

EASEE-gas Press Announcement

Date: 13 December 2007

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European Gas Industry Takes Yet Another Step to Improve Interoperability

The Executive Committee of EASEE-gas, the European Association for the Streamlining of Energy Exchange-gas, has on 12th December approved a new Common Business Practice (CBP): CBP 2007-006/01 on Harmonisation of the Allocation Information Exchange.

This CBP, along with two previous CBPs on Interconnection Agreements and the Nomination and Matching Process, was developed by the EASEE-gas Business Rules Working Group with the objective of improving technical interoperability between all actors involved in gas delivery across Europe.

The CBP on Harmonisation of the Allocation Information Exchange specifically addresses cross-border transport allocation issues between Transportation System Operators (TSOs) and shippers. It outlines the allocation process and provides a recommendation on the type, means and timing of the exchange of information. Implementation of the CBP is intended for April 2008 at the latest.

Further work on sub-allocations and secondary capacity trading is currently undertaken by a dedicated team within the Business Rules Working Group, focussing on operational aspects of gas sales agreements. The CBP on Secondary Capacity Trading is expected to be finalised in January 2008.

Notes

Common Business Practices (CBPs) are standards, procedures and/or protocols commonly used in the gas industry in Europe and are recommended by EASEE-gas for adoption by all relevant industry players to simplify and streamline business processes and thereby lead to an efficient and effective European gas market.

The development of CBPs is managed by an Executive Committee composed of industry representatives from each part of the gas value chain.

The European Gas Regulatory Forum of Madrid was set up to discuss issues regarding the creation of a true internal gas market. The participants are national regulatory authorities, Member States, the European Commission, transmission system operators, gas suppliers and traders, consumers, network users, and gas exchanges. The Forum convenes once or twice a year in Madrid.

EASEE-gas presently has 81 full members (companies active in the European gas market) and 24 associate members (industry associations, regulators, government agencies, etc).

This is the seventh CBP approved this year, including one which superseded a previous CBP, so there are now twelve approved CBPs in total, which can be found on the EASEE-gas website, www.easee-gas.org

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