## The benefits of using automated systems and data exchange formats to harmonise communication

Andrew Matterson, andrew.matterson@environment-agency.gov.uk Manager of E-reporting Task Force, Environment Agency, UK



#### Benefits that automated IT can bring

- IT does repetitive tasks very well, it can even be smart about it
- ◆ IT will be as attentive and diligent doing the task for the 1,000<sup>th</sup> time as it was doing it for the 1<sup>st</sup> time
- Annual Emissions Reporting is a repetitive task, updated each year, but repetitive, let IT take the strain
- ◆ Faster communication (reporting mechanisms), electronic storage and the protection of records (no piles of paper)
- IT is widely used, by operators and competent authorities, so it logical to automate future ETS reporting



## Actual benefits of using IT – UK's experience with ETSWAP

- 5 competent authorities (CA's) meeting ETS Legislation in a consistent manner
- Ensured efficient and timely monitoring plan approvals of 1200 operators in time for the start of the Phase 3
- Automated reminders ensure the relevant parties are aware of what outstanding actions they have
- Accessible via an internet connection by all users

- Workflow ensures tasks are completed within the compliance cycle
- From feedback received IT has minimised the regulatory admin burden on both the operators regulators who use it
- Avoided the need to significantly expand the regulatory team to administer manual processes of permitting, monitoring, and compliance.



## Why is XETL relevant? What can it do?

- XETL EU ETS reporting language (data exchange format)
- Imagine a large pot with data in it, using this format automated systems, computers can pull this data out and populate where and when you need it e.g. Annual Emissions Report
- Operators using this format will be able to handle their data more easily
- Communicate with different systems
- Allows automated population of systems, forms or templates
- Applies validation rules, so drives improved quality



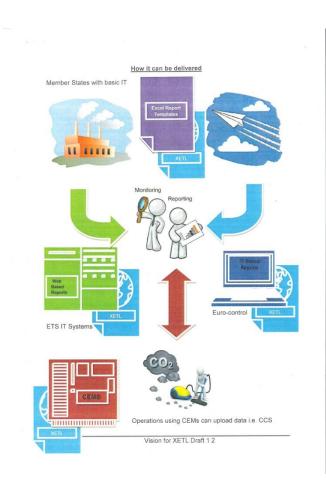
## What are the drivers for industry; regulators for using XETL; what's new?

- Art. 14 "Monitoring and reporting of emissions" ETS DIRECTIVE 2003/87/EC
- Art. 74 "Electronic data exchange formats".
- MRR REGULATION 2012/601/EC

- 2015 Developments
- XETL schemas developed for phase III revisited; restyled
- Data requirements now put into data workflows
- ◆ Future incorporation into DECLARE



#### **Benefits of XETL**



- Common link to different CO2 monitoring and reporting mechanisms (which vary by Member State)
- 1 tonne of CO2 emitted = 1 tonne of CO2 reported, if all use the same format
- ★ XETL facilitates XML method with agreed validation rules, so it reduces the need to worry about where the item is reported, but only that it is; in the correct format



#### **Summary**

- Automated systems bring benefits to all users, who must do repetitive tasks
- IT improves quality of returns, removes human error
- Enables resources to be freed for other duties such as compliance checking
- Data format will improve quality and ease report delivery
- Can deliver a common CO<sub>2</sub> reporting format across Europe/Globally



# Thank you for listening

