Clarification Request

References: BTL Testpackage 20.0.1

Date of BTL-WG Response: <u>2022-11-03</u>

Background: deprecation of NetworkSecurity object

The NetworkSecurity object type plays a role only in the context of section 24 security. But this type of network security was essentially not deployed in the field due to discovered shortcomings. It was superceded by Annex AB Secure Connect and it was declared deprecated with BACnet protocol revision 22.

Problem:

A side BIBBS for data sharing view, advanced view, modify and advanced modify require the Aside device reading, writing and presenting all standard properties from all standard object types with certain exceptions as defined by the respective BIBBS. The NetworkSecurity object is not among the exceptions. This means all workstations below protocol revision 22 would be expected to deal with the NetworkSecurity object.

But because section 24 security is not implemented in real devices on the market it is very difficult to source B-side devices and tools with section 24 support for development, pretesting and testing. So, the effort for Aside support of the NetworkSecurity object is high and the possible gain in interoperability in the field is next to zero.

Question:

Should all A-side testing, that involves the NetworkSecurity object be skipped in the BTL testpackage?

Response:

Yes