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FLUXYS
EXCELLENCE IN GAS TRANSPORT

Fluxys

Project: Contracting Services
Date: 07/2003 - Today

Case

The Company

Since the demerger of the company in 2001, Fluxys operates as an independent natural gas transport company. As a leader in the transport sector in the heart of Europe, Fluxys plays a key role in the expansion of competition within the European gas market.
The liberalization of the energy market resulted in a regulated Belgian landscape. The official instance, the CREG, have established rules for gas transporters and parties willing to play on the energy market.

The project

The goal of the Contracting applications is to provide a way to help and enhance the different departments in their daily duties, be it commercial or operational, based on those regulations.

The commercial department will use the system to contract or edit services. Operational departments will consult the system to allocate capacity to the respective parties. Other IT systems will retrieve the master data for their daily operations. A bridge to the Billing system is also available. The whole system is based on a workflow mechanism that follows the rules established by the CREG as well as technical operational restrictions are taking into account.

The analysis is done through a Fluxys methodology based on UML. The project management is done using the scrum approach. Four releases are foreseen per year and each release consists of 3 sprints.

In each sprint some functionalities needs to be delivered. The end of sprint 2 provides a fully operational system that can be tested in various environment by different stake holders. The end of sprint 3 delivers a shippable product that can be set into the production environment.

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This application pool consists of:

- A Book Services System (BOSS) that enables the Fluxys commercial department to manage new requests and existing contracts
- An Extranet application (eBOSS) that enables customers to register new requests
- An application that manages the business parties
- An application that maintains the characteristics of the gas network in Belgium and is used by different applications to get the master data
- A reporting application
- An application that gets the metering information each hour so that other applications can allocate transport capacity of gas to customers
- An application that checks the consistancy of the data in the contracting systems

The project provides a split of the requirements into high-level use cases, called system context. Each use case corresponds to a specific functionality that the application must provide.

The deliverables

- System context
- User Interface specifications
- System Operation specifications
- Component Specifications
- Training and testing scenario's
- Management of the different systems

Functionalities available

- Different workflows (Information, Quotation, Contracting)
- Booking functionality of different services (Supply, Entry, Transit, Hub, Data Publication, …)
- Balancing mechanism (Entry-Exit)
- Simulation file of the network capacity
- Generate a Quote
- Role-based security
- Bridge to billing system (SAP)
- Consult functionality for other applications sa. allocations and nominations
- Reporting environment
- Journal logging
- Email notification
- …