Gemini Update

Richard Griffiths – 10th June 2008



Agenda

- Recent Outages/Incidents
- Enhanced System Security Project Update
- Gemini Disaster Recovery Warm Standby Failover/Failback



7th, 8th, 9th and 28th April.

Issues with intermittent connectivity problems to Gemini

2nd, 27th and 29th May

These issues were due to problems with the "Ark Royal" firewall used as the primary connection route in to the Gemini application.

Issues were due to the heavy utilisation of this infrastructure and the firewall coming to its natural end of life and being unable to cope with this load.

A number of actions were taken by xoserve and our suppliers throughout April and May to reduce non-core business traffic. This improved service, but issues were still encountered.

Full implementation of the new firewall was undertaken on 8th June.

Note: The secondary firewall "Illustrious" is also due to be upgraded and consideration is being given to implementation on 15th June.



6 th April	Gemini access issues reported by 2 Shippers (6:00am to 8:10am)
	Review of system logs during the incident was unable to identify any infrastructure errors or a root cause of this issue.
	No actions were taken by the support groups and service restoration was confirmed with the Shippers involved.
8 th April	Gemini batch jobs failing including Auction processing (7:30am to 11:30am)
	Issue was due to file space problems on the offline batch container. A full audit was undertaken on the files contained and housekeeping undertaken to restore normal service.



10 ^{th,} 12 ^{th,} 13 th and 17 th April	Data not updated in Gemini (impacts as following)
	Linepack records (10 th and 13 th April), Measurement information (12 th April), Shrinkage Factors (17 th April)
	Issues encountered with source system caused delays in receiving records. The issue is due to a software bug in the source system Oracle software for which a workaround has been put in place
10 th May	Intermittent issues with API service (10:50pm to 04:15am)
	API requests are load balanced across two Web Cache services. One of these servers was not accepting any new connection (1 in 2 connections impacted).
	A full physical power recycle was undertaken and the normal service housekeeping activities then restored full resilience. Call raised with Oracle for analysis, who have requested additional logging information.



11 th May	API service unavailable (10:00am to 3:00pm)
	Issues were due to failure of an air conditioning unit at the Hinckley National Grid data centre which caused a number of servers at the site to shutdown.
	On-line services were not impacted by this issue.



Enhanced System Security Project - Update

- User Acceptance Testing approximately 90% complete with no major issues. Due for completion in next two weeks.
- Operational Acceptance Testing approximately 80% complete with no major issues. Due for completion in next two weeks.
- Shipper connectivity testing successfully completed during April with no issues. 6 Shippers carried out connectivity testing on the existing infrastructure and 2 tested on the new configuration.
- No further Shipper involvement expected or planned. Will still require an outage during the working day of approx 2 hours.
- Implementation scheduled for 18th June has been put on hold due to dependency on another National Grid project.
- Assessment on-going to establish a new implementation date, which will be communicated via UK Link Committee and Gas Operations distribution lists.



Gemini Disaster Recovery Warm Standby Failover/Failback

- Annual Disaster Recovery Test performed to prove failover of primary database and access.
- Planned for the weekend of 26/27th July
- System outages required as follows;
 - 26th July 04:15am to 10:15am
 - 27th July 4:00am to 10:00am
- No changes required to Shippers access as the DR is undertaken on internal infrastructure only.

