

20th MAMCoP Board Meeting

<p>The MAMCoP Board meets quarterly to discuss issues arising from the MAMCoP and also to discuss industry developments.</p>	<p>From Date and time of Meeting Location</p>	<p>littletonb 15 December 2009 10:00-15:00 Ofgem</p>
--	---	--

1. Present

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Steven Gandy | E.On |
| 2. Steve Brand | United Utilities |
| 3. Bob Murray | AIGT |
| 4. John Meehan | National Grid |
| 5. John Heyburn | Scotia Gas Networks |
| 6. Mike Buss | Itron |
| 7. Russell Gibson | Energy Assets |
| 8. Scott Agar | EDF Energy |
| 9. Tom Chevalier | Power Data Associates/AMO |
| 10. Jim Sibley | GL Industrial Services |
| 11. Kelly Sherwood | Siemens |
| 12. Rodney Hancox | Exoteric |
| 13. Gary Cottrell | SBGI |
| 14. Dave Thorley | National Grid |
| 15. Andy Goodfellow | United Utilities |
| 16. Barry Cook | UK Transco |
| 17. Nicola Wade | HSE |
| 18. Christopher Chambers | HSE |
| 19. Steve Hayden | Lloyds Register |
| 20. Ian Moss | EU Skills |
| 21. Ian Smith | IGEM |

Ofgem Attendees;
Steve Rowe; Belinda Littleton; Krystle Thorpe

2. Apologies

John Dale - AIGT; David Perriam - WWUtilities; Andy Ritchie - UK Meter Exchange; Ian Aldridge - National Grid; Steve Hogarth- United Utilities; Mark Rolfe - GSR

3. Review of Minutes from 19th MAMCoP Board Meeting

3.1. It was agreed that several amendments needed to be made to the minutes. The appropriate amendments will be made and then published to the website.

4. Review of Action Log

Action	Person- by
Action (1)- Review MAMCoP and CoP 1a/b	
SR updated Board. OAMI service provider to be announced imminently.	Ofgem
Action (2)- Appeals Process for MAMCoP/AIGT	
SR updated Board. Ofgem restructure will mean additional review to see where appeals process sits within organisation.	Ofgem
Action (3)- Moving Domestic Meters and OAMI CoPs	IGEM
Agenda Item	
Action (4)- I&C Meter Obligation	CLOSED
SR provided MAMCoP board with Ofgem letter (attached). MAMCoP board are comfortable with I&C arrangements and so were happy to remove action from Action Log.	
Action (5)- OAMI	CLOSED
Action Complete.	
Action (6)- CORGI/GSR Numbering	MR
MR has sent technical bulletin web link: https://engineers.gassaferegister.co.uk/EngineerLogin.aspx Users will need to be registered and enter their licence card number and registration number to gain access to Technical Bulletins. A copy of the latest index of Technical Bulletins for information can be found within the 20 th MaMCOP Board Meeting Minutes associated documents section of Ofgem's website.	
Action (7)- Two flexes on meters	IS
IS is moving this issue to the Gas Measurement Meeting (IGEM). IS to update on Standard.	
Action (8)- Lloyds Register MAMCoP Audit	CLOSED
SH discussed change from action to regular update from Lloyds on audit activities. It was noted that the next audits are in March 2010, so an update will be available at the July MAMCoP meeting.	
Action (9)- Disconnection and Removal of a Meter by a Distribution Engineer	EU Skills & GSR
MR has provided a response: reports that EUS as the Standard Setting Body have signed-off the required assessment criteria submitted by National Grid's chosen Accredited Certification Body and that Gas Safe Register are set up to receive downloaded competences in this regard from both EUS and the Certification Body so that operatives can be registered for this 'limited scope' gas activity. EU Skills may also have knowledge on issue. Suggested for clarity that the name of the action change from 'Meter Removals' to	

'Disconnection and Removal of a Meter by a Distribution Engineer'.	
Action (10)- Smart Metering Specifications	CLOSED
Action Closed.	
Action (11) - Smart Metering	MB
MB to update board on smart metering progress. MB covered this topic under the reports and updates section 6.5.	
Action (12) - Permal Meter Boxes	TS/DT
SR commented on permali meters in the context of smart metering. DT suggests there are 10-20 thousand installations. DT to provide info in form of Agenda item for March 2010 to feedback to group.	
Action (13) - Structures Built around External Meter Boxes	DT
DT to provide update on issue under Gas Industry Unsafe 6 forum and through GSR and report back on progress to MAMCoP Board.	
Action (14) - Sealing of Meter Installation Pressure Control components	CLOSED
Item Closed	

5. Agenda Items

5.1. Feedback item: MAM Automated Meter Reading Service Provider (ASP) Data HUB Briefing Note - Steve Mulinganie

TC provided update. SPAA group considered two IT solutions: one based around a Single Centralised Online Gas Enquiry Service (SCOGES) solution, a view-only database, and the other based around ESTA creating their own stand alone data hub. SPAA executives have a preference for ESTA solution. There has been some disagreement between ESTA and SPAA as a result.

SPAA and AMR had meeting early December considering issues such as transferring data as a result of putting AMR onto I&C meters. Licence conditions require the supplier to fit AMR.

5.2. Update on MPU consultation - Tom Chevalier

Consultation has closed at the end of October 2009. The responses have been considered and a revised version of the MPU agreement and feedback comments on the consultation responses will be delivered early in the New Year.

5.3. SPAA/ESTA AMR work - Tom Chevalier

Covered in 5.1.

5.4. IGEM - Gas Industry Guidance on Work on Meter Installations – Ian Smith

IS commented that he presented his paper at the last meeting and has not had any further feedback. Ofgem will provide some legal guidance prior to publication. IS to issue document to BSI and in GM6.

5.5. Meter/ECV washers – Barry Cook

BC discussed the urgent issue regarding the sealing washers on ECV outlets and meter unions. It has emerged following an audit by North London Gas Alliance that the washers currently being used by National Grid Metering for meter works whilst complying with the requirements of BS 746 may not be suitable. It has been reported that some time after the installation has been correctly assembled and commissioned by the engineer the union connection may become loose and lead to

a potential gas escape. NGM have made further investigations to understand what is causing this, and reported that they consider the hardness range in BS 746 seems too high resulting in washers that are too hard. BC pointed out that BS En 549 which is the European Standard for elastomeric seals on gas systems calls for a lower range of hardness than that quoted in BS 746. The two standards therefore appear to be in conflict.

BC has since conducted testing at the GL laboratory with compliant washers and existing standards. He believes that there are two main issues with the washers; firstly, the hardness properties and; secondly the level of compression set within the washer. It is the degree of compression set within a nitrile rubber that gives it bounce. NGM believe that the current Nitrile rubber washer has too high a compression set and they therefore lack sufficient bounce. As a result the washer relaxes under compression, resulting in the joint becoming loose.

It was proposed by NW that the correct method of communicating these issues is through alerting Trading Standards and BSI who in turn will alert manufactures, GSR and finally relevant installers. As an interim measure, it was suggested that procedural guidance to tighten the washer at intervals during the site visit (or until sealing) is undertaken by relevant parties.

ACTION: BC to produce a briefing notification to GSR by end of this week.

ACTION: JS to raise this with the appropriate BSI committee, GSE/25.

6. Reports/Updates

6.1. Gas Safe Register – Mark Rolfe

MR will give an update at the next MAMCoP meeting.

6.2. EU Skills – Ian Moss

(see appendix A for attachment)

ACTION: SR will send an email to MAMCoP board to invite attendees to establish a sub group to convene a meeting to review the MAMCoP. SR will include a Terms of Reference document with the email. It was commented that a tie-in with MAMCoP audit processes are essential to ensure that lesson are learnt.

6.3. IGEM – Ian Smith

IS commented that there is a delay on the issuing of the GM6 document until approximately March 2010. There is also some work planned on the G5 document regarding Gas in Flats solutions.

6.4. IGEM - Vertical Inlet height Dimension 'H'

Gas Transmission and Distribution committee are taking up this matter.

This issue is considered closed, as it is a commercial matter between the supplier of the equipment and the buyer.

6.5. BSI – Mike Buss

MB provided update on Smart Metering, major issue at present is finding a practical communications solution for the UK. Currently, the additional functionality draft is aimed for completion at the end of 2010. JS added that the SMCG requirements need to be covered within the Standard. There is still a question over Gas Meter Valve (issue still with DECC).

- 6.6. AMO – (ECV handles, PEMS, MPU Agreement) Tom Chevalier TC provided updates on a number of issues:

ECV handles – some difficulties with certain companies getting handles out, possibly due to internal issues.

PEMS – ongoing issue of not getting all parts back from companies. BL is the new Ofgem contact for PEMS issues.

In-service Testing – consultation that the National Measurement Office held last summer later went to IMAG. There was general agreement that there should be an In-Service Testing regime in place for the mid meters. There is an issue on how to mandate it which has led to a remit by NMO. A working advisory group is being set up and MAM's are invited to join – contact David Moorehouse.

Insulated Joints – not in the scope of MAM's work. NMO advisory group are working on this issue.

- 6.7. Lloyds Register Update – Steve Hayden

From March 2010, this will be a regular update slot.

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1. Measuring Instruments Directive – Jim Sibley

JS commented that the Measuring Instruments Directive is likely to be reviewed and may result in a change to GB legislation which NMO will issue.

- 7.2. This MAMCoP meeting is Barry Cook's last, the Board thank him for his input and hard work during his time as a board member. Mark Burrow will be his replacement.

8. Date for next meeting

March 16th 2010- Ofgem

Confirmed: July 6th 2010- Ofgem

Confirmed: 12 October 2010 - Ofgem

ACTION

LOG

Action Ref	Issue	Date when originally raised	Action	Owner
1a	Review MAMCoP	18/10/2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •SR to send invite out to convene a working group to review the MAMCoP. 	OFGEM
1b	Finalise the OAMI Cops review	18/10/2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wilcocks Consulting to lead in liaison with Ofgem 	Wilcock
2	Appeals Process for MAMCoP/AIGT	17/01/2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •SR to progress within Ofgem, Bob Murray suggested that Lawyers meet to discuss if that is helpful for Ofgem. 	OFGEM
3	Moving Domestic Meters and OAMI CoPs	16/10/2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •IS/IGEM to keep everyone posted on report/progress. 	IGEM
4	CORGI/GSR Numbering	27/03/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MR to send technical bulletin web link 	MR
5	Disconnection and Removal of a Meter by a Distribution Engineer	16/06/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MR to provide response, however, EU Skills may also have knowledge on issue. 	EU SKILLS & GSR
6	Smart Metering	16/06/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MB to update board on smart metering progress. 	MB
7	Permal Meter Boxes	16/06/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •DT to provide info in form of Agenda item for March 2010 to feedback to group. 	TS/DT
8	Structures Built around External Meter Boxes	8/09/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •DT to provide update on issue under Gas Industry Unsafe 6 forum and through GSR and report back on progress to MAMCoP Board. 	DT
9	Meter/ECV washers	15/12/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •BC to produce a briefing notification to GSR by end of this week. 	BC
10	MAMCoP review	15/12/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •SR to head MAMCoP document review group, setting up team and develop Terms of Reference document. 	SR