STS Association

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Standard Transfer Specification – Key Management – Conditions of use and conduct for the use and management of Supply Group Codes

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2 Revision History

Edition	Clause	Date	Change details from previous edition
draft1		02/07/2021	For review by STSA Board
draft2		03/07/2021	Resolution of comments Sent for legal review
Draft3		06/07/2021	Resolution of comments
Draft4		18/07/201	Resolution of Eskom comments
Draft5		19/07/2021	Legal review
Final draft		21/07/2021	Board review
Edition 1		23/07/2021	Released for use
Edition 1.1	various	13/08/2021	Added the term SGC sub user
Edition 1.2	various	30/09/2026	Redacted Edition 1.1 to simplify the document. Added disclaimer in Clause 8 Renumbered document clauses

STANDARD TRANSFER SPECIFICATION ASSOCIATION

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STANDARD TRANSFER SPECIFICATION –

Key Management – Conditions of use and conduct for the use and management of Supply Group Codes

3 FOREWORD

1) The Standard Transfer Specification Association ("STSA") is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all of the members of STSA. The object of STSA is to develop, maintain and promote the local and international use of the Standard Transfer Specification ("STS"). To this end and in addition to other activities, STSA publishes Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Codes of Practice and Guides (hereafter referred to as “STSA Publication(s)”). Their preparation is entrusted to technical working groups; any STSA member interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. STSA collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission ("IEC") in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations. As such the STSA performs the role of Registration Authority of IEC 62055-41, IEC 62055-51 and IEC 62055-52 on behalf of the IEC.
2) The formal decisions or agreements of STSA on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each working group has representation from all interested STSA members.
3) STSA Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by STSA Board of Directors on that basis. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of STSA Publications is accurate, STSA cannot (and does not) guarantee the accuracy of the content of those publications, will not be held responsible for the way in which they are used or relied upon, or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
5) Independent testing bodies provide conformity assessment services and recommendations to STSA Board of Directors who provides conformance certificates and access to STSA marks of conformity.
6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
7) No liability shall attach to STSA or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical working groups for any loss, personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this STSA Publication or any other STSA Publications.
8) Attention is drawn to the normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this STSA Publication may be the subject of patent rights. STSA shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

4 INTRODUCTION

One of the key components of any STS-based system are the Supply Group Codes (SGC), which are associated with vending keys, and are used to demarcate geographical, commercial, or other areas of payment meter installations.

The management and rights of use of these SGCs are of paramount importance to ensure that the allocation, management, and use of these SGCs are well managed.

STANDARD TRANSFER SPECIFICATION –

Key Management – Conditions of use and conduct for the use and management of Supply Group Codes

5 Scope

Subject to a successful application for an SGC (which shall include the acceptance by the SGC Applicant of the conditions of use and conduct specified in this STS 700 -1), the STSA grants to the registered SGC User the revocable right of use of an allocated SGC for its sole use and benefit, which right will endure for, and will not be revoked, so long as, and provided that, the SGC User complies strictly with the conditions of use and conduct specified in this STS 700-1, (or any other conditions imposed by the STSA from time to time) and applicable laws.

Any SGC which is granted to the SGC User is for its use and benefit only, and the SGC User may not transfer the SGC to any third party, without the prior written consent of the STSA, which it may in its discretion, refuse, grant or grant subject to conditions.

6 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are an integral part of its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

STS401-1: Code of practice for the allocation of Supply Group Codes

IEC 62055-41: Standard Transfer Specification (STS) – Application layer protocol for one-way token carrier systems

7 Abbreviations, Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the meanings given to words and phrases in IEC 62055-41 will be given the same meaning in this document, and the following additional words, phrases and/or abbreviations will be given the meanings set forth in this paragraph 3:

7.1 Abbreviations:

KMC – Key Management Centre

STS – Standard Transfer Specification

STSA - Standard Transfer Specification Association

7.2 Terms and definitions:

Vending Key:
a unique secret cryptographic code created, securely stored in the KMC HSM, and maintained by the STSA for the purpose of encrypting tokens intended for use in payment meters installed in a geographically demarcated supply area and which is logically linked to a unique SGC.

SGC:
a unique 6-digit decimal number (as defined in IEC62055-41) allocated to an SGC User, which is registered within the key management system, and is used to uniquely identify a sub-group of payment meters within the supply or distribution domain. Each Supply Group has one or more Vending Keys associated with it and hence each payment meter in the group has a uniquely derived decoder key associated with it.

Supply Group:
a population of STS compliant payment meters which are deployed in a supply or distribution domain, and which is identified and managed as a homogenized population through and by reason of the singular SGC applicable to it.

SGC Application Form:
a formal document provided by the STSA and submitted by an SGC Applicant who is making an application to the STSA for the rights of use of an SGC, and which incorporates the conditions of use and conduct specified in this STS 700 -1.

SGC Applicant:
a Juristic Person who makes an application (using the SGC Application Form) to the STSA for the right to use an SGC.

Juristic Person:
an entity recognized by the law as being entitled to rights and duties in the same way as a Natural Person, including, without limitation, companies and close corporations.

Natural Person:
a living human person.

SGC User:
a Juristic Person to whom an SGC has been allocated for use by the STSA as provided for in this STS 700-1.

POPIA:
the Protection of Personal Information Act No. 4 of 2013 of South Africa.

8 Conditions of right of use of an SGC

Any right granted to an SGC User to use an SGC is and shall be revocable by the STSA if and on the basis that, the SGC User contravenes any of the conditions set out in this document (and any other conditions imposed by the STSA from time to time) or contravenes any applicable law, or if so ordered by any court of competent jurisdiction. In the event that an SGC is so revoked, the SGC User in question will immediately cease its use of the SGC, and will co-operate with the STSA and/or any law enforcement agency, or any other person with authority, in giving effect to such cessation.

An SGC granted to an SGC User is not transferable and an SGC User may not transfer to any third party the SGC granted to it by the STSA unless it has first obtained the STSA's prior written consent, which the STSA may in its sole discretion refuse, grant or grant subject to conditions.

The SGC User authorizes the STSA to use and/or disseminate any information (including personal information and special personal information as defined in clause 6 below) to any person for the purpose of or pertaining to determining whether an SGC User has complied or is complying with the terms and conditions set forth in this document, or otherwise imposed including, without limitation, for investigating, commencing or running legal proceedings relevant to any claim relating to a contravention of the conditions to the rights of use of an SGC.

This document will be governed in all respects by the laws of South Africa and the SGC Applicant submits to the jurisdiction of the High Courts of South Africa.

In the implementation of an STS-based system, several parties require the right to use a SGC granted by the STSA. The conditions regarding the rights of use of a SGC are contained in this document.

In all cases the SGC shall be allocated to an SGC User in accordance with this STS 700-1 and the rules for the allocation of SGCs as published by the STSA in STS 401-1.

Juristic Persons only shall be eligible to apply for and be granted the right to use of an SGC.

If an SGC is lawfully used within the area of authority of a Utility, then the SGC Applicant shall obtain and submit the written approval from such Utility that such SGC Applicant may use an SGC in that area. Any conditions and exceptions which may be imposed by the Utility shall be strictly complied with by the SGC User.

Neither the STSA nor any of its directors, employees or agents is liable to an SGC User for any loss, damage or expense arising from any Misuse. In this clause 4, "Misuse" means any use of an SGC, or any use or disclosure of a Vending Key associated with an SGC, that is unlawful or is not permitted by this STS 700-1 or by any other condition imposed by the STSA, whether it occurs

before or after any right to use that SGC is revoked or otherwise ends. This exclusion of liability applies whether the claim for loss, damage or expense is founded on contract, delict or any other ground, and even if the loss, damage or expense was caused by the negligence of the STSA or of any person acting for or controlled by it. It does not apply to the extent that the loss, damage or expense was caused intentionally by or through gross negligence of the STSA or any such person.

The SGC User indemnifies the STSA and its directors, employees and agents against any claim by any other person arising from any Misuse by the SGC User, or by any person who obtained access to an SGC, or to a Vending Key associated with an SGC, through or from the SGC User. The indemnity extends to any amount paid in respect of such a claim and to legal costs reasonably incurred in defending it. It applies even if the claim is founded on the negligence of the STSA or of any person acting for or controlled by it. It does not apply to the extent that the claim is for loss caused intentionally by or through gross negligence of the STSA or any such person.

The SGC Applicant confirms that its attention has been drawn to this clause 4 of STS 700-1, specifically those provisions which exclude the STSA’s liability for misuse of an SGC and require the SGC User to indemnify the STSA against claims by others, and that it has had an adequate opportunity to read and understand them.

9 Processing of Personal Information

By completing the SGC Application Form and sending it to the STSA (or its nominee), the SGC Applicant (which shall for the purposes of this clause also include its authorized representative who completed the SGC Application Form and the SGC User, if the SGC Applicant later becomes an SGC User) consents to and agrees that:

1) the STSA may collect personal information and/or special personal information as defined in POPIA (“Personal Information”) from the SGC Applicant and where necessary from any other source for the purpose of the STSA developing, maintaining and promoting the local and international use of the STS in general, and including, without limitation, for the purpose of executing any rights and obligations that it may have in relation to the SGC Applicant or any matter in respect of which the SGC Applicant and/or the Personal information applies, issuing an SGC to the SGC Applicant, the preservation of data which is, or which may be applicable to any claim or dispute, and the maintenance of reasonable, accurate and complete historical record keeping (“the Purpose”);
2) the Purpose is fair and legitimate for the STSA, so that it can comply with law, contract with the SGC Applicant and manage the concomitant relationship and other matters arising from it;
3) the STSA may use and/or disclose Personal Information or any other information to any person (in any geographic area) that the STSA, acting reasonably, deems desirable for the Purpose but to the extent that the STSA is requested by any person to disclose any such information, the STSA will only disclose that information if the person requesting it has followed the process (if any) prescribed by applicable law or by the STSA from time to time to do so;
4) the STSA may retain Personal Information in any form, for as long as the STSA in its sole discretion deems desirable for the Purpose;
5) the STSA may process any correspondence, in any form, to and from the SGC Applicant, t o do with any matter pertaining to the SGC Applicant; and
6) notwithstanding the provisions contained in paragraph 7 below, in terms of section 18(4) of POPIA, the SGC Applicant does not require the STSA to comply with all of the provisions of section 18(1) of POPIA.

7) The SGC Applicant, subject to what is said in paragraph 6, is hereby informed that the provisions of section 18(1) of POPIA state that:

"a responsible party must take reasonably practicable steps to ensure that the data subject is aware of:

a) the information being collected and where the information is not collected from the data subject, the source from which it is collected;

b) the name and address of the responsible party;

c) the purpose for which the information is being collected;

d) whether or not the supply of information by the data subject is voluntary or mandatory;

e) the consequences of failure to provide the information;

f) any particular law authorizing or requiring the collection of the information;

g) the fact that, where applicable, the responsible party intends to transfer the information to a third country or international organization and the level of protection afforded to the information by that third country or international organization;

h) any further information such as the:

i) recipient or category of recipients of the information;

ii) nature or category of the information;

iii) existence of the right of access to and the right to rectify the information collected;

iv) existence of the right to object to the processing of personal information as referred to in Section 11(3); and

v) right to lodge a complaint to the information regulator and the contact details of the information regulator, which is necessary, having regard to the specific circumstances in which the information is or is not to be processed, to enable processing in respect of the data subject to be reasonable."