

Clarification Request

References: BTL Test Plan 12.0.final, Test 13.X6.4.1

Date of BTL-WG Response: November 13, 2014

☒ All actions necessitated have been completed

Background:

13.X6.4.1 Modify an Exception_Schedule

According to this test, a workstation is required to support Exception_Schedule properties, containing 255 SpecialEvents with at least 10 TimeValuePairs each. A workstation must be able to read and present the complete Exception_Schedule, but must be also able to modify it.

Test 13.X6.4.1 will check that a workstation is able to modify this kind of Exception_Schedule, but it does not check, how it will be changed.

A modification of this huge array depends on the server functionality, especially the Max_APDU_Length_Accepted, Segmentation_Supported and Max_Segments_Accepted settings.

Using different combinations of these properties, there are (at least) 3 possibilities:

- 1.) The Server supports segmentation with 255 segments. Result: The complete Exception_Schedule can be written in one single WriteProperty-Request.
- 2.) The Server does support segmentation, but with fewer segments than would be required, to transmit the complete array in one PDU. Result: The complete Exception_Schedule can not be transmitted in a single WriteProperty-Request (Abort – Buffer_Overflow), so it must be written, by sending out a WriteProperty-Request for each single Array-Element using the Array-Index parameter.
- 3.) The Server does not support segmentation. Result: The complete Exception_Schedule can not be transmitted in a single WriteProperty-Request (Reject – Segmentation_Not_Supported), so it must be written, by sending out a WriteProperty Requests for each single Array-Element using the Array-Index parameter.

Question:

- a.) Is a workstation (B-OWS, B-AWS) required to support a write fallback on single array elements, when a complete array property will not be accepted by the server?
- b.) Is a workstation (B-OWS, B-AWS) required to support all 3 cases above?
- c.) Will a workstation (B-OWS, B-AWS) successfully pass the tests/certification by only passing case 1?

We have not found any hind for this behaviour, neither in the 135-2012 nor the BTL Implementation Guidelines. Chapter 5.6 of the BTL Implementation Guidelines and the BTL Testplan chapter 8.5.1 (DM-ADM-A) handle this kind of fallback, but only for reading, not writing.

Response:

- a.) No. There is no language in the BIBB requiring a fallback strategy, if a method that will work is always attempted.

b.) No. If it uses ByIndex, typically in RPM and even WPM, all within a single APDU, it need never use nor attempt segmentation.

c) No. The TD used in testing does not support 255 segments. That much capacity is not typically implemented in a server.