

Minutes of iGT039 Development Group



Friday 9th December, Electralink, London

Present

Gethyn Howard (Chair)	IPL
Trevor Peacock	Fulcrum Pipelines
Nigel Nash	Ofgem
Elaine Carr	Scottish Power
Andy Miller	xoserve
Simon Trivella	Wales & West
David Speake	ESP
Anne Jackson	SSE
Colette Baldwin	Eon
Cher Harris	SSEPL
Kevin Woollard (tele)	British Gas

Apologies

Paul Edwards	GTC
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1. Review of actions

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed. iGTs had considered a support services proposal by Gemserv but ultimately decided to continue as before, with a commitment to timely production of minutes and meeting papers between themselves. iGTs felt this is achievable owing to the wide iGT attendance at these meetings.

2. Scope of services

A consolidated table of the scope of services has been produced, based on the service lines in the Agency Services Agreement. The group discussed the service areas yet to be confirmed, with the following agreement:

4 Interruption auction services **OUT OF SCOPE**

7 Invoices. **IN SCOPE**. However, the service lines in this section will need some amendment or additions.

ACTION iGTs to seek feedback on attitudes to handing invoice production over to xoserve, on the understanding that cash collection remains in house at the iGT. Also list the invoice types potentially required

It was agreed that invoicing is a standalone activity and so can be isolated from most other functions in the implementation of a single agency service.

9 User admission and termination **IN SCOPE**

It is suggested that this is straightforward as xoserve simply carry out the paperwork for user accession. Current accession processes can remain, with xoserve coordinating the sending out of agreements and receipt of signed copies. This is beneficial new entrants, and xoserve need to be made aware of new signatories in any case. Xoserve can also place sanctions on users to stop portfolio growth, at the instruction of the GT. This is a standalone service and could be provided to some iGTs and not others.

10 CSEPS **OUT OF SCOPE**

It was agreed that item 1 (supply point management) may require tweaking to reflect nested network arrangements, but this is an SPA design requirement. The CSEP services would not be required for iGTs and would also fall away for GDNs.

17 Demand estimation **OUT OF SCOPE**

This is not applicable to iGTs and not an activity they are currently obliged to undertake (although it was recognised that demand estimation was carried out 'on behalf of' iGTs by GDNs).

18 Provision of information **IN SCOPE**

This relates to information requests to the GDNs by Ofgem, for example. Ofgem would benefit from a single point of contact for such requests.

Other statutory reporting, such as Overall and Guaranteed Standards for connections would remain in house at the iGT, as xoserve to not have sight of these activities.

It was noted that failure to supply gas payments were managed by xoserve on behalf of GDNs, with payments made to the relevant shippers (ad hoc invoices section).

25 Gemini system services **OUT OF SCOPE**

3. How to take the requirements definition forward

The group discussed approaches to culminate in a redrafting of the ASA. It was agreed that a sensible approach would involve identifying those areas in iGT UNC where obligations differ or iGTs have additional requirements. To do this, it was felt that iGTs and xoserve should get together outside of the 039 development group. The exercise would also inform future discussions on governance; it may indicate those areas of code where governance could be handed over to UNC.

ACTION: iGTs and xoserve to engage for a line-by-line discussion of the ASA, if appropriate

4. Governance

An outline of what the ASA must contain is set out in Section V of UNC. It is suggested that this would be a starting point for any addition to iGT UNC. 6.5.2 defines the list of services provided by the agent.

A transition document will be required to deal with any modifications in train and so specify a clear switchover path where implementation is phased.

It is not clear that iGTs MUST become signatories to UNC, since they already have a seat on UNC panel. One reason to do so would be to gain a panel vote; however it was noted that this does not bring any significant advantage. A suggestion for panel constitution could be 5 GT plus 1 iGT voting members, and an additional shipper member (making 6 in total).

One key principal for any governance solution must be to avoid the need for dual governance of a single change. It is envisaged that this would relate to systems and process changes. Any other proposals only relevant to iGTs could still be dealt with under iGT UNC. It is felt that doing away with iGT UNC entirely may be a step too far and could make transition to the new arrangements more complicated.

ACTION: iGTs to consider an exercise to redline iGT UNC, highlight all areas which could instead be governed under UNC only where a single agent is in use.

The group questioned the role of any other existing governance mechanisms in the transition to a central agent model. It was agreed that because this is centred on the GT to shipper relationship, UNC and iGT UNC are the governance mechanisms to focus on.

5. Project Nexus

It was noted that it would be useful to understand the Project Nexus implementation schedule when it is available so that governance changes can be planned accordingly. UNC mods will proceed on a 'just in time' basis, with the principles signed off (as far as possible) by industry in advance of the modification being raised.

The group noted the timetable for the completion of the Business Requirements Definition documents by Project Nexus and discussed options for feeding into this work where necessary. Rather than a complete timetable (which is not yet possible) sequence of events for the 039 work in order to set industry expectations was considered worthwhile.

ACTION iGTs to discuss with the Nexus team how best they can feed requirements into the Nexus specification work, and feed back to next meeting.

ACTION GH to propose a sequence of events for the 039 development work.

It is expected that Nexus will deliver functionality that can be easily switched on and off depending on the supply point, which will also help with a phased implementation of services.

It was further agreed that a principal deliverable of the development group should be a document which informs industry what the future service provision for iGTs (and potential the wider iGT landscape) will look like. This is in addition to any modification. The role of the group should be to inform industry, and to set expectations so that businesses can plan accordingly for the future. It was felt that this document may draw from, but would be different from the project Nexus BRDs. There was an aspiration to complete a draft of this document in February 2012.

ACTION GH to add the development of this document to the work plan.

6. Migration

The following questions were noted for future discussion:

1. How will the data migration exercise be conducted across all iGTs and who will lead it? When will a data cleanse need to begin?
2. Would all iGTs move to the new arrangements at the same time? What is the lowest risk approach? There could be an iGT-by-iGT migration; or a migration at xoserve's end by shipper short code.

7. Date of next meeting

A conference call is proposed on the 21st December 2012.

ACTION GH to set up conference call

Agreed actions

1. iGTs to seek feedback on attitudes to handing invoice production over to xoserve, on the understanding that cash collection remains in house at the iGT. Also list the invoice types potentially required
2. iGTs and xoserve to engage for a line-by-line discussion of the ASA, if appropriate
3. iGTs to consider an exercise to redline iGT UNC, highlight all areas which could instead be governed under UNC only where a single agent is in use
4. iGTs to discuss with the Nexus team how best they can feed requirements into the Nexus specification work, and feed back to next meeting
5. GH to propose a sequence of events for the 039 development work
6. GH to add the development of the overview document to the work plan
7. GH to set up conference call for 21st December