

Business Readiness for Project Nexus

Project Nexus implementation, on 1st October 2015, will reform the current gas settlements processes, meaning much change for industry. Nexus introduces individual meter point reconciliation across all meter points in conjunction with a monthly AQ process. However, this change means shippers will be able to more accurately pinpoint where costs are incurred and for the first time all gas shippers will be able to reconcile settled volume and billed volume.

Project Nexus implementation will mean significant change for businesses

Every shipper will be required to change their systems and processes to enable effective communication with Xoserve. These significant changes include updating meter read validation rules and updating meter read submission frequency, to align with functionality obtained from smart meters. In addition, Xoserve will be taking on the role of central service provider for Independent Gas Transporters (IGTs) meaning disparate IGT processes will be aligned to Gas Transporter processes, and provide one single detailed register of MPRNs irrespective of transporter. Whilst this simplifies future industry change, shippers will need to move from manual, often ring fenced processes, to automated processes requiring designing and testing.

Data cleansing and industry readiness is paramount to the programme's success

This industry readiness will require extensive multi stakeholder engagement. Consistent data held by Xoserve, transporters and shippers is paramount to ensuring that processes are fully automated from the outset to facilitate a fair and equitable settlement. Data cleansing is an important part of the wider change programme. The programme has included industry consultations which set out 169 functional specifications and 159 file format changes. Industry progress has been significant, but user acceptance testing and wider industry testing is still to be completed. There are 752 pre-determined test cases which will need to be tested successfully between May and July.

Complexity of implementing Nexus alongside other industry change programmes

Xoserve are compiling the cut over plan with around 80 process updates. Nexus changes have to be implemented alongside other industry change programmes including Gemini consequential change, the smart metering roll-out and faster switching, thus adding complexity to the programme for all stakeholders.

Engage have a deep understanding of Nexus changes and anticipated challenges

We have a detailed understanding of the transition phase and areas which might delay phases of the projects. Some process changes will need to be delivered in two phases which will require a two sets of changes within shippers systems.

We can help you maximise the benefits of Nexus by providing;

- Strategic insight and advice into the programme;
- Interim operational support to analyse and embed new processes;
- Advice on optimising data flows and business processes;
- Expertise in developing meter reading strategy.
- Provision of robust and structured project delivery

Our consultants have a proven delivery track record in helping energy suppliers prepare for major industry change programmes, and have a detailed understanding of gas settlements, supplier and shipper processes.