
CASE STUDY: CHECK-IT

The Client: Nostrum Group

The Project: Proof for Quality of Service

To help Nostrum secure the service provision contract for support of Green Deal Finance Company's Green Deal loan administration IT requirements, we performed a Proof of Concept exercise to prove their systems could handle the industry Data Transfer Service flows.

What is Check-It?

Check-It is a service that enables Data Transfer Service (both Electricity and Green Deal) flows to be validated, and errors identified, without the flows being transferred to other market participants. The technology solution enables the testing of new flows and systems using exactly the same rules and market domain data as used in the live Data Transfer Service to ensure that the flows produced are composed with the correct structure and content. Customers are also able to validate files they receive from other market participants before accepting them into their internal systems.

Why Use Check-It?

Check-it was a perfect technology solution to enable the efficient testing of Nostrum's system to produce standard industry flows and demonstrate to the Green Deal Finance Company the quality of its output and help Nostrum win the contract.

Where can it best be used?

Check-It is best used where a new system is being developed or the use of new flows are being produced. The importance of only sending correctly constructed data to other market participants is clear, and Check-It is an easy-to-use tool to ensure that as the energy market develops, participants are able to ensure the quality of their systems prior to live operation.

Testimony: Nostrum's CTO Alex Stephen

“Nostrum Group is the Green Deal Finance Company service provider –providing channel access to GDFC services for GDPs and managing Green Deal Plans through the activation process and beyond. As part of this service Nostrum utilises Electralink's Check IT service to perform technical validation of Green Deal related data flows, into the CCDb.

Nostrum first approached Electralink for access to its test service –Check IT –in order to strengthen its bid during the process GDFC executed to source a solution provider. Electralink and the Check IT service enabled Nostrum to actively demonstrate its understanding of systems and processing requirements involved in accessing the CCDb over the DTN

A continuous engagement with Electralink to provide the service on a repeat basis, enables Nostrum to incorporate Check IT as part of its GDFC systems test and release processes, providing essential assurance that data flows remain accurate.

Nostrum has found Electralink staff to be extremely knowledgeable and helpful and they are seen as a valued solution partner.”

About ElectraLink

ElectraLink was created in 1998 to provide an independent, secure and low cost service to transfer data between the players operating in the deregulated UK electricity industry. The company operates a state-of-the-art data transfer service which underpins customer switching, meter interoperability and other business processes critical to a competitive energy market. ElectraLink has subsequently diversified successfully into providing gas data transfer and services to support the codes governing the operation of the gas and electricity markets. In 2012 the company was granted permission by its users to provide data analytics and benchmarking on the market data processed by its data transfer network.

We are the only people who do what we do. A truly independent organisation owned by the UK's Electricity Distribution Network Operators (DNOs), ElectraLink has a unique capability to provide energy market data transfer and analytics as we're connected to, and sit at the heart of, the UK energy industry.

For more information, contact: helpdesk@electralink.co.uk