

# "Data Enquiry Service"

## Background & Project Progress

Sat Kalsi

### **Background**

- Xoserve has been undertaking a project to replace the existing IAD service
- The change driver was a mixture of Xoserve's strategy to upgrade the service as part of its wider technology upgrade and a response to an industry challenge to the existing service
- Requirements gathering, analysis and challenge has given scope to develop solution

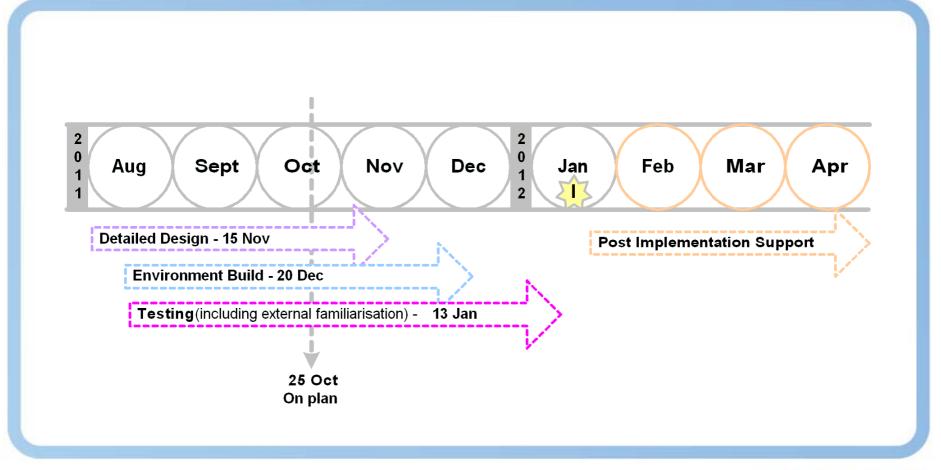


### **Project Process**

- The project is being delivered using an agile / iterative approach, meaning;
  - The normal project cycle is compressed and phases overlap
  - Offers the opportunity for an accelerated delivery
- To achieve this we are using a single supplier for entire delivery and post implementation support
  - Our supplier is very knowledgeable on both the technology and Xoserve's technology architecture
- Since initiation progress has been positive and remains on track for Jan 2012 go live
- Commenced key test phases (performance, security and user acceptance)



### **Project Plan**







# "Data Enquiry Service"

Requirements Recap

Mark Cockayne

### Requirements Origin

- The requirements were collated from various industry stakeholders / events;
  - SPAA Business Requirements Document
  - User Pays "IAD" work group
  - Customers / user feedback (Shipper, Network, Consumers)
  - Xoserve generated improvements
  - Performance & support requirements
  - Modifications & Changes
  - Industry best practices
- Data Enquiry has been designed with all these requirements in mind



### **SPAA** Requirements

- In terms of data source, content, volume and quality all the SPAA requirements will be met
- Data Enquiry will continue to provide daily updates of large GT data and offers future scope to include more / full iGT data if considered to be a requirement at a later stage
- All updates to the service will come from Xoserve's Information Provision (IP) data warehouse, providing scope to accept variable format updates (FTP, DVD etc..) in the future



## **SPAA** Requirements

Requirements	Delivered
Ensure larger GT data are provided with D+2	<b>√</b>
Complete daily system updates	<b>√</b>
Provide scalability for above 21 million Meter Point records	$\checkmark$
Only allow user to access data where they have permission / authority	
Offer copy / paste and print facility with service screens	<b>√</b>
Provide full suite of company performance reports	Xoserve
Empower users and enhance access controls feature	PAVS



### **Customer Requirements**

- Workshops were undertaken with User Pays Group and other customers, with requirements collected
- Main improvement areas were;
  - Increase data content
  - Provide historic information Asset and Supply Point
  - Provide previous meter readings
  - Introduce flexibility to add / remove / amend data displayed
  - Improve search function
- These requirements have been met though the new service
- However, due to permissions we are unable to provide information in relation to previous supplier ownership



### **Other Requirements**

- In response to industry modifications Data Enquiry will provide access to more stakeholders
  - Supplier access
  - Meter Asset Managers
- It also offers provision to create further access groups should other industry parties be permitted access in the future



### **Performance Requirements**

- Maintain existing performance standards
  - Service availability remains as is, as per contract
  - It will be available outside core supported hours (Mon Friday 08:00 18:00, Saturday 08:00 12:00)
- Data Enquiry will not be accessible between 00:00 03:00 daily
  - Routine maintenance and back ups run during this period
- For optimum performance try not to enter broad search criteria
- Service will maintain performance with 300 concurrent users
  - This is user actually invoking functions at the same second



### **Out of Scope**

- Linkage between ConQuest and Data Enquiry
- Provision of direct access user reports i.e. online
- Immediate changes to access controls (PAWS)
- LSO management (PAWS)
- Maintenance of address amendments history
- Integration with stakeholders systems
- Direct external updates, FTP etc..



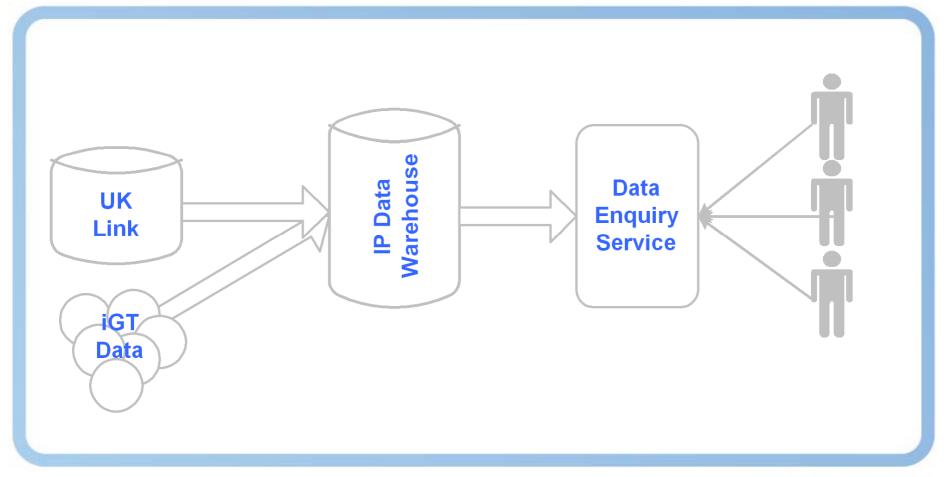


## "Data Enquiry Service"

#### The New Service

Iain Monksfield

#### The Solution



• The solution offers the flexibility to add / remove data items efficiently, subject to change governance



#### **New Features - Search**

- Enhanced search parameters
  - Address, including single string postcode field
  - Confirmation numbers
  - Supply Point Ids
- Intelligent search facility
  - Input fields will dynamically grey out to ease usage
  - Tool tip provided for immediate guidance
- Single search and results function
  - Enabling searching to take place within your own portfolio
  - Seamless viewing of portfolio and community data



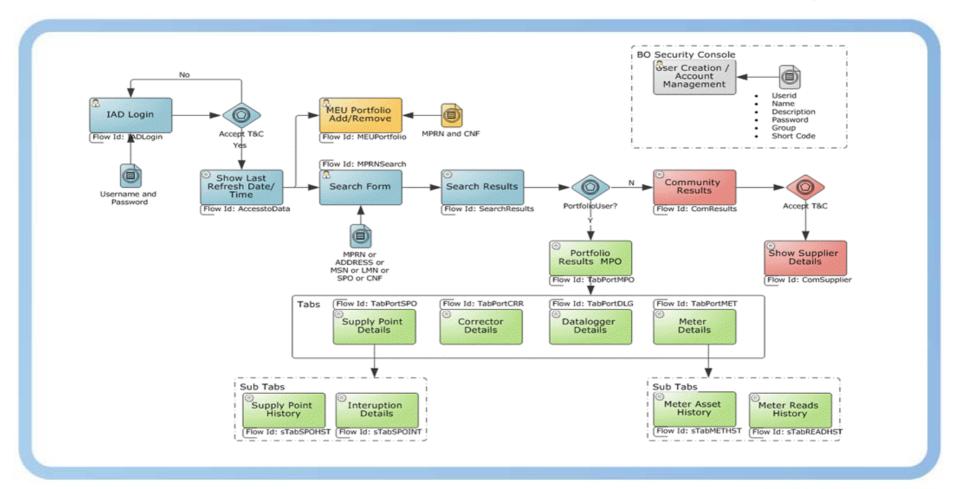
#### **New Features - Data**

- iGT update dates provided on homepage
- More data will be available to users, including;
  - Meter exchange details
  - Full Network Names (or iGT if applicable)
  - Historic asset information\*
  - Historic meter reads\*
    - 3 years previous reads
    - Last 40 reads
  - Historic Supply Point information\*
- A complete list of data items will be published in the new user guide once service is implemented

\*Historic data is subject to ownership periods and permission



### **Navigation**





#### **User Experience**

- The web pages / screens are design rich, providing
  - Logical tabs for related data
  - Ensuring easy visibility and navigation
- Breadcrumbs toolbar enables users to return to search results efficiently, without repeating searches
- Data items can be copied and pasted direct from screens and search fields
- It has been tested to operate on IE6, 7 & 8, Firefox 3
- Minimum screen resolution of 1280 by 800 is recommended



#### **Future Evolution**

- Data Enquiry has the ability to capture transactional user data
  - Xoserve can report on this information and offers the opportunity to move to alternative charging mechanism (subject to appropriate change governance)
- The service is also planned to integrate with Xoserve Single Sign on security (PAWS) during next year
  - This will provide users with 1 account for both Data Enquiry and ConQuest replacement services
  - Further communications will be provided once plans for integration are finalised





## "Data Enquiry Service" Screen Walkthrough

Iain Monksfield