies the Supplier that a number of Metering Points are now classified as Related Metering Points the Supplier shall:

4.8 Assign a Related Metering Point MTC (500-799) to each of the Related Metering Points and update MPAS using the D0205 Data Flow.

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¹ <https://dtc.mrasco.com/>

² <https://dtc.mrasco.com/>

³ <https://www.mrasco.com/mra-products/mra-agreed-procedures/>

Step 1b – UMSO advises Supplier of end to Related Metering Points

5.7 Where the UMSO notifies the Supplier that a number of Metering Points that were previously classified as Related Metering Points are now no longer classified as Related Metering Points the Supplier shall:

5.8 Assign a non-Related Metering Point MTC (000-399, 800-999) to each of the previously Related Metering Points and update MPAS using the D0205 Data Flow.

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It would be beneficial to ensure compliance with the BSC & MRA that these steps are included within BSCP520. Proposed BSCP520 red-lining is attached to this paper. The BSCP drafting seeks to make minimal change by requiring the Supplier to use the number of MPANs listed on the UMS Certificate to update the relationships and use a D0386 when necessary.

4. Future of “Related” MTC

The future of the distinction between related and non-related MTC has been questioned, now that the Related MPAN Indication is defined more explicitly in SMRS. An MRA Issue Form (MIF) is soon to be circulated asking for comments on the future use of the MTC. It appears the need for the distinction between related and non-related MTC is no longer required in the UMS activity and the MDD data can be rationalised to a single range of MTC codes.

The MIF will jointly impact the BSC & MRA as the MDD records the valid MTC.

5. Recommendation

The UMSUG is invited to:

- **Review** the suggested changes to BSCP520,
- **Recommend** to SVG that a CP is raised to make the proposed changes to BSCP520, and
- **Review** the MRA MIF that is being considered by IREG to consider the future of the related MTC

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