

EASEE-gas Press Announcement

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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 today released two new Common Business Practices (CBPs) that were approved at its meeting in Paris on Wednesday 7 November:

- CBP2003-003/02 is an update of the original CBP on EDIG@S Protocols and recommends the use of the official version of the EDIG@S protocol for sales, infrastructure and service business information exchange. The latest version – version 4.0 – contains new messages and will be available from 1st January 2008;
- CBP2007-005/01 on Release Periods provides a timeframe for the upgrading of EDIG@S versions and for the early transition from the Edifact to the XML format, the latter being the format recommended by EASEE-gas.

The approval of these two CBPs, along with the approval of the four CBPs delivered by the IT Communications & Network and the Codes & Definitions Working Groups in September, is the result of the continuous work from the EASEE-gas Working Groups in developing Common Business Practices in close consultation with stakeholders, including the Madrid Forum.

Another draft CBP on Harmonisation of the Exchange of Allocation Information is out for consultation at the moment and we hope it will be approved before the end of the year.

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).

There are now twelve approved CBPs, which can be found on the EASEE-gas website, www.easee-gas.org

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