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Smart metering System: "A System Approach rather than a Product"

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Smart Metering System Architecture



What is Smart metering System?



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Smart Metering System / AMI is a crucial part of a Smart Grid. It is an integrated system of smart meters, communication networks and data management systems that enables two way communication between the utilities and consumer premises equipment.



- Smart Meter (as per IS 16444)
 - It is an ac static watt hour meter with time of use registers, <u>internal connect</u> and <u>disconnect switches</u> with <u>two way communication</u> capability.
 - It is designed to <u>measure flow</u> of forward (import) or <u>(import)</u> and reverse <u>(export)</u>, store and communicate the same along with other parameters defined in this standard.
 - It shall be remotely accessed for collecting data/events, programming for select parameters.
 - Key parameters should be thought of as per the drivers of utility:
 - Parameters logged in meter
 - Tamper immunity/logging



Communication Infrastructure

- Communication network is the backbone of Smart Metering System / Advanced Metering Infrastructure. This should be thoughtfully decided and its future scalability should be seen. This needs to be seen w.r.t. its availability, terrain, and addressing multiple applications. Following are the key parameters for same
- Reliability & Scalability
- Security
- Multiple applications- DA etc.



• Head End System

- HES acts as a acquisition system which stores data of Smart meters (regular pushes/scheduled reads etc.).
- It should be decided based upon the communication network, robustness & scalability to accommodate present as well as future requirements.
- Utility shall be able to read/control/upgrade the Smart meters through HES via proper security mechanisms



- Meter Data Management
 - MDMs provides utility-specific business logic to automate and streamline the complex billing and data analytics process
 - The critical role of an MDM system is to process granular interval meter data at large volumes very quickly.
 - It does data validation, cleanse and process before making it available for billing and analysis
 - There should provision to do the customization by user on validation, editing and estimation (VEE) on the AMI data.



• Consumer Interface

- The Smart Metering System is a distributed intelligent system, therefore the requirement
 of CI is very critical. As all the alerts related of availability of power, critical pricing /
 dynamic pricing shall be made available on CI and consumer has to act based upon his
 requirement.
- It should be compatible with the communication infrastructure and Smart Meter. CI can be a mobile device (phone/tablet etc.) or special hardware which have graphical display, easy to understand and provide audible / visual alarm in case of any message / from utility



- Performance Parameters
 - To facilitate highly accurate and timely availability of data and alerts from the AMI system, there is a need to define performance parameter other than features and functionality.
 - This will ensure a robust communication network which will help utility in making several decision in distribution segment.
 - The performance levels for daily meter readings, alerts / alarm, on-demand read, etc. meter data availability, should be clearly spelt out and has been agreed upon by both, the communication technology provider and the Discoms as part of SLA (Service Level Agreements)

Smart functionalities

• Disconnection mechanism

- Over current (minimum 105% of Imax in any phase for predefined persistence time)
- Load control limit (programmable and set by utility)
- Pre-programmed event conditions (factory set)
- Disconnect signal from utility control centre
- In case of pre-paid facility under defined/ agree conditions

Reconnection mechanism



- The switch re-connection shall be decided by meter locally. It will try to reconnect the load up to
 predefined time, with predefined interval. If the load is within limits meter shall remain in normal
 connect mode.
- If the load is still more than the programmed limits, it will lock out and wait for 30 min (lock out period). After this period the meter reconnect the load and if the load is still beyond the defined limits it shall be repeated with status update to HES
- All other condition reconnection shall happen through HES
- In case of prepayment, as per agreed structure with utility



Smart functionalities

- All connection & disconnection shall also be logged as events.
- Indication of status of Load Switch (that is connected / disconnected) shall be available on display as well as at HES.
- Smart Meters shall respond to:
 - Meter readings on demand from HES
 - Scheduled meter reading from HES
 - Remote Firmware upgrade from HES
 - All programming request from HES



• Smart Meter shall detect "First breath (power on) and Last gasp (power off) condition and communicate to HES.

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- Development as Solution
 - Requirement analysis has to be done at system level considering the end to end smartness of system
 - Operations processes of meter reading/installation/maintenance has to be considered in these analysis





Smart Metering Challenges

Challenges – Smart Meters



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Challenges – Operational



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The **"SMARTNESS"** comes from the entire system component and not just one or two components, hence it has to be seen, design & implemented keeping end to end **System Approach** and not the **Product Approach**



Convenor, IMTeF

Thanks for your Kind Attention & Support