

# **Conformance Test Reviews**

Conformance Test Reviews (CTR) are a service offered by the DNP Users Group. An experienced expert conducts a detailed review of a vendor's Device Profile document and Certification Test logs, looking for areas of non-conformance to the IEEE Std 1815<sup>™</sup> (DNP3) standard. It is highly recommended that all utility users of products communicating with DNP3 require their suppliers provide products that have successfully passed the Users Group's CTR process.

# **Benefits to users of DNP3 products**

Purchasing products that have been conformance test reviewed assures the user that they are dealing with a vendor who takes quality assurance seriously. The conformance test review (CTR) process provides greater assurance that the device will correctly interoperate with other DNP systems thereby mitigating program risk for both the utility and vendor.

Purchasers of DNP3 products are advised to consult the DNP3 Application Note AN2018-002 DNP3 Conformance Procurement Guidelines for specific language to use when requesting conformant products from vendors.

#### Benefits to vendors of DNP3 products

The CTR process is a cost-effective way to provide a quality assurance check on the DNP implementation of a product. Greater interoperability means fewer customer service calls. Once a successful review has been completed, the product will be listed on the DNP.org website as being Conformance Reviewed. CTR reports may be shared with customers as evidence of a rigorous review process.

## How it works

The vendor starts the process by filling in a form on the "manage my products" page of the DNP.org website. The Device Profile document and test logs are also submitted.

The reviews are conducted in 2 phases as follows:

- Phase 1 is a review of the Device Profile document. A report is issued to the vendor, identifying any mandatory fixes required before proceeding with Phase 2, as well as recommendations for improving the implementation.
- Phase 2 is a detailed review of the vendor's test results. A final report is issued to the vendor, identifying any mandatory fixes required before declaring the review a Pass, as well as recommendations for improving the implementation.
- Once the CTR process is successfully completed the vendor is provided with a CTR Certificate (new for 2020).

## For more information

Contact conformancetesting@dnp.org