

MINUTES

ENTSOG AS4 Communication Protocol Workshop

09 Sep 2014, 10:00 – 16:00

at Hotel Silken, Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, 1000 Brussel

Company	Name	Company	Name
ENTSOG	De Keyser Jef	GASCADE Gastransport GmbH	Höner Martin
ENTSOG (*Telco)	Kaldonek Monika	Gazprom Marketing & Trading	Gonçalves Francisco
ENTSOG	Panousos Panagiotis	GCA	Zwetkow Marin
ADES	Holper Christoph	GRTgaz	Bourginaud Emmanuel
Agency for Public Management and eGovernment (Difi)	Paus Henrik	GRTgaz	Surut Jerome
Alliander	Chin-A-Woeng John	GS1	Grangard Anders
Alliander	Van der Vinden Tom	Holodeck	Bakx Bram
Alliander	Gottmer Joost	Hungarian Gas Tranzit Ltd.	Éles Zsolt
applied technologies GmbH	Smith Neil	Infrastrutture Trasporto Gas	Bacaj Enea
Axway	Rizk Antoine	International Air Transport Association (IATA)	Kaliszewski Jean-Michel
DESFA S.A. (via DIADIKASIA S.A.)	Voreadi Elissavet	IT.NRW	Milutinovic Iva
E-Control	Szeles Zsuzsanna	N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie	de Olde Wim
E-Control Austria	Izmenyi Alexander	Ontras	Seidel Erik
ECS International BV	Rinkel Ben	Open Grid Europe	Sostmann Michael
energy solutions	Basso Giuliano	PGNiG SA	Grzyb Kamil
Eni	Pinto Simone	PGNiG SA (POGC)	Podlaski Dominik
ENI	Termont Olivier	PRISMA GmbH	Villedieu de Torcy Thibault
Eni S.p.A.	Pioltelli Marco	SEEBURGER AG	Engelhardt Julian
Eni SpA	Dordoni Francesco	SEEBURGER AG	Klumpp Nikolaus
Enagas (*Telco)	Morales Jesus	SEEBURGER AG	Petrovic Zoran
FGSZ Ltd.	Kovacs Karoly	Snam	Scalmani Gianluca

FIETEN IT	Fieten Sander	Snam	Conte Loris
Flame / ECS	Kramer Theo	SNTGN Transgaz SA	Pangaleanu Carmen Maria
Flame Computing	Dundas Neil	SNTGN TRANSGAZ SA	Bodogae Mihai Adrian
Flame Computing	Kramer Theo	Sonnenglanz Consulting BV	Van Der Eijk Pim
Fluxys	Serruys Dirk	Tiani Spirit GmbH	Masi Massimiliano
Fluxys	Van gucht Patrick	TIBCO Software	Chiodini Ivano
GASCADE Gastransport GmbH	Dohrmann Marc	TTPC	Piccinelli Claudio

(*) via telco

1. Opening

Mr. Panagiotis Panousos welcomed all participants and presented the role and the objectives of ENTSG. He explained the structure of the event and invited everybody to take part actively in the WS.

2. AS4 Protocol profile

> Introduction / Requirements coming from INT NC (ENTSG)

Mr. Jef de Keyser presented provisions set up in the Interoperability and Data Exchange Network Code related to Data Exchange.

> What is AS4 (ENTSG)

Mr. Pim van der Eijk presented the AS4 Communication protocol.

> The AS4 Usage Profile for TSOs (ENTSG)

Mr. Pim van der Eijk presented the profile of AS4 protocol that was created in order to meet TSOs business requirements.

Q: Does ebxml deal with edigas messages?

A: Yes, it can transmit any kind of file (payload) as an attachment to the message.

Q: Compared to an Edigas message, what is the size of the message transmitted through ebxml

A: There are two factors that determine the size. The first is the overhead, which is always present and it is not related to the size of the payload. The bigger the payload, the more efficient the ratio payload/total message size becomes.

With compression technology, the size of a message can be reduced significantly as small as 5% of the original. In addition with the current available capacities and bandwidths of networks, size should not be a problem anymore.

Q: Do you expect that AS4 standardization activity will continue in the future, or AS4 standardization is rather stable?

A: OASIS is working on finding bugs and tries to fix without changing everything. So, the standard is rather stable, only maintenance is performed.

Q: What is the security context used, are certificates and encryption used?

A: Yes, the presentations will answer your questions.

> **AS4 project example in Australia “SuperStream” (Axway)**

Mr. Antoine Rizk presented the project of introducing AS4 protocol for superannuation processing introduced by Australian Federal Government. Mr. Antoine Rizk compared the project of SuperStream with the ENTSOG project for introducing AS4 protocol in gas sector.

3. AS4 proof of concept

> **AS2 lessons learnt (EASEE-gas)**

Mr. Wim de Olde presented experience gained by EASEE-gas in field of digital certificate management, currently used with the AS2 protocol.

Q: Why do you recommend removing all pre-installed certificates from software vendors?

A: Companies should only have the certificates that they trust and need for the daily operations in the certificate store. This also includes the certificates in the chain of trust, (generally) from trusted 3rd parties.

> **Proof of concept results and conclusions (ENTSOG)**

Mr. Jef De Keyser and Mr. Pim van der Eijk presented the outcome of Proof of Concept for AS4 protocol performed between 5 TSOs, one DSO and one Energy trader. No fundamental problems have been detected during the PoC and interoperability has been demonstrated. The main problems encountered during the PoC were not directly related to the AS4 protocol as such but to the very high security standards that were applied and that are not integrated yet in all products. Existing protocols would probably face identical problems.

4. AS4 proof of concept and next steps

Participants' view:

> **SNAM/Tibco**

Mr. Loris Conte presented the outcome of tests performed between SNAM and ENAGAS, ENI and GCA.

Questions:

Q: Why is the field position so important?

A: In the PoC time format was used differently by the two companies. It took some time to find that this created a problem.

Q: Was firewall within scope of PoC?

A: No.

> **GCA/ADES**

Mr. Marin Zwetkow and Mr. Christoph Holper presented the outcome of interoperability tests performed between GCA and Westnetz/Thyssengas and SNAM.

> **Westnetz/Seeburger**

Mr. Zoran Petrovic presented the outcome of interoperability tests performed between Westnetz, ENAGAS, GCA and Gaz – System.

Questions:

Q: Has certificates been a big issue?

A: It's a critical point. There are some ideas of how these can be renewed. ENTSOG will study this in the future. It's more than a technical problem. It's an IT problem that can be created by a human error if not managed correctly.

> **GASSCO/Axway**

Mr. Pim Van der Eijk presented the outcome of interoperability tests performed between Gassco and ENI.

> **Further steps - implementation schedule, possible extensions (ENTSOG)**

Mr. Jef De Keyser presented implementation schedule for TSOs and Counterparties that is required by INT Network Code. Mr. Jef de Keyser informed about future steps and possible extensions for AS4 Usage Profile for TSOs.

Questions:

Q: In Hungary there is a wide use of AS2. Has migration support been considered?

A: During interoperability and data exchange network code development there was an extensive discussion on the choice of the protocol. As it should be a solution also for the future, the choice of AS4 was made. But, the network code does not require national markets to move directly to the new solution. Existing communication solutions can still exist, and more time for migration can be given. This is the only realistic way to convince the market to accept AS4.

5. Closing remarks

Mr. Panagiotis Panousos thanked the audience for the participation and the very constructive cooperation. He thanked all the parties that participated at the PoC for the fruitful cooperation and their involvement in the project. Mr. Panousos informed once again about the implementation schedule for the new AS4 Data Exchange protocol for TSOs and explained that implementation of DE requirements coming from Regulation 715/2009 means not only implementation of INT NC, but also all the other NCs where the requirements for the DE are defined. Mr. Panousos informed that presented materials, participant list as well as notes will be available on the ENTSOG website.