

UK LINK MANUAL

**CODE COMMUNICATIONS
REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

June 2017

Version 1 Draft

Version Control

Version	COR	Date of Change	Changes	Author
1	-	June 2017	Appendix 5 b removed from UK Link Overview Manual in January 2017. Formally incorporated into a UK Link Manual Component Document.	David Addison

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[STANDARD FRONT END TO BE REVIEWED]

1. PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

Version: []

Effective Date: []

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document (**Document**), setting out the [data] retention policy, is the UK Link Manual Component Document referred to in paragraph 2.1.1(a)(iv) of the UK Link Manual Framework Document.
- 1.2 This Document is an integral part of and is incorporated in the UK Link Manual.
- 1.3 The version of this Document that is in force and the date from which it is in force, are as stated above.
- 1.4 In this Document:
 - (a) terms defined in the DSC Terms and Conditions and not otherwise defined in this Document shall have the meaning given in the DSC Terms and Conditions;
 - (b) terms defined in any other CDSP Service Document and not otherwise defined in this Document shall have the meaning given in the CDSP Service Document;
 - (c) terms defined in the UK Link Manual Framework Document and not otherwise defined in this Document shall have the meaning given in the UK Link Manual Framework Document; and
 - (d) the further provisions of the DSC Terms and Conditions as to interpretation apply.
- 1.5 This Document may be changed in accordance with the applicable procedures contained in the Change Management Procedures.
- 1.6 The purpose of this Document is to describe the form that **Code Communications** are to take between UK Link Users (including the CDSP).
- 1.7 For the purposes of this Document, references to a UK Link User exclude the CDSP.
- 1.8 In the case of any conflict between the provisions of this Document and the UK Link Terms and Conditions the latter shall prevail.

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2. CODE COMMUNICATIONS

This section describes the means that Code Communications must be provided in when these are provided as UK Link Communications.

2.1 General Description

The Uniform Network Code requires UK Link Users to communicate certain information to each other at certain times. Each transfer of information specified under the Code to any UNC Party is known as a Code Communication.

Many of these Code Communications must be achieved using UK Link as the medium by which the information is transferred, subject to the operation of contingency procedures. Each Code Communication which is made in this way is also known as a UK Link Communication.

The Code Communications are defined in Appendix B of this document. Appendix A provides the abbreviations used within Appendix B to denote direction, means and form of the Code Communication.

Information can be transferred using the following methods:

- an On-line transaction using one of the component systems within UK Link with On-line capability.
- a batch file transmitted across the UK Link Network between UK Link Users (a Batch Transfer Communication)
- a communication transmitted from the Transporters to one or more UK Link Users using the Active Notification System (an Active Notification Communication).

Should UK Link Gemini be unavailable (or if it is determined that alternative communication method would prove superior) appropriate contingency arrangements are used to enable the relevant Code Communications to be given. These are described in the Gemini Contingency Manual.

2.2 On-line Communications

An On-line Communication occurs when a UK Link User makes information available to another UK Link User by entering data into the one of the component systems in UK Link with On-line capability. For example, using the UK Link Gemini On-line the Communication occurs as soon as the UK Link Gemini database is updated and the data is logged by the Automatic Audit Trail Facility (described in the UK Link Manual Component Document - Annex C1 – UK Link Security Operating Framework Document). For example, the Shipper User to Transporter (U-T Communication) On-line Communication 'Submit Input Nomination' occurs when the UK Link Gemini database is updated with the gas flow nominations data which the Authorised Representative has entered into the relevant UK Link Gemini On-line screen and committed using the 'Update' action.

2.3 Batch Transfer Communications

A Batch Transfer Communication occurs when a UK Link User generates data in a batch file and sends this file to its Gateway using the required file naming standards and protocols and it is received at the recipient's Gateway. At the point it arrives on the sender's Gateway the following automatic processes occur:

- the Batch Transfer Communication starts to transfer to the recipient's Gateway

- the recipient's Gateway acknowledges delivery to the sender, if configured to do so.

A Batch Transfer Communication may be made at any time, subject to the availability of the UK Link Network. There are no technical restrictions concerning the timing of Batch Transfer Communications. However, in order to guarantee that a Batch Transfer Communication is processed for that Supply Point System Business Day they need to be received by the CDSP by the following times:

[CNF - Confirmations	23.00 hours
NOM – Nominations	23.00 hours
SPC - Supply Point Changes	23.00 hours
WAO - Withdrawals & Objections	23.00 hours
IAR - Isolations & Reconnections	23.00 hours
CNC - Customer Amendments	16.00 hours
EMC - Emergency Contacts	16.00 hours
RFA - Reference Amendment	16.00 hours
Meter Readings	21.00 hours]

UK Link Users must use the correct file naming and definition standards for Batch Transfer Communications as defined in the UK Link Manual Component Document - Annex B4 – UK Link File Transfer Definition Document.

Each Batch Transfer Communication exchanged with the CDSP must be sent using a specific file or record format. The formats of all Batch Transfer Communications can be found in UK Link Manual Component Document - Annex D3 - UK Link Interface Document.

2.4 Active Notification

There are certain events which require the Transporters to notify UK Link Users at short notice because they may need to respond quickly. The Transporters use the Active Notification System to send a message to all relevant ANS Users. This is further described in UK Link Manual Component Document - Annex C4 – Active Notification User Guide Document.

An Active Notification Communication may be either a Code Communication or a notice that a Code Communication has been given by some other means. The table in Appendix B shows all Code Communications which are given using the Active Notification System.

Whilst referenced in the UK Link Manual, the Active Notification System does not form part of the UK Link System and is not supported by the CDSP or the CDSP Service Desk.

3. UK LINK COMMUNICATIONS

UK Link Users may also use UK Link for the purposes of providing communications to other UK Link Users. Such UK Link Communications are not controlled within this document.

Restrictions may be applied by the CDSP if the performance of UK Link necessitates this.

Example UK Link Communications are:

3.1 User Trade Communications

Users may also use UK Link for the purpose of capacity and storage trading with other Users. The transaction involved in this process is known as a User Trade Communication. Although information is validated on the system there is no involvement from the Transporters in the trading process itself. Full details of how trading can be performed, together with restrictions on when such trades can occur, can be found in the UK Link Gemini User Guide.

3.2 Gas Trading

Gas Trading allows a User to sell gas to another User. The actual trade does not take place on UK Link but the parties involved in the trade must inform the Transporters using UK Link Gemini. Details of how the system is used to support the trading process can be found in the UK Link Gemini User Guide.

Appendix A: CODE COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

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The following table sets out a summary of all Code Communications specified within the Uniform Network Code, together with information specifying how the communication is to be made and any restrictions on making it.

Uniform Network Code Reference

The first column gives the reference to the relevant paragraph in the Uniform Network Code where that Communication is defined and/or required to be given.

Description

The second column contains a brief description of the contents of the Communication. This is not intended to replicate the UNC. UK Link Users must reference the relevant paragraph of the Uniform Network Code in order to understand the obligation.

Paragraph

The third column contains the contents of the UNC Reference. This is not intended to replicate the UNC. UK Link Users must reference the relevant paragraph of the Uniform Network Code in order to understand the obligation.

From and To

The fourth and fifth columns show the direction of the communication in terms of who is giving and receiving it. The fourth column defines the sender and the fifth defines the recipient. Abbreviations used within these columns are outlined in the 'Explanation' tab.

Means of Communication

The sixth column specifies the means of communication in terms of which of the means defined in the relevant sections of the Uniform Network Code is to be used. Abbreviations used within this column are outlined in the 'Explanation' tab.

Form of Communication

The seventh column specifies the form in which the communication must be given if it is given as a UK Link Communication. Terms used in this column are outlined in the 'Explanation' tab.

Contingency

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The eight column denotes (by the use of Ct) whether a contingency procedure exists for that Code Communication.

Restrictions and Other Information

The ninth column gives information concerning restrictions on when that communication may be given in terms of any cut off times or deadlines by which it must be given. For full details of such restrictions, see the relevant section of the Uniform Network Code.

Contingency Arrangements

In some cases where a Code Contingency is declared, this may affect:

- the form and/or manner in which a Communication normally given as a UK Link Communication is to be given;
- the restrictions on timescales for giving the Communication.

The Gemini Contingency Manual defines how the relevant UK Link Communication is to be given for each of the Contingency Procedures and specifies any relaxation in the time limits allowed for giving the Communication.

UK Link Manual Component Document - Annex E – Code Contingency Guidelines Document defines the relevant action, if any, in the event that one of the components of UK Link are unavailable.

Appendix B: CODE COMMUNICATION SPECIFICATION



Code Communication
Reference Document.

Appendix C: Glossary

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Where a reference is stated this document shall have the same meaning as the source reference. In such circumstances this is reproduced to assist the reader, but readers must not rely upon the definition stated.

Term	Synonyms	Reference	Definition / Expansion	Comments
Automatic Audit Trail Facility			A facility forming part of the UK Link System installed at premises designated by the CDSP, which will automatically record the sending or the receipt by the CDSP of the message comprised in such UK Link Communication and log the date and time of such sending or receipt.	
Active Notification System	ANS		Operated by National Grid NTS and used to communicate with UK Link Users at short notice	
Active Notification Communication			Either a Code Communication or notice that a Code Communication has been given by some other means.	
Authorised Representatives		UK Link Terms and Conditions Document 4.7.2		
Batch Transfer Communication			Data generated in a batch file and sent by a UK Link User to its Gateway.	
Central Data Services Provider	CDSP	GT D1.2.1(a)		
CDSP Service Desk	Service Desk	UK Link Terms and Conditions Document 10		
Code Communication		GT D5.1(e)		
Code Contingency Communication		GT D5.9.1(b)		
			A generic term used within this document to signify a Code Communication, a UK Link Communication or a message conveyed by the UK Link Network	
DSC		GTD 1.2.1(c)	Data Services Contract	
GT D			General Terms Section D of Uniform Network Code	
Gateway			A " Gateway " is a computer server forming part of the UK Link Network, installed at premises designated by the CDSP and of each User (and in the case of a User forming part of the User Equipment and	

CODE COMMUNICATIONS REFERENCE DOCUMENT

message		GT D5.1(d)	including Licensed Software).	
UK Link Communication	message	GT D5.1(d)		
UK Link Network	IXN / I'X		An information exchange system, allowing the electronic transfer of information between the CDSP and Users and certain access (as described in the UK Link Manual) by Users to the UK Link System.	
UK Link User		GT D5.1.2(c)		