

About the DCC, SMETS1 and
SMETS2 meters

Gentrack

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2 Summary

This article describes smart meters, including the difference between SMETS1 and SMETS2. It also describes the relationship between Junifer and the Data Communications Company (**DCC**).

3 SMETS1 meters

3.1 What is a SMETS1 meter?

A SMETS1 meter is a first generation smart meter. Several companies provide SMETS1 meters and run the network that allows to suppliers communicate with them.

3.2 What does Junifer support?

At the time of writing (October 2017):

- Junifer can load meter reads from SMETS1 meters provided by **Secure** and **EDMI**. Please contact us for the precise specifications.
- As far as Junifer is concerned a SMETS1 smart meter is simply a source of reads. Junifer loads reads as described in [About reads for SMETS1 smart meters](#).
- Junifer **cannot** control SMETS1 meters. The only functionality supported by Junifer is to load reads.

4 SMETS2 meters

4.1 What is a SMETS 2 meter?

A SMETS 2 meter is a second generation smart meter. SMETS 2 meters are progressively being rolled out in order to help the government achieve its goal of having all British homes equipped with smart meters by 2020.

4.2 What is the difference between SMETS1 and SMETS2 meter?

The key difference between SMETS1 and SMETS2 meters is that SMETS1 meters communicate with the industry via phone networks, while SMETS2 meters will use the specially-created Data Communications Company (DCC). SMETS2 allows customers to switch suppliers without worrying about losing the smart functionality of their meter. Currently, when switching suppliers many customers with SMETS1 meters must either have their meter replaced by a different SMETS1 meter or lose smart functionality altogether.

4.3 What does Junifer support?

Junifer will eventually support all types of SMETS2 meters. [DCC adapter integration - scope of work](#) describes what we support right now.

5 How do I know if a meter point has a smart meter?

See [How to identify UK smart meters](#)

6 The DCC

6.1 What is the DCC?

The DCC is the central hub where messages between SMETS2 smart meters and the industry are exchanged.

6.2 What is the relationship between Junifer and the DCC?

As before, you use the Junifer client to connect to the Junifer server. The Junifer server then connects to your DCC adapter which serves as an interface between your Junifer server and the DCC.

- ✓ Each supplier will therefore need to have a DCC adapter. At launch, Junifer supports two: uSmart (provided by Utiligroup) and TMA.

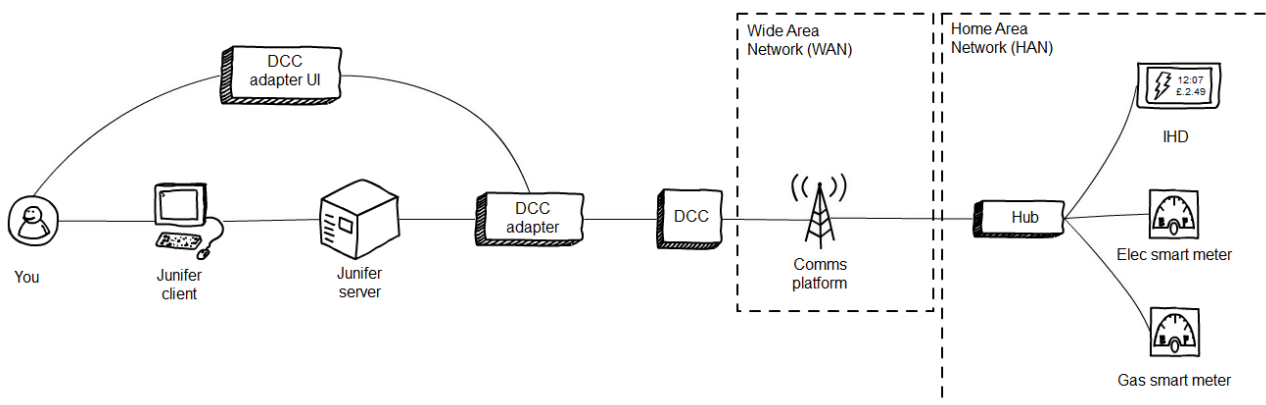
The DCC is connected to a Wide Area Network (WAN) also known as the comms platform.

The comms platform talks to each customer's Home Area Network (HAN).

Each HAN is made up of:

- a smart meter which takes the reads (for dual fuel customers, there will be two smart meters)
- a communications hub which sends the reads to the DCC adapter and the In-Home Display
- an In-Home Display (IHD) which displays the reads and consumption rates

The following diagram shows how all of these relate to one another:



6.3 What billing calendars (billing cycles) does DCC support?

SMETS2 billing calendars are different from the industry standards. The In-Home Display (IHD) will display monthly data, but not quarterly data. It resets itself every 30 days, meaning the maximum viewable history is 30 days. Alignment with an anniversary date is possible though.