

# **Custom Transport Interface for the Integration of Trusted Network Connect in German Smart Metering Systems**

---

Carl-Heinz Genzel, Richard Sethmann

University of Applied Sciences Bremen, Flughafenallee 10,  
28199 Bremen, Germany

# Inhalt

1. Introduction
2. Smart Metering Systems
3. Integrity Protection and Monitoring
4. Data Transport
5. Evaluation
6. Conclusion & Prospects

# **INTRODUCTION**

---

# Introduction

- » Introduction of Smart Metering Systems by the German government
- » Security architecture for Smart Metering Systems developed by the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI)
- » Research project SPIDER
  - Analysis of the security architecture revealed that the integrity of a major component may be vulnerable
  - Trusted Network Connect (TNC) specified by the Trusted Computing Group (TCG) for integrity monitoring

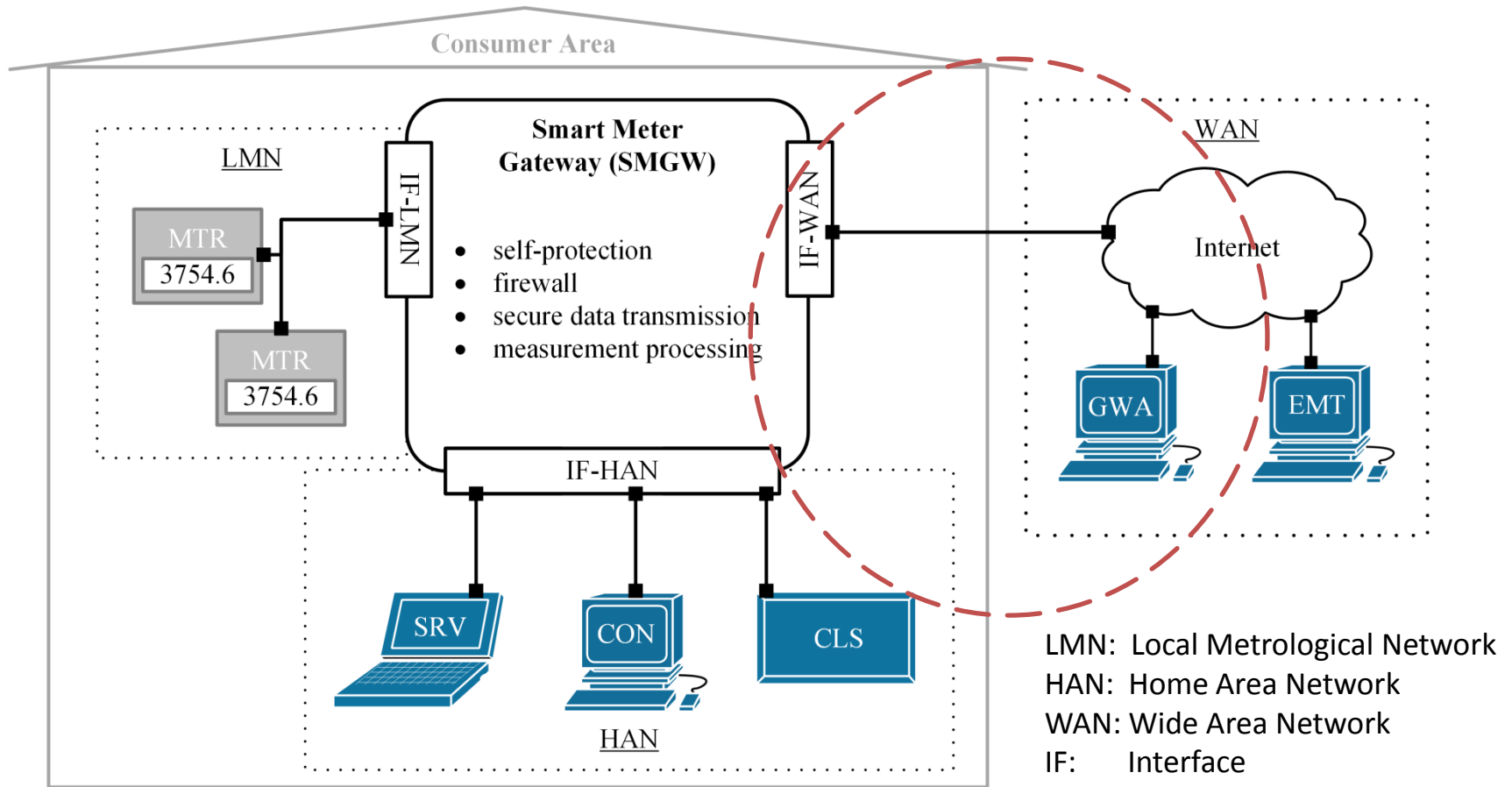
# Introduction

- » Main tasks for this paper:
  - Evaluation of the existing specifications
    - BSI specifications for the Smart Metering System
    - TCG specifications for the Trusted Network Connect architecture
  - Development of solutions to overcome contradictions between the existing specifications
  - Evaluation of the developed solutions

# **SMART METERING SYSTEM**

---

# Smart Metering Systems



MTR: Smart Meter SRV: Service Technician CON: Consumer CLS: Controllable Local System  
 GWA: Gateway Administrator EMT: Authorized External Entity

# **INTEGRITY PROTECTION AND MONITORING**

---

---



# Integrity Protection and Monitoring: Concept

## » Hardware protection

- Visible permanent seal, housing state detection, tamper resistant grid

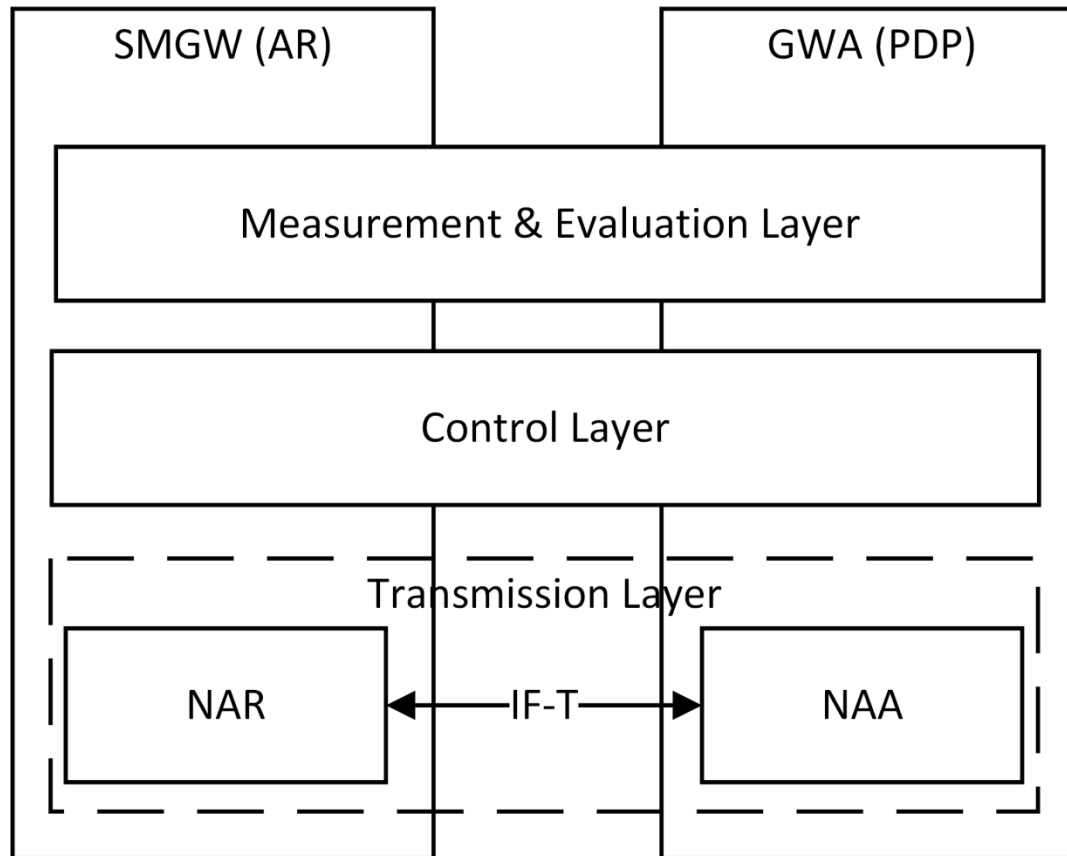
## » Boottime protection

- Secure Boot-Pattern

## » Runtime protection

- Remote Attestation using TNC
  - Continuously measurement of the systems integrity state
  - Assessment of the systems integrity by a remote instance using the measured system integrity state

# Integrity Protection and Monitoring: TNC



# **DATA TRANSPORT**

---

# Data Transport: TCG IF-T

- » Interface depends on physical connection and its lower layer protocols
- » Separate specifications for different connection types
  - TCG Trusted Network Connect TNC IF-T: Protocol Bindings for Tunneled EAP Methods (IF-T-EAP)
    - Integrity state as part of an authentication to access a network (e. g. 802.1x)
  - TCG Trusted Network Connect TNC IF-T: Binding to TLS (IF-T-TLS)
    - Integrity state as part of a continuous system monitoring through an existing connection to a network

# Data Transport: BSI IF-WAN

| OSI | WAN protocols   |  |      |       |       |     |
|-----|-----------------|--|------|-------|-------|-----|
| 5-7 | Wake-Up-Service | DLMS/COSEM RESTful web service secured by CMS with XML transfer syntax |      | NTP   | other | NTP |
|     |                 | other  | HTTP |       |       |     |
|     |                 | TLS  |      |       |       |     |
| 4   | UDP             | TCP  |      | other |       |     |
| 3   | IP              |  |      |       |       |     |
| 2   | other           |  |      |       |       |     |
| 1   |                 |  |      |       |       |     |

# Data Transport: Differences

## IF-T and IF-WAN

- » Most differences concern the use of TLS
- » TCG specifications have a lot of recommendations for the use of TLS to make it flexible
- » TCG recommendations regarding TLS are ...
  - partially considered mandatory by the BSI
  - partially prohibited by the BSI
- » At least one element specified by the TCG for TLS is fully contradicting:
  - Cipher suite TLS\_RSA\_WITH\_AES\_128\_CBC\_SHA

# Data Transport: Custom IF-T

| OSI | WAN protocols   |               |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|--|-------|--------------------|-----------------|-----|--|
| 5-7 | Wake-Up-Service | IF-T-RS-COSEM | DLMS/COSEM RESTful web service secured by CMS with XML transfer syntax | NTP   | IF-T-RS-TNC/SIMPLE | IF-T-BSI (-EXT) | NTP |  |
|     |                 | other         |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |
|     |                 | HTTP          |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |
|     |                 | TLS           |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |
| 4   | UDP             | TCP           |  | other |                    |                 |     |  |
| 3   | IP              |               |  | other |                    |                 |     |  |
| 2   | other           |               |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |
| 1   | other           |               |  |       |                    |                 |     |  |

# **EVALUATION**

---



# Evaluation: Criteria

- » Criteria based on ISO 25010 quality model:
  - Functionality
  - Complexity
  - Flexibility
  - Efficiency
  - Security
  - Standard orientation
  
- » No approach was unsuitable at all

# Evaluation: Approaches

- » IF-T-BSI: Strong orientation on TCG specifications
- » IF-T-BSI-EXT: Good efficiency and good functionality  
(best rating)
- » IF-T-RS-COSEM: Very complex and BSI compliance not clear (worst rating)
- » IF-T-RS-TNC: High flexibility and little to no standard orientation
- » IF-T-RS-SIMPLE: Tradeoff between IF-T-BSI and IF-T-RS-TNC

# Evaluation: Final Result

- » DLMS/COSEM RESTful web service should be used to configure TNC at the SMGW
- » IF-T-BSI should be used for the transmission of TNC data
  - Not the best rated approach but:
    - Strong orientation on TCG specifications
    - Less complex (TLS only)
    - Theoretically compatible to existing TNC implementations (low adoption barrier)
    - TCG specifications are more mature than the specifications of the BSI

# **CONCLUSION & PROSPECTS**

---

# Conclusion

- » Demonstration of TNC for a Smart Metering System was implemented
  - Integration of an AR at an SMGW
  - Integration of a PDP at a GWA
  - Configuration of TNC at the SMGW can be done using the DLMS/COSEM RESTful web service
- » Different approaches for the transmission of TNC-Data were introduced
  - The approach with the strongest orientation on the TCG specifications was chosen to lower the adoption barrier

# Prospects

- » The results of this paper have to be discussed further with the TCG
- » Development of a Trusted Grid using TNC for other components in the Smart Grid
- » Integration of further (TNC-)components for monitoring the Smart Metering System as well as the Smart Grid
- » Open Source project for a Java based TNC library (jTNC): <https://github.com/trusthsbremen/jtnc>

# Thank You

# Questions?