

An overview of WITS-DNP3 Master Station Licensing for End Users and Vendors

Introduction

This article attempts to explain what costs an end user or Field Device vendor would be expected to pay to get a WITS-DNP3 Field Device working on a WITS-DNP3 Master Station.

At this time, there are only two certified Master Stations within the WITS-DNP3 landscape. The article explains the licensing and incidental costs related to the use of each Master Station, the costs discussed do not refer to professional costs to develop or deploy Field Devices, rather, the licensing and incidental costs that may be required to get the Field Device operational on the end user's WITS-DNP3 Master Station.

The article was written to answer criticism from some Field Device vendors about "hidden" costs and barriers in getting their Field Devices deployed on end users' systems. To balance criticism that entry to WITS-DNP3 is costly we should remember that WITS-DNP3 realised a number of benefits for end users, such as significantly cheaper Field Devices, commonality of data across projects, simplified procurement process and importantly introduction of security. Those benefits have reduced the total cost of ownership and as such WITS-DNP3 adoption has gained significant momentum and end users now regard the benefits of WITS-DNP3 as an enabler to entry rather than a barrier.

To make the entry costs as clear as possible we have tried to lay bare the costs that might be incurred so that Field Device vendors and end users can take them into account at an early stage of their engagement with WITS-DNP3. The document also serves as a reference to information which it can be otherwise difficult to source and ensures that future discussion on such issues is based on fact as opposed to conjecture or anecdote.

The document has been reviewed and approved by both certified Master Station vendors and therefore represents the WITS PSAC's best understanding of the current situation.

Note that the costs quoted are always list prices unless otherwise stated. End users and/or Field Device vendors should seek formal quotations from the relevant Master Station vendors for definitive costs.

The WITS PSAC are keen to keep this article up to date and echo the experiences of our end users and Field Device vendors within the article, whilst maintaining the facts at all time. If you believe you are subject to costs outside the regime we have described here we would very much like to hear from you.

Schneider Electric – ClearSCADA

In the case of ClearSCADA, once the end user has procured the appropriate licences, they are entitled to deploy any WITS-DNP3 Field Device against their system without further cost. However, Schneider Electric do not offer support on non-Schneider Electric Field Devices and problems with such devices would normally be resolved between the end user and Field Device vendor.

Costs to End Users

Item	Optional/ Mandatory	One off/ Annual	List Price
WITS-DNP3 licence per ClearSCADA Server	Mandatory	One off	£5000
WITS-DNP3 Support per licence (20% of list price)	Mandatory	Annual	£1000

Therefore, for a system with one Live and one Permanent Standby server, two licences would be required. If servers are being used as Application servers and not connecting to Field Devices these still require a licence.

A license is also required for each Non-Production server, whether used as Permanent Standby, Test, Training, Development or Disaster Recovery.

WITS Support costs are in addition to the licence fee and charged for annually.

The WITS licence includes both the current version of the software and future versions, assuming that the end user continues to pay for support. For example, if another version of WITS-DNP3 is introduced and implemented on ClearSCADA then this would be available to the user at no further charge given their support arrangement is current.

Costs to Field Device Vendors

Item	Optional/ Mandatory	One off/ Annual	List Price
Test System and support for 24 months	Optional	One off	£10,000
Test System continued Support after the initial 24 months	Optional	Annual	£3000

If a Field Device vendor wishes they may procure a test system to allow them to test their Field Device against the ClearSCADA system. It is not mandatory to buy such a test system, but vendors may find it helpful. If purchased, the Test System will stop operating after the initial 24 month period; this applies to both the ClearSCADA system license and the WITS-DNP3 license. To continue to operate the system, receive updates and support the Test System, continued support must be purchased annually.

Details of the test system offer can be found on [this page](#) on the WITS website. The costs are also taken from this page which holds precedence over this article. The support costs need only be paid after the initial 24-month period covered by procurement of the test system.

Device vendors should contact Schneider Electric to discuss witnessed and/or certification testing, which will be quoted for on an individual basis.

Contact details

Users and vendors wishing to discuss the details of the licensing presented above may contact Steve Grant through his email address steve.grant@schneider-electric.com or by telephone on 07798 658859.

Servelec Technologies - SCOPE

To be able to use a device on an end user's live/production SCOPE system the Field Device must be an Authenticated SCOPE Device, this is a term specific to Servelec Technologies. Creating a WITS-DNP3 Field Device and attempting to deploy it against a SCOPE system without the Field Device being an Authenticated SCOPE Device will not work, this is to ensure the integrity of their product. For end users to deploy a Field Device on their SCOPE Master Station the Field Device must also be added to the authenticated device list by Servelec Technologies. Authenticating a Field Device guarantees the Field Device against the appropriate parts of the WITS-DNP3 test specification.

Costs to End Users

Item	Optional/ Mandatory	One off/ Annual	List Price
WITS-DNP3 Licence for SCOPE (Duty Server)	Mandatory	One off	£12,000
WITS-DNP3 Licence for SCOPE (Standby Server)	Mandatory	One off	£8,000
Authenticated SCOPE Device Support (made per device type) – in addition to the existing annual support cost	Mandatory	Annual	£1500

Licencing for Non-Production systems is included in the live production system licencing.

The Licence includes support for all Field Devices in the Servelec Technologies S2000 range and the following third party devices:

- Schneider Electric Talus T4e
- Technolog Cello
- ITT Water and Wastewater Systems D714x
- ABB Aquamaster 3

Servelec Technologies charge a Support fee per SCOPE Authenticated Field Device type. For this Support fee, Servelec Technologies handle all support with other vendors on behalf of end users. This fee does not apply to the Servelec S2000 series and those mentioned above, but does apply to all others.

For end users who have paid for a WITS-DNP3 licence and are only using those Field Devices that don't attract a support charge, such as the S2000, then no other charges would ever be due as long as they have ongoing system support with Servelec Technologies.

Note that the number of deployed Field Devices does not affect the support costs. The support costs are determined from the number of Field Device types.

Costs to Vendors

Item	Optional/ Mandatory	One off/ Annual	List Price
Field Device SCOPE initial Authentication Charge – includes initial Authentication testing	Mandatory	One off	£20,000
Subsequent or retest of the field device Authentication testing.	Mandatory	Per occurrence	£10,000
SCOPE Authenticated Field Device Unlock Charge	Mandatory	One off	£5000
Test System and support including 10 hrs telephone support within first 12 months	Optional	One off	£5000
Test System Support for each subsequent year without break	Optional	Annual	£3000
Technical Support	Optional	As required	£1000 per day

The Authentication Charge is made per WITS-DNP3 Field Device and per firmware version tested.

The Field Device SCOPE Authentication Charge covers authentication of the Field Device firmware to the latest supported SCOPE WITS-DNP3 version and is backward compatible with all previous versions.

The Field Device SCOPE Authentication Unlock Charge is applied for each Field Device tested and authenticated by Servelec Technologies per end user.

If a Field Device vendor wishes, they may procure a test system to allow them to test their Field Device against the SCOPE system. It is not mandatory to buy such a test system, but vendors may find it prudent, in an effort to ensure they enter Authentication Testing with every chance of passing.

Details of the test system offer can be found on [this page](#) on the WITS website. The costs are also taken from this page which holds precedence over this article.

If the SCOPE system is updated, Servelec Technologies will ensure that any existing SCOPE Authenticated Devices remain in the authenticated state.

Contact details

Users and vendors wishing to discuss the details of the Servelec Technologies licensing presented above may contact John Hall through his email address john.hall@servelec-technologies.com or by telephone on 07803 118562.