

7 - VMS / Security / DNS Questionnaire Responses

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Your Responses

- Thanks for them
- We e-mailed the survey out to the EBS IT e-mail list
- And our wider IT contact list
- More than 50% responded
- We'll address the points you raised

VMS Operating System Specifics

- Most EDT clients do not rely on VMS commands but:
 - Some used the VMS folder structure
 - Anticipated having to make configuration changes to work with EBS
 - Some rely on the VMS file version number being present in the names of response files
 - One Unix-based system has been modified to strip out the VMS file version number from the extension

Impact of new IP address ranges

- Lead time to change varied from a week to three months
- Some were answering for EDL only, EDT only, or both
- And different size of organisations
- Some allowed time for analysis, some didn't
- Relies on timely provision by National Grid of IP addresses
- We'll work to three months lead time

Use of DNS by EDT clients

- Most did use it
- Those who didn't use DNS, all didn't because of IP address overlaps with their own systems

Other comments

- Would prefer that National Grid services use public rather than private IP address space
- Are there any plans to support IPv6 in the new National Grid network?

8 - Structure of Documentation

Pete Smith / Robert Paterson

Why this agenda item?

- Reviewed changes we'd made as a result of action 022
- Felt needed to discuss and agree some structure for documentation:
 - For Testing
 - For Transition
 - Enduring
- Need to consider IT security
 - What to make publicly-available?
 - What is on request?

What we've got currently - Testing

- BPITS Specifications i.e. computer-to-computer testing
 - One for EDL
 - One for EDT
- NATS Specification – Network Connectivity Tests
 - Needs to cover both EDL and EDT
- Is this structure ok for the future?

What we've got currently – Enduring (1)

- Two message specifications
 - EDL
 - EDT
- Two guidance notes plus EDL Reason Codes
 - Don't need to be standalone – incorporate in main docs
- All above subject to Governance of Electrical Standards in Grid Code General Conditions
- Interface Standards – Networking/Security
 - Not aware subject to any industry codes governance

What we've got currently – Enduring (2)

- Data Validation, Consistency & Defaulting Rules
 - Under Grid Code governance
- NETA Despatch Instruction Guide
 - External version of internal, non-pumped storage, despatch procedure
 - Will have new internal procedure for EBS inc. pumped storage
 - Agreed at EBSG would produce new external version
 - Not aware subject to any industry code governance

What else is required for enduring?

- The following occurred to us:
 - Client Tool Kits
 - How to get support
 - FAQs
- Anything else?

Enduring Documentation

- For EBS EDL & EDT message specifications
 - Minimal updates
- Wholesale changes/new documents for EDL* & EDT*
 - Client tool kits
 - Web access to registration database etc.
- Interface Standards need updating:
 - FTP/DNS
 - Changing Communications Technology etc.
- Support details and FAQ
- Anything else?

Transition

- Need document structure to cover this
- We propose:
- Publicly-available Summary document inc. information on how to obtain detail
- Detailed documentation made available on request e.g.
 - Network changes
 - EDT switchover
 - And details such as DNS names, IP addresses...
- What do you think?