

RELION®

Substation Merging Unit SMU615

Cyber Security Deployment Guideline





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Section 1 Introduction

1.1 This manual

The cyber security deployment guideline describes the process for handling cyber security when communicating with the merging unit. The cyber security deployment guideline provides information on how to secure the system on which the merging unit is installed. The guideline can be used as a technical reference during the engineering phase, installation and commissioning phase, and during normal service.

1.2 Intended audience

This guideline is intended for the system engineering, commissioning, operation and maintenance personnel handling cybersecurity during the engineering, installation and commissioning phases, and during normal service.

The personnel is expected to have general knowledge about topics related to cybersecurity.

- Protection and control devices, gateways and Windows workstations
- Networking, including Ethernet and TCP/IP with its concept of ports and services
- Security policies
- Firewalls
- Antivirus protection
- Application whitelisting
- Secure remote communication

1.3 Product documentation

1.3.1 Product documentation set

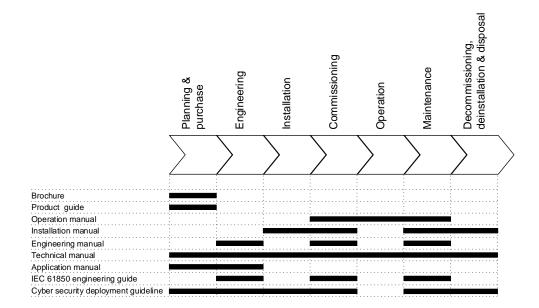


Figure 1: The intended use of documents during the product life cycle

1.3.2 Document revision history

Document revision/date	Product version	History
A/2017-09-26	1.0	First release
B/2019-05-17	1.0	Content updated

1.3.3 Related documentation



Contact ABB for information on SMU615 related documentation.

1.4 Symbols and conventions

1.4.1 Symbols



The caution icon indicates important information or warning related to the concept discussed in the text. It might indicate the presence of a hazard which could result in corruption of software or damage to equipment or property.



The information icon alerts the reader of important facts and conditions.



The tip icon indicates advice on, for example, how to design your project or how to use a certain function.

Although warning hazards are related to personal injury, it is necessary to understand that under certain operational conditions, operation of damaged equipment may result in degraded process performance leading to personal injury or death. Therefore, comply fully with all warning and caution notices.

1.4.2 Document conventions

A particular convention may not be used in this manual.

- Abbreviations and acronyms are spelled out in the glossary. The glossary also contains definitions of important terms.
- Menu paths are presented in bold.
 Select Main menu/Settings.
- Parameter names are shown in italics.
 The function can be enabled and disabled with the *Operation* setting.
- Parameter values are indicated with quotation marks.
 The corresponding parameter values are "On" and "Off".
- Input/output messages and monitored data names are shown in Courier font.
- This document assumes that the parameter setting visibility is "Advanced".

Section 2 Security in distribution automation

2.1 General security in distribution automation

Technological advancements and breakthroughs have caused a significant evolution in the electric power grid. As a result, the emerging "smart grid" and "Internet of Things" are quickly becoming a reality. At the heart of these intelligent advancements are specialized IT systems – various control and automation solutions such as distribution automation systems. To provide end users with comprehensive real-time information, enabling higher reliability and greater control, automation systems have become ever more interconnected. To combat the increased risks associated with these interconnections, ABB offers a wide range of cyber security products and solutions for automation systems and critical infrastructure.

The new generation of automation systems uses open standards such as IEC 60870-5-104, DNP3 and IEC 61850 and commercial technologies, in particular Ethernet and TCP/IP based communication protocols. They also enable connectivity to external networks, such as office intranet systems and the Internet. These changes in technology, including the adoption of open IT standards, have brought huge benefits from an operational perspective, but they have also introduced cyber security concerns previously known only to office or enterprise IT systems.

To counter cyber security risks, open IT standards are equipped with cyber security mechanisms. These mechanisms, developed in a large number of enterprise environments, are proven technologies. They enable the design, development and continual improvement of cyber security solutions also for control systems, including distribution automation applications.

ABB understands the importance of cyber security and its role in advancing the security of distribution networks. A customer investing in new ABB technologies can rely on system solutions where reliability and security have the highest priority.

Reporting of vulnerability or cyber security issues related to any ABB product can be done via cybersecurity@ch.abb.com.

2.2 Reference documents

Information security in critical infrastructure like electrical distribution and transmission networks has been in high focus for both vendors and utilities. This together with developing technology, for example, appliance of Ethernet and IP based communication networks in substations, power plants and network control centers creates a need of specifying systems with cyber security.

ABB is involved in the standardization and definition of several cyber standards, the most applicable and referred ones are ISO 2700x, IEC 62443, IEEE P1686 and IEC 62351. Besides standardization efforts there are also several governments initiated requirements and practices like NERC CIP and BDEW. ABB fully understands the importance of cyber security for substation automation systems and is committed to support users in efforts to achieve or maintain compliance to these.

Section 3 Secure system setup

3.1 Basic system hardening rules

Today's distribution automation systems are basically specialized IT systems. Therefore, several rules of hardening an automation system apply to these systems, too. Merging units are from the automation system perspective on the lowest level and closest to the actual primary process. It is important to apply defense-in-depth information assurance concept where each layer in the system is capable of protecting the automation system and therefore merging units are also part of this concept. The following should be taken into consideration when planning the system protection.

- Recognizing and familiarizing all parts of the system and the system's communication links
- Removing all unnecessary communication links in the system
- Rating the security level of remaining connections and improving with applicable methods
- Hardening the system by removing or deactivating all unused processes, communication ports and services
- Checking that the whole system has backups available from all applicable parts
- Collecting and storing backups of the system components and keeping those upto-date
- Removing all unnecessary user accounts
- Changing default passwords and using strong enough passwords
- Checking that the link from substation to upper level system uses strong enough encryption and authentication
- Separating public network from automation network
- Segmenting traffic and networks
- Using firewalls and demilitarized zones
- Assessing the system periodically
- Using antivirus software in workstations and keeping those up-to-date

It is important to utilize the defence-in-depth concept when designing automation system security. It is not recommended to connect a device directly to the Internet without adequate additional security components. The different layers and interfaces in the system should use security controls. Robust security means, besides product features, enabling and using the available features and also enforcing their use by company policies. Adequate training is also needed for the personnel accessing and using the system.

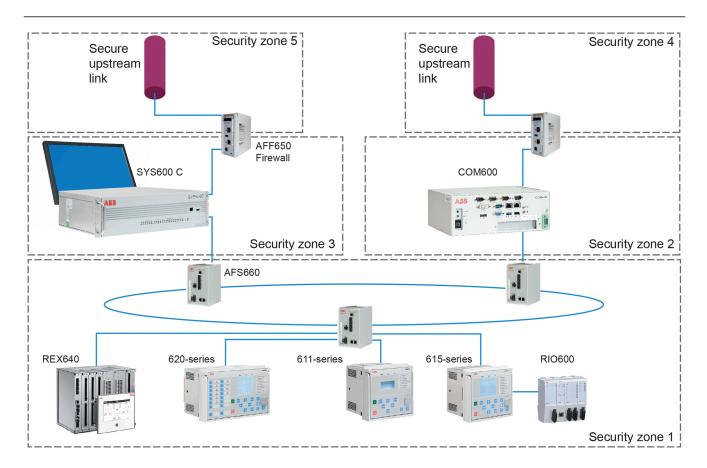


Figure 2: Distribution substation example

3.2 Merging unit's communication interfaces

All physical ports dedicated for station bus communication can be opened and closed in merging unit's configuration. Front port is used for engineering and it can be used only for point-to-point configuration access with PCM600 or WHMI. Front port should not be connected to any Ethernet network.

Table 1: Physical ports on merging unit's communication cards

Port ID	Туре	Default state	Description
X1X3	RJ-45 or fiber optic	Open	Ethernet station bus
Front port	RJ-45	Open	LHMI service access

IEC 61850 protocol and rear Ethernet ports are by default activated as those are used for engineering of the merging unit. Front port is segregated from rear ports' station bus communication.

3.3 TCP/IP based protocols and used IP ports

IP port security depends on specific installation, requirements and existing infrastructure. The required external equipment can be separate devices or devices that combine firewall, router and secure VPN functionality. When the network is divided into security zones, it is done with substation devices having firewall functionality or with dedicated firewall products. Security zone boundaries are inside the substation or between the substation and the outside world.

The merging unit supports an option with multiple station communication Ethernet ports. In this case, all ports use the same IP and MAC address regardless of what redundancy option is activated in the merging unit's configuration.

To set up an IP firewall the following table summarizes the IP ports used by the device. All closed ports can be opened in the configuration. Ports which are by default open are used for configuring the merging unit.

Port number Туре Default state Description 20, 21 TCP Open File Transfer protocol (FTP and FTPS) 102 **TCP** IEC 61850 Open 80 TCP Web Server HTTP Closed 443 TCP Closed Web Server HTTPS

Table 2: IP ports used by the merging unit

FTP and IEC 61850 are primary services needed for merging unit's configuration and those cannot be disabled. Additionally, the merging unit uses layer 2 communications in GOOSE, SMV, IEEE 1588 (PTP) and HSR/PRP supervision services, which needs to be taken into account when designing the network.

In addition to the HTTP and FTP protocols, the merging unit supports Ethernet-based substation automation communication protocol IEC 61850. IEC 61850 is always enabled

See the merging unit's technical manual and the corresponding protocol documentation for configuring a certain communication protocol.

3.4 Secure communication

The merging unit supports encrypted communication according to the principles of IEC 62351 in secured communication for WHMI and file transfer. If the *Secure Communication* parameter is activated in the merging unit, protocols require TLS protocol based encryption method support from the clients. In this case WHMI must be connected from a Web browser using the HTTPS protocol. In case of file transfer,

the client must use FTPS. PCM600 supports FTPS and is able to download and upload configuration files in encrypted format from merging unit.

The *Secure Communication* parameter is enabled by default. It can be accessed via path **Main menu/Configuration/Authorization/Security** using the front HMI's RJ-45 port.

3.4.1 Certificate handling

For encryption and secure identification, HTTPS and FTPS protocols in the merging unit use public key certificates that bind together a public key with an identity, that is, information such as the name of an organization, their address and so on. The server certificate used by the merging unit is generated by the merging unit itself as a self-signed certificate and not issued by any certification authority (CA).

Certificates use encryption to provide secure communication over the network. A self-signed X.509 certificate and an RSA key-pair with key-length of 1024 bits is generated by the merging unit. The RSA key stored in the certificate is used to establish secure communication.

The certificate is used to verify that a public key belongs to an identity. In case of HTTPS, the WHMI server in the merging unit presents the certificate to the Web client giving the client the public key and the identity of the server. The public key is one part of an asymmetric key algorithm in which one key is used to encrypt a message and another key is used to decrypt it. The public private key pair (asymmetric key) is used to exchange the symmetric key, which is used to encrypt and decrypt the data that is exchanged between server and client.

Messages encrypted with the public key can only be decrypted with the other part of the algorithm, the private key. Public and private key are related mathematically and represent a cryptographic key pair. The private key is kept secret and stored safely in the merging unit, while the public key may be widely distributed.

Once the merging unit certificate has been manually trusted in a separate dialog box, the certificate is trusted in communication between the merging unit and PCM600. For WHMI use, the certificate signed by the merging unit must be accepted in the Web browser when opening the connection to WHMI.



Web browser displays a warning because WHMI uses self-signed certificates.

3.4.2 Encryption algorithms

TLS connections are encrypted with either AES 256 or AES 128. At start-up a negotiation decides between these two options.

A hashed representation of the passwords with SHA 256 is stored in the merging unit. These are not accessible from outside via any ports. No passwords are stored in clear text within the merging unit.

3.5 Web HMI

The WHMI is one of the available user access services in the merging unit and by default the service is disabled in which case the HTTP and HTTPS TCP ports are closed. WHMI can be enabled with the *Web HMI mode* parameter via LHMI menu path **Main menu/Configuration/HMI**.

To provide encryption and secure identification in the communication to the WHMI, the merging unit supports HTTPS protocol. This option can be enabled by configuration when the *Secure Communication* parameter is active. In this case plain HTTP connection request is automatically changed to HTTPS. When this parameter is inactive, both HTTP and HTTPS protocols can be used for WHMI.

If Secure Communication is activated, WHMI access is automatically opened in HTTPS mode. The WHMI requires that certain technical features must be supported and enabled by the used Web client.

- HTTP 1.1
- HTML 4 and HMTL 5
- XSLT 2.0
- CSS1 and CSS2.1
- AJAX
- JavaScript 1.2
- DOM 1.0
- HTTP Digest Access Authentication
- HTTP session cookies
- HTTP compression
- SVG 1 1 [1]

In case of HTTPS access the Web client must support HTTPS via TLS 1.0 or TLS 1.1/1.2. The WHMI is verified with Internet Explorer 8.0, 9.0, 10.0 and 11.0.

The access to the merging unit's WHMI is protected by the HTTP Digest Access Authentication (DAA) that requires a user name and password. DAA ensures that the user credentials are encrypted secure before sending over the network. See RFC2617 "HTTP Authentication: Basic and Digest Access Authentication" for detailed information about DAA.

User authentication is always required in WHMI.

If the Internet Explorer is used as Web client the advanced option "Show friendly HTTP error messages" might be enabled by default. It is recommended to disable this

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option. If this option is enabled, detailed error information of the WHMI is shown. The option can be found in the "Advanced" tab of the "Internet Options".

Section 4 User management

4.1 User roles

Four user categories have been predefined for the WHMI, each with different rights and default passwords.

The default passwords in the merging unit delivered from the factory can be changed with Administrator user rights. Merging unit's user passwords can be changed using WHMI or the IED User Management tool in PCM600 and the user information is stored to the merging unit's internal memory.



WHMI from the rear RJ-45 port always requires authentication. Changes in user management settings do not cause the merging unit to reboot. The changes are taken into use immediately after committing the changed settings on menu root level.

Table 3: Predefined user categories

Username	User rights
VIEWER	Read only access
OPERATOR	Clearing indications
ENGINEER	 Changing settings Clearing event list Clearing disturbance records Changing system settings such as IP address, serial baud rate or disturbance recorder settings Setting the merging unit to test mode Selecting language
ADMINISTRATOR	All listed aboveChanging passwordFactory default activation

If the *Remote override* parameter from the **Main menu/Configuration/ Authorization/Passwords** menu has been disabled, changes have to be made in the merging unit's object properties in PCM600. When the merging unit uses remote authentication, the activated user level and its password are required when the merging unit is configured using PCM600.

Table 4: Object properties to change

Object Properties field	Value
Is Authentication Disabled	False
Is Password used	True
Password	Write the correct password

When communicating with the merging unit with PCM600 tools and with the merging unit's authentication enabled, the merging unit username and password must be given when prompted. When setting the technical key, the username and password must be given twice.



If the PCM600 authentication has been enabled in PCM600 System Settings, a merging unit user can be linked to the current PCM600 user by selecting the Remember me check box in the Login dialog. After that, the user credentials are no longer asked at tool communication as logging in PCM600 also provides the authentication credentials to the merging unit.



When *Remote override* is disabled, also MMS clients need authentication using correct password.



FTP always requires authentication.

4.2 Password policies

Passwords are settable for all predefined user categories. The WHMI password via the front port RJ-45 must be at least four characters and the WHMI password via the rear port RJ-45 at least nine characters. The maximum number of characters is 8 for the WHMI front port password and 20 for the WHMI rear port password. Only the following characters are accepted.

- Numbers 0-9
- Letters a-z, A-Z
- Space
- Special characters !"#%&'()*+¡ä-./:;<=>?@[\]^ `{|}~



User authorization is disabled by default and can be enabled via the WHMI path Main Menu/Configuration/Authorization/Passwords.

The merging units are delivered from the factory with default passwords. It is recommended to change the default passwords.

Table 5: Predefined user categories and default passwords

Username	Front panel WHMI password	Rear panel WHMI password	User rights
VIEWER	0001	remote0001	Only allowed to view
OPERATOR	0002	remote0002	Authorized to make operations
ENGINEER	0003	remote0003	Allowed to change merging unit parameters, but no operation rights
ADMINISTRATOR	0004	remote0004	Full access



For user authorization for PCM600, see PCM600 documentation.

4.2.1 Setting passwords

If user authorization is off or the user is logged in as an administrator, user passwords can be set via the WHMI or with PCM600.

Local passwords can be changed in WHMI only via the merging unit's front RJ-45 port. Remote passwords can be changed via the WHMI or with PCM600.

- 1. Click **Configuration** in the left navigation bar and select **Authorization**.
- 2. Select the **Passwords** submenu and edit the values.
- 3. Click Write to IED.



If the administrator password is lost, contact ABB's technical customer support to retrieve the administrator level access.

Section 5 Security logging

5.1 Audit trail

The merging unit offers a large set of event-logging functions. Critical system and merging unit security-related events are logged to a separate nonvolatile audit trail for the administrator.

Audit trail is a chronological record of system activities that allows the reconstruction and examination of the sequence of system and security-related events and changes in the merging unit. Both audit trail events and process related events can be examined and analyzed in a consistent method with the help of Event List in WHMI and Event Viewer in PCM600.

The merging unit stores 2048 audit trail events to the nonvolatile audit trail. Additionally, 1024 process events are stored in a nonvolatile event list. Both the audit trail and event list work according to the FIFO principle. Nonvolatile memory is based on a memory type which does not need battery backup nor regular component change to maintain the memory storage.

Audit trail events related to user authorization (login, logout, violation remote and violation local) are defined according to the selected set of requirements from IEEE 1686. The logging is based on predefined user names or user categories. The user audit trail events are accessible with IEC 61850-8-1, PCM600 and WHMI.

Table 6: Audit trail events

Audit trail event	Description
Configuration change	Configuration files changed
Firmware change	Firmware changed
Firmware change fail	Firmware change failed
Attached to retrofit test case	Unit has been attached to retrofit case
Removed from retrofit test case	Removed from retrofit test case
Control remote	DPC object control remote
Test on	Test mode on
Test off	Test mode off
Reset trips	Reset latched trips (TRPPTRC*)
Time change	Time changed directly by the user. Note that this is not used when the merging unit is synchronised properly by the appropriate protocol (IEEE 1588 v2).
View audit log	Administrator accessed audit trail
Login	Successful login from IEC 61850-8-1 (MMS), WHMI or FTP.
Logout	Successful logout from IEC 61850-8-1 (MMS), WHMI or FTP.
Table continues on next page	

Audit trail event	Description
Password change	Password changed
Firmware reset	Reset issued by user or tool
Audit overflow	Too many audit events in the time period
Violation remote	Unsuccessful login attempt from IEC 61850-8-1 (MMS), WHMI or FTP.
Violation local	Unsuccessful login attempt from IEC 61850-8-1 (MMS), WHMI or FTP.

PCM600 Event Viewer can be used to view the audit trail events and process related events. Audit trail events are visible through dedicated Security events view. Since only the administrator has the right to read audit trail, authorization must be used in PCM600. The audit trail cannot be reset, but PCM600 Event Viewer can filter data. Audit trail events can be configured to be visible also in WHMI Event list together with process related events.



To expose the audit trail events through Event list, define the *Authority logging* level parameter via **Configuration**/ **Authorization/Security**. This exposes audit trail events to all users.

Table 7: Comparison of authority logging levels

Audit trail event	Authority logging level				
	None	Configuration change	Settings edit	All	
Configuration change		•	•	•	
Firmware change		•	•	•	
Firmware change fail		•	•	•	
Attached to retrofit test case		•	•	•	
Removed from retrofit test case		•	•	•	
Control remote			•	•	
Test on			•	•	
Test off			•	•	
Reset trips			•	•	
Time change				•	
View audit log				•	
Login				•	
Logout				•	
Password change				•	
Firmware reset				•	
Violation local				•	
Violation remote				•	

Section 6 Using HMI

6.1 Using Web HMI

• As secure communication is enabled by default, access the WHMI from a Web browser using the HTTPS protocol.



To establish a remote WHMI connection to the merging unit, contact the network administrator to check the company rules for IP and remote connections.



Disable the Web browser proxy settings or make an exception to the proxy rules to allow the merging unit's WHMI connection, for example, by including the merging unit's IP address in **Internet Options/Connections/LAN Settings/Advanced/Exceptions**.

6.1.1 Logging in

- 1. Open Internet Explorer.
- 2. Type the merging unit's IP address in the Address bar and press ENTER.
- 3. Type the username with capital letters.
- 4. Type the password.



Figure 3: Entering username and password to use the WHMI

5. Click **OK**. The language file starts loading and the progress bar is displayed.

6.1.2 Logging out

The user is logged out after session timeout. The timeout can be set in **Main menu/Configuration/HMI/Web HMI timeout**.

• To log out manually, click **Logout** on the menu bar.

Section 7 Protection of merging unit and system configuration

7.1 Backup files

Backups are not directly part of the cyber security but they are important for speeding up the recovery process, for example, in case of failure of the merging unit. Backups need to be updated when there are changes in configuration.

7.1.1 Creating a backup from the merging unit's configuration

1. Use the "Read from IED" function from the IED context menu in PCM600 to back up the merging unit's configuration.



User authorization is needed before using the tool.

2. Enter the user credentials if the default administrator password has been changed.

Administrator or engineer credentials are needed for authorization.

7.1.2 Creating a backup from the PCM600 project

Backup from the PCM600 project is made by exporting the project.

- 1. On the **File** menu, click **Open/Manage Project** to open the project management.
- 2. Select the project from the **Currently available projects** dialog box.
- 3. Right-click the project and select **Export Project** to open the **Create target file for the project export** dialog box.
- 4. Browse the target location and type the name for the exported file.
 All project related data is compressed and saved to one file, which is named and located according to the definitions.

7.2 Restoring factory settings

In case of configuration data loss or any other file system error that prevents the merging unit from working properly, the whole file system can be restored to the

Protection of merging unit and system configuration

original factory state. All default settings and configuration files stored in the factory are restored. Only the administrator can restore the factory settings.

- 1. Click the **Configuration** menu in the left navigation bar and select **General**.
- 2. Click Enable Write.
- 3. Edit the **Factory setting** parameter.
 - In the New Value list, select Activate.
- 4. Click Write to IED.

The merging unit restores the factory settings and restarts. Restoring takes 1...3 minutes. Confirmation of restoring the factory settings is shown on the display a few seconds, after which the merging unit restarts.



Avoid the unnecessary restoring of factory settings, because all the parameter settings that are written earlier to the merging unit will be overwritten with the default values.

7.3 Restoring administrator password

If authentication is enabled in the merging unit and the administrator password is lost, it is no longer possible to change passwords or operate the merging unit with full access rights.

The administrator password can be restored to the default value using a one-time password. The OTP functionality is only available via the merging unit's front port.

Contact ABB technical customer support to retrieve the administrator level access to the merging unit.

- 1. Using the front RJ-45 port, connect a PC to the merging unit.
- 2. Open the Web browser and go to https://192.168.0.254/otp.html.
- 3. Forward the displayed OTP related information to ABB technical customer support to receive a one-time password.
- 4. Reset the administrator password.
 - 4.1. Type the ADMINISTRATOR username with capital letters.
 - 4.2. Type the one-time password.
 - 4.3. Click Reset.
 - If the password is successfully reset, restart the browser and log in as administrator using the default password.
 - If the password reset fails, try again or contact ABB technical customer support again.

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Section 8 Glossary

DOM

BDEW Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft

CA Certification authority

DAA HTTP Digest Access Authentication

DNP3 A distributed network protocol originally developed by

Westronic. The DNP3 Users Group has the ownership of the protocol and assumes responsibility for its evolution.

Binary output module, four channels

DPC Double-point control

EMC Electromagnetic compatibility

Ethernet A standard for connecting a family of frame-based

computer networking technologies into a LAN

FIFO First in, first out

FTP File transfer protocol

FTPS FTP Secure

GOOSE Generic Object-Oriented Substation Event

HMI Human-machine interface

HSR High-availability seamless redundancy

HTML Hypertext markup language

HTTPS Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

IEC International Electrotechnical Commission

IEC 60870-5-104 Network access for IEC 60870-5-101

IEC 61850 International standard for substation communication and

modeling

IEC 61850-8-1 A communication protocol based on the IEC 61850

standard series

IED Intelligent electronic device

IEEE Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

IEEE 1686 Standard for Substation Intelligent Electronic Devices'

(IEDs') Cyber Security Capabilities

IP Internet protocol

IP address A set of four numbers between 0 and 255, separated by

periods. Each server connected to the Internet is assigned

a unique IP address that specifies the location for the TCP/

IP protocol.

ISO International Standard Organization

LHMI Local human-machine interface

MMS 1. Manufacturing message specification

2. Metering management system

NERC CIP North American Electric Reliability Corporation - Critical

Infrastructure Protection

OTP One-time password

PCM600 Protection and Control IED Manager

PRP Parallel redundancy protocol

PTP Precision Time Protocol

RJ-45 Galvanic connector type

SMV Sampled measured values

TCP Transmission Control Protocol

TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol

VPN Virtual Private Network

WHMI Web human-machine interface



ABB Distribution Solutions Distribution Automation

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