DSWG Web Survey Response 2006

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Survey Overview

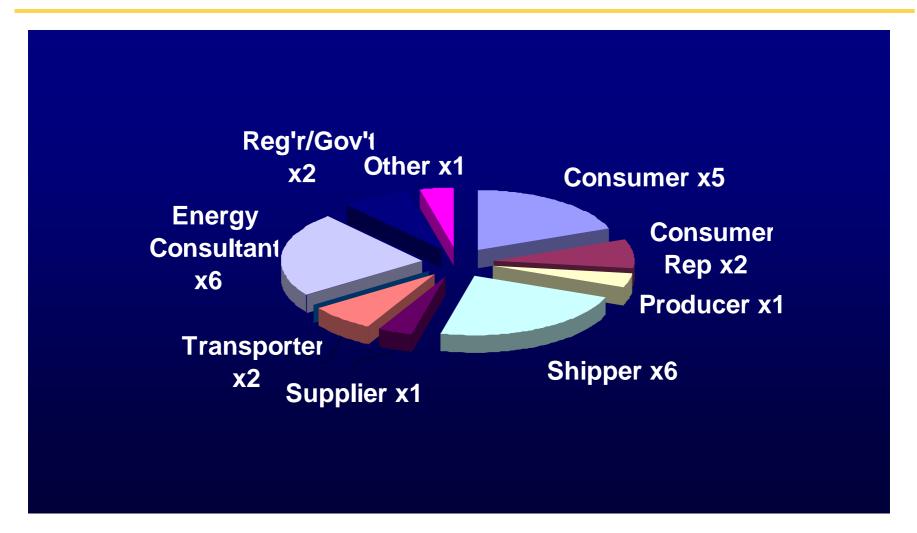
- Requested by DSWG
- Survey of Organisations using National Grid NTS Operational Data Website
- Three categories of questions;
 - About the survey respondents (Type, Location, Usage, etc)
 - About the website (Quantitative with text comments)
 - Future Development (What's most/least used, new requests, etc)
- Survey available on website for four weeks
- 26 respondents

About the Respondents - Results

- 77% of respondents use the website at least daily
- Most popular reports are Daily Summary, Storage, Interruptions and Operational Summary
- Vast majority of respondents were from the UK but some interest in website from Europe and US.



Makeup of Respondents





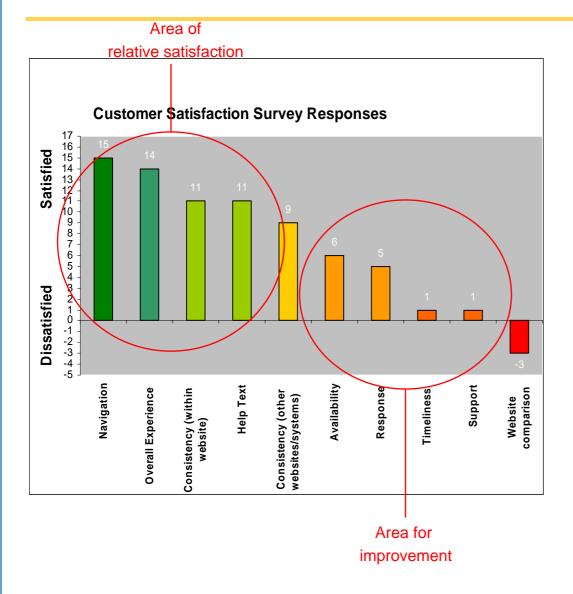
About the Website - Questions

- Respondents asked to comment on the following areas;
 - Ease of Navigation
 - Availability of the data
 - Speed of website response
 - Timeliness of report publication
 - Consistency of data (both within website and other sources)
 - Help text & Support
 - Comparison with other similar websites
 - Overall experience



About the Website - Overall Results

Pareto of quantitative responses (v good = 2, good = 1, neutral = 0, bad = -1, v bad = -2, x No of Responses)



Findings

- Unhappy
 - Availability
 - Response
 - Timeliness
 - Support
- Happy
 - Navigation
 - Overall experience
 - Consistency
 - Help text



About the Website – Some specific comments

Positive

- Navigation improved significantly with introduction of Daily Summary Report
- Significant improvement made in Availability after December
- When you know your way round its ok
- Response is generally good, although it tends to slow when system is tight

Negative

- It could be more clear as to where to find daily price information
- Often takes over 30 seconds to respond, sometimes not at all.
- Accessing the daily screens periodically hangs
- Data is published late in the day, and at erratic times
- I find the flow data usually comes in about half past the hour which is a bit late.



Thoughts & Ideas - Overview

- A number of more open questions were asked to capture thoughts on the future direction of the Website. These were;
 - What additional data items would help the market to operate more effectively?
 - What changes to existing data would help the market to operate more effectively?
 - What data items are critical to you?
 - What data items are no longer of use?
 - Do you have further recommendations for improvements?



Thoughts & Ideas – New data

- Improved storage information
- Improved forecast data
- System prices
- Entry Charges
- Detailed demand estimates
- Improve transparency GBA trigger
- Actual seasonal normal temperature
- Actual Linepack

Thoughts & Ideas – Changes to data

- Earlier Data
- Accessible Gas Quality Data
- Physical flows (Entry Points, Storage, Interconnector)
- Time Stamps for graphs

Thoughts & Ideas – Respondents view of critical data

- Storage levels/monitors, Linepack, Price.
- Physical Flows into NTS, Actual Demands, Storage Monitors
- Line pack, Demand, Real time flow data
- All are critical at sometime
- Gas composition data
- 1. NB92 linepack
 - 2. NTSAPF Physical Flows into NTS
 - 3. NTSAFF Forecast flows onto NTS
 - 4. NTS End of Day Flow Report
 - 5. Daily Operational Report
 - 6. SISR03 Forecast demands
 - 7. Storage monitors N.B. This represents current situation, with the release of the energywatch data, we would expect this to occupy the second most important position.



Thoughts & Ideas – Data no longer of use

- Don't really look at shrinkage factors
- All useful at some point!
- All capacity reports, SO Incentive reports and maintenance programme reports



Thoughts & Ideas – Further improvements

- Use of API's
- Please please fix this site so it works in browsers other than Internet Explorer!!! Firefox is a fantastic browser and this site doesn't work properly in it.
- Needs to be more robust, too much down time
- Consistency of units; mcm and p/therm for preference
- Alerts of forecast data could be sent direct by email.
- Units on CWV graph
- Notes section could be expanded so text is not cut off
- Monthly data should be updated as soon as possible after the month.
- Rolling data as opposed to singular day
- Layout needs to be more user friendly, difficult to find individual items



Survey - Recommendations

- Both Ofgem and National Grid surveys produced consistent results
- Addressing key areas of dissatisfaction. Responding to as many as we can for Winter 06/07
- Conduct a further survey after Winter 06/07 to compare and contrast with survey results post-Winter 05/06
- Thank you to all who took part in our survey

