

Topic:

**Update on the New MTR Update Report to
Allow MTR Users to Retrieve MTR data via
XML**

Presentation to the
Revenue Metering Sub-Committee
(RMSC)

Thursday, August 26, 2004

Status

- Background
- Proposal to use XML
- Progress to date
- Current Implementation Plan

Background

- Scope
 - Initiated as a result of a Participant Issue Log #206 for the IMO to provide an alternative method to allow Meter Service Providers and Meter Market Participants to access their MTR data without going through the MTR Workflow program.
 - Issue was reviewed and endorsed by the MTR Working Group with MSP and MMP representation from Revenue Metering Sub-Committee (RMSC)
 - Although automated 2 way communications of MTR data was desirable only 1 way retrieval of MTR data from the IMO to the MTR user is feasible at this time due to limitation in the current implementation of the MTR system. 2 way communications would require a costly redevelopment of the MTR system.
 - Initial focus is to provide daily MTR data as an XML document to be called “MTR Update Report”

Proposal to use XML

– Why use XML?

- It is the new approach endorsed by the ITSC to provide reports and data to MPs and is already being phased in to provide MP with public and confidential information. See new IMO Reports Website: <http://reports.theimo.com/index.html>
- XML is ideal for transporting data that is typically held in databases from one place to another. The source and destination need not be compatible with each other than they both have an the ability to handle XML.
- XML has become outrageously popular and is well on its ways to universal acceptance as the file format of choice for transporting data between dissimilar computers and applications.

Proposal to use XML (cont'd)

Methods of retrieving MTR information from the IMO

- Via MTR work flow program
- Via retrieval of MTR Update Reports from IMO Reports web page:
 - Browsing (XML reports can be viewed in a browser window and downloaded interactively.)
 - Programmatic access with custom code
- References:
 - IT Standing Committee web pages:
http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/consult/it_sc.asp
 - Technical Interface web pages (Technical information on XML and Automated Documents):
<http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/ti/techinterface.asp>
 - Quick Takes:
http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/pubs/training/QT12_AccessingXMLReports.pdf
http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/pubs/training/QT15_RetrievingReports.pdf

Progress to date:

- A proposal of the New MTR Update Report was published to the members of the MTR Working Group, RMSC and CRSC on July 23, 2004 for comments.
- Included in the proposal was a simulation of how the MTR Update Reports could be interactively retrieved from the IMO Report Website and processed by either MS Excel 2003 or MS Access 2003.
- Above proposal along with sample XML and XSD documents can be retrieved from CRSC web page at: http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/consult/commRec_sub.asp

Current Implementation Plan

- Expected Delivery date of October 2004 is no longer achievable by IT&I because of staff resource difficulties and problems with registering new users to the IMO Reports Website.
- Most probable delivery date of the MTR Update Report to all MTR users is now early 2005.
- A formal specification of the MTR Update Report will be issued by IT before delivery.

Thank you