

II

Gemini Project

Shipper Working Group Notes 16th February 2005 Euston Road, London

Present

Harjit Ruprai (HR)	Barclays
Anupam Gupta (AG)	BG Group
Dave Roberts (DR)	Centrica
Mike Carter (MC)	Centrica
Nick Gold (NG)	Centrica
Andy Ryder (AR)	E.On UK
Tim Johnson (TJ)	E.On UK
Jacqui Revitt (JR)	Gaz de France
Gavin Pickering (GP)	Total
David Williamson (DW)	NGT
Mark Nicolson (MN)	NGT
Richard Griffiths (RG)	NGT
Zena Kirk (ZK)	Wipro

Apologies

Matt Tyrrell (MT)	Merrill Lynch Commodities
Michael Reid	Scottish Power
Stuart Wing (SWS)	Shell Energy

Agenda

- Introductions
- Progress from last Shipper Working Group Meeting
- Actions from last Shipper Forum Meeting
- Communications Plan
- API Early View Testing
- Shipper Trials
- AOB

The Shipper Working Group (SWG) met to discuss the Communications Plan, API Early View Test and receive an update on Shipper Trials.

The following is intended to capture the salient points made at the meeting, including questions raised and agreements made, followed by actions.

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Workshop Content

Progress from last Shipper Working Group Meeting

MN reviewed and updated the actions from the previous SWG meeting. The following actions received further discussion:

SWG39: NGT to consider issuing a generic file format for the View Data facility

Suggestions made:

- a screen-by-screen file format
- a data dictionary
- that every screen changed and approved by the UK-Link Committee could include details of new fields with their size and type
- a list of external-facing screens

NG wants to know the timescale and the potential cost of performing this impact analysis

SWG48: NGT to assess the design of NB10

MN presented the proposed re-design of NB10; no comments were made during the meeting

The Shippers re-iterated their dissatisfaction at not having seen the screens yet; they were reminded that this would take place in Early View

SWG60: NGT to create and maintain a functionality log to be reviewed by the SWG

The first draft of the Issues Log was presented.

MN to produce a paper on the fault classification and priority process before the next Shipper Working Group (*SWG75*)

TJ stated that some of the Gemini screens could be designated as key (e.g. NB94), so faults within those screens should automatically be classified as business critical

MN suggested that the SWG could produce a list of the subset of screens which they consider to be business critical

After some discussion, it was agreed that

- The Issues Log will be updated and published on the Shipper Website daily
- NGT will categorise any issues raised
- The Shipper Working Group will, if necessary, challenge issues, having looked at what the issue is and measured the impact
- Discussion was held re holding teleconferences on a weekly basis

The SWG were asked to send any comments back about the Issues Log (*SWG76*)

SWG61: NGT to check the possibility of the User Guide being visible by Early View

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Even though a User Guide will not be visible by Early View, telephone support will be provided in addition to a Navigation Guide

SWG69: NGT to issue information on how XP1 will be accessed
and SWG70: NGT to report on how much each XP1 link costs

MN announced that new technology (MPLS) is being introduced and SWG69 and SWG70 will be considered as part of this solution. The following points were raised during the ensuing discussion:

- MN will give an update at the next Shipper Forum and greater detail at the next Shipper Working Group meeting
- MPLS has an ISDN contingency, but MN will find out if this introduces a single point of failure (SWG77)
- MPLS will give greater flexibility than IX
- The analysis carried out to determine the size of upgrade is still valid
- The effect of MPLS on AT-LINK is to be considered (SWG78)
- The risk of MPLS to the Project has been considered
- The upgrade is planned to take place on the replacement technology before Shipper Trials

SWG74: NGT to re-issue the documentation for nominations and re-nominations

MN clarified that the User Guide would not include any Business processes, but would be a guide to using Gemini from an operational point of view.

DW to provide further information on Q5 of the FAQs

Business processes in the control room will continue in the same way pre- and post-Gemini implementation

MN to discuss with Frank Gracias the perception that an automated process is being implemented to match trade re-nominations (SWG79)

The SWG were asked to return any comments on the Nominations and Re-nominations FAQs (SWG80)

Actions from last Shipper Forum Meeting

MN reviewed and updated the actions from the previous Shipper Forum meeting.

SF42: Password Resets

MN announced that the original amendment to the Helpdesk procedure for resetting passwords had been rejected due to a security policy issue. The new proposed procedure, which will mean that the SLA for password resets will be one hour, is due to begin during February; MN hoped to be able to give the exact date at the next Shipper Forum. The effect on the out-of-hours service will be investigated.

SF47: Shipper Trial environment to remain accessible until go-live to enable the APIs to function

Reasons given by the Shippers for requesting the Shipper Trials environment remain available were:

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- To keep the Ops staff familiar with the system – Gemini interfaces to and from their in-house systems mean they will need to use the APIs
- To refine their own processes
- For late developers to use
- To test any changes to screens
- To test any fixes made to Gemini which may impact the APIs – where will they be visible if not in the Shipper Trials environment?
- Some in-house process design is dependant upon the performance of the APIs – their processes may need to change if they are not satisfactory

MN to provide a proposal for the Shipper Working Group before the next Shipper Forum detailing the impact of the Shipper Trials environment being available and supported (*SWG81*)

SF49: Communication re IX upgrade

MN to re-distribute this e-mail to the Shipper Working Group (*SWG82*)

Communications Plan

The Communications Plan was distributed, prompting the Shippers to reiterate that they would like to see the Gemini screens as soon as possible. Shippers to make comments on priority of information in Communications Plan (*SWG83*)

Early View API Trials

RG presented the plans for Early View API Trials.

A request was made for NGT to provide more detail on the response times for issues raised during this period (*SWG84*)

NGT were asked to clarify whether this includes bulk uploads and downloads (*SWG85*)

NGT established that support for the first phase of APIs will continue during the testing of the second phase

The proposition to increase the time between the end of Early View and the beginning of Shipper Trials was made to the group, to ensure readiness of the environment. This means that Early View will be 7 weeks rather than 8. The Shippers said that as long as the Energy Balancing APIs were supported during the 1st phase and the Shipper Trials were fully supported they would raise no objections.

NGT aimed to send the Shipper Working Group a plan for the 7-week API window before the next Shipper Forum (*SWG86*)

Shipper Trials Update

Following the meeting with the Market Operator, the trial has been amended to reflect 'real-time' rather than testing any part of the system on any given day. There will be 3 2-week cycles rather than 2 3-week cycles, and certain activities will be supported on particular days. Further clarity in the Shipper Trials plan was requested as the interpretation seemed to suggest that, for example, nominations will be supported for only 4½ days during the 7-week period (*SWG87*).

Any Other Business

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MN raised the issue that IFA functionality would now not be present in the next release of Gemini, and that it would fall into Post-Implementation Support.

Although it was felt that the functionality was not crucial for this release, concerns were voiced that xoserve's commitment may not correspond to the Shippers' priorities and that future changes to the system may be sacrificed in favour of the IFA change.

MN mentioned that Matthew Hatch has flagged that there may be some training required for the Exit Regime. No further detail is available at this stage.

Meeting Closed