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PN UNC - NFR Update

4th September 2012

NFR Consultation Feedback

- Thank you to those that have taken the time to respond
- Based on the feedback received the following areas have been identified as candidates for change (although further clarification will be necessary)
 - Real time processing of data
 - Online updates to single data items
 - Analysis and reporting of data
 - Standard file transfer mechanism (csv vs xml)
 - Access to historic data
 - Documentation governance

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Real Time Processing of Data

- Feedback received defines a need for faster processing and notification of data updates, with the requirement for within day and not for real time data updates
- This impacts on the following principles:
 - 8.1.2** – Shipper business processes are developing towards the requirement for real time values for some data items
 - 8.4.2** – Data updates resulting from files transferred to Xoserve should be 'live' within [1] working day of receipt
 - 8.4.3** – Capability required to process file transfers 24*7*365 immediately upon receipt

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Real Time Processing of Data

As a result the following amendments are recommended:

- 8.1.2 should be removed as it does not reflect the views of the respondents
- 8.4.2 should be reworded to:
 - Data updates resulting from data files transferred to Xoserve should be processed and made “live”, where practicable, on the day of receipt or within a maximum of [1] working day of receipt
- 8.4.3 should be reworded to:
 - Capability required for Xoserve to accept data file transfers on a 24*7 basis

Online Updates to Single Data Items

- The principle to directly update single data items has not received unanimous support
 - Risk that a single change may lead to inconsistent data across a single record
 - High levels of validation, controls and audit trails will be required
- A higher level of support has been received for updating single data items in bulk
- Key for the non-functional requirements is system flexibility
- This will need to be considered when defining the detailed functional requirements

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Analysis and Reporting of Data

- Feedback received has shown no support or usage requirement for the following reporting principle. However, there is full support for the requirement to extract data (8.1.3)

8.1.4 – Capability to carry out analysis and reporting against source data on a common platform provided by Xoserve

- As a result it is recommended that the principle is either removed or reworded to the following:

8.1.4 – Capability to run reports against source data on a common platform provided by Xoserve

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Standard File Transfer Mechanism

- There is a strong desire from the respondents to retain the existing csv file functionality
- Some respondents also support flexibility to allow for the submission of xml files
- It is therefore our recommendation to explore system flexibility in this area

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Access to Historic Data

- Clarification has been received regarding the principle for access to historic data

8.5.1 – Historical data not required for standard Shipper business processes will be retained and made accessible within reasonable timescales as a minimum to comply with the relevant statute of limitations back to ‘line in the sand’. For standard Shipper processes, direct access to historical data will be maintained for up to [] years old and automated access to older data with [] days’ delay (values to be specified, and may differ according to business area/domain)

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Access to Historic Data

- The feedback received suggests that the following should be incorporated into the principle
 - 2 day turnaround for access to the historic data
 - 7 years of historic data is required (subject to clarification of the statute of limitations)
- Historic data has been identified as the following data items
 - Asset data
 - Meter readings
 - Address data
 - AQs
 - Organisation effective dates (e.g. Shipper, Supplier, etc...)

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Access to Historic Data

- It is therefore recommended that the principle is reworded to the following:

8.5.1 – Capability to maintain access to key industry data for a minimum of [7] years, subject to the relevant statute of limitations, with access to the oldest data within a maximum of [2] working days. Key data items are currently specified as; asset data, meter readings, address data, AQs and organisation appointments (e.g. Shipper, Supplier, etc...).

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Documentation Governance

- Mixed views received on who should own the proposed set of industry documentation
 - Xoserve
 - Joint Office
 - DCC
- No majority view can be determined from the feedback
- Xoserve will continue to produce and maintain the current documentation covering file formats, validation errors, etc.
- Our concern remains around the ownership and change governance of the new documentation
- What are your views on how we progress this?

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