

**2<sup>nd</sup> Compliance Forum Event**  
**Brussels**  
**October 2012**

**View from the CF E-Reporting Task Force**

# Role of the CF E-Reporting Task Force

- **Vision to:**
  - promote and increase the use of web based systems for EU ETS reporting
  - identify and share best practice between MS
  - assist Commission to develop e-reporting standard tools for MS to use
  - support Commission to develop and promote XETL as a common EU ETS language for data exchange between CAs, operators, verifiers and Commission
  - support Commission in development of standard business rules and check routines for the data received
  - ensure higher data quality and accessibility, improved consistency, and increased business efficiency
- **Products so far include:**
  - IT systems blueprint comprising
    - System requirements document
    - System draft specifications
    - Guidance documents
  - XETL schemas, dictionary and guidance for permits and reporting
  - Draft governance proposals for products developed so far
  - Draft communication plan on how to engage all potential users
- **Tools and documents produced available on Commission's website/sharepoint**

# E-Reporting Questionnaire

- **Results of questionnaire issued 28 August 2012:**
  - Limited response so far
  - Returns to date indicate
    - systems of most respondents now web based,
    - support for development of XETL for Phase III,
    - strong support for sound governance of products task force has already developed
    - support for common minimum IT approach IT to reporting and compliance  
**provided current systems in use not compromised**
- **If you have not done so already - please return your completed questionnaires to E-Reporting Task Force Chair Andrew Matterson so we can properly assess current MS needs and opinions**

# Governance of E- Reporting Task Force Products

- **Why Governance at all?**
  - to establish ownership, stability, future direction and responsibility
  - to ensure what we have is properly maintained and updated
  - to ensure future development fits in with the existing
- **Governance is needed at several levels:**
  - **High level**
    - political decisions/IT strategy/finance
  - **Medium level**
    - Task Force Working Group - day to day working on products, guidance, etc. involving CAs, operators, other users, stakeholders and developers
  - **Back Office**
    - Version control and maintenance of documents
    - Administration of change control procedures
    - Collaboration Portal for XETL and other tools and documents
    - Helpdesk services, news items, communications

# Key Visions for the Future

- **XETL schemas upgraded before legislation comes into force so MS can have systems in place on Day 1**
- **All EU Member States use common workflow processes and templates that meet key minimum requirements**
- **All EU Member States employ web based systems for maximum data quality, consistency and business efficiency**
- **XETL is fit for purpose and used more widely both within and outside the EU so that ultimately all carbon trading systems around the world can communicate with one another**

# **Preliminary Suggestions for E-Reporting TF Work Plan 2013**

- **Agree with COM & MS on governance structure (management and change control methodology)**
- **Implement governance for all future work**
- **Agree with COM & MS what XETL should do and how**
- **Start with XETL improvements to existing schemas & amendments required for Phase III**
- **Engage all MS in developments as much as reasonably possible**
- **Involve other stakeholders – industry, verifiers, NABs, Eurocontrol and MS software developers**
- **Arrange workflow capacity building training on workflow systems for MS who need it**
- **Exchange information and promote use of IT systems along with benefits and harmonisation they bring**

# Why use Automated Web Based Systems?

- **Reducing the burden for operators in collecting data and submitting their reports**
- **Reducing the burden for CAs in processing operator submissions e.g. automated check routines, exception reporting, etc.**
- **Ensuring all data reported by operators to CAs is standardised, accurate and valid**
- **Ensuring verifiers and CAs have all the data they need to carry out their roles**
- **Ensuring data reported by MS to the Commission is standardised, accurate and valid**

# Conclusions

- **Benefits of web based reporting systems for EU ETS are now a reality for several member states**
- **Improvements in the accuracy of data and reduction in burden for operators and CAs are now a real life experience for some**
- **XETL has been of limited use in it's current form**
- **Once updated to meet Phase III requirements and with proper governance for all TF products, foundations will be there for a world of increased, more accurate electronic reporting**
- **No reason to delay - MS with systems in place are more than willing now to help those who wish to upgrade**
- **Software systems including Phase III are now available at relatively low cost**
- **Electronic reporting by all MS by the end of 2015 should be our aim**
- **Contact E-Reporting task force via [andrew.matterson@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.matterson@environment-agency.gov.uk)**