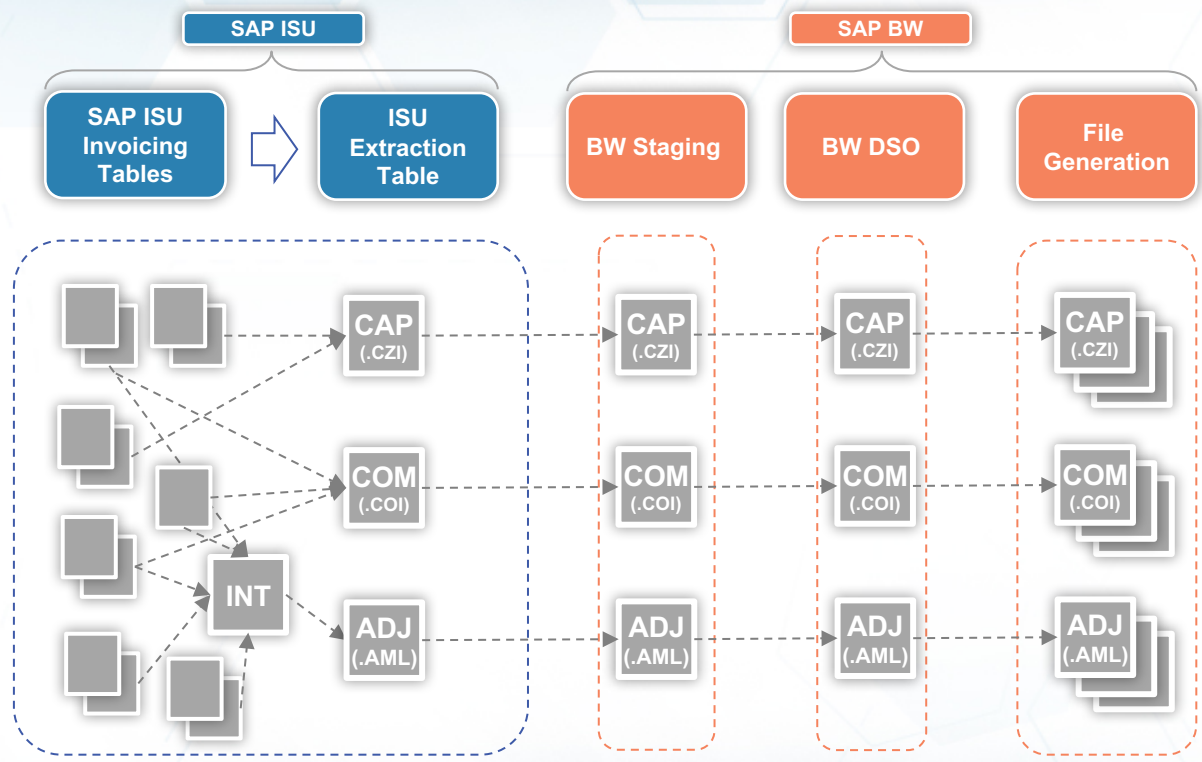




Supporting Information Thick File Options Analysis

September 2017

Extraction & Generation



Background Issues

- UK Link exists across a core system ISU and a reporting suite BW
- The 'Thick Invoicing Supporting Data' Files (CZI, COI & AML) are provided to Shippers by SAP BW using data exported from SAP ISU
- There are a number of processes which transfer and validate the data passing between the two systems.
- These processes are time consuming and have been scheduled to occur over a number of weekends when traffic on UK Link is less. Shippers have also asked for the files to be submitted at weekends to avoid weekday BAU traffic
- Whilst supporting data for the Capacity and Commodity Invoice is relatively light (23 & 25 data items respectively.) Supporting data for the Adjustment Invoice is particularly complex and numerous (64 data items)
- CZI and COI are relatively straight forward invoices to validate with figures being constant each month (Notwithstanding portfolio changes.)
- The Adjustment invoice is significantly more complex with each Meter Point requiring precise data items in order to accurately validate the invoice.

The Issues

- Xoserve recognise the requirement for Thick Invoicing Supporting files, Pre-Nexus discussions acknowledged the Thick files were complex and it may not be possible to produce them prior to the Invoice due date
- The 2 months of Invoicing so far have highlighted issues whereby data input to ISU has not matched that exported to BW. These are valuable lessons learnt that were not previously experienced. These issues are now under going assessment and corrections to both manual and system processes put in place.
- Far more organisations have requested information than was projected following information given in MT.
- MT projection <10 organisations
- Actual request >34 organisations

Solutions

- Upgraded IX kit has been installed within data centres of the Larger Shippers therefore the necessity to flow the files at weekend may no longer exist. This may mean that Xoserve don't need to wait until the weekend to transmit the file once full validation has been completed.
- Xoserve need to establish whether all the data, particularly those in the AML are necessary. We can collaborate with industry to explore the composition and format of the files. A smaller dataset would mean less processing and validation time, potentially decrease the likelihood of mis-matches between the Invoice and Supporting Data, therefore shorten the timescales.
- There are alternative ways to validate the invoices and Xoserve can work with Shipper organisations to develop these processes.
- Xoserve need to continue to explore and test the processes and validation routines on the AML at least until the end of the year. Within each invoice run we have discovered elements that require fixing but with each run these issues become less prevalent. Nevertheless we need to work through the issues until the solution acts as we require it to do, on a consistent and sustainable basis.
- Processes which we currently handle manually need to be systematised and this will take time to implement
- Nevertheless our preferred option is set out on the next slide.

Xoserve Preferred Option

- Following the first two runs of CAP & COM it is envisaged that 5th/6th Calendar day proposal would be viable to trial.
- Xoserve to propose a trial from September for August invoice periods onwards for atwo runs before future commitment is agreed

CAP

COM



Trial 5th / 6th calendar day for
distribution of thick file
September (for August) onwards

- AML to continue on current timelines – send on 3rd weekend until post October invoice provided in December. Feasibility to bring this inline with CAP & COM will be assessed following further runs however due to size & variability of file (depends upon recs in month) expectation of protected weekend periods may still be needed (generation & distribution)

ADJ



Retention of existing timescales until
further experience attains (1 run so far
with communicated complications)