

Review of Partnering Arrangements – CCMT

As part of the CCMT preparation activities , Xoserve has agreed to review the previous partnering arrangements to assist in making an informed decision within the CCMTWG regarding the partnering arrangements for CCMT.

Within Project Nexus, partnering arrangements were used to enable full testing of the switching process in place at the time. This was arranged on the following basis :

- The majority of shippers were involved plus all iGTs and GT
- Minimum 2 partners per category where appropriate (Big 6, I&C, Challengers)
- Following the mandatory process work(see mandatory processes section by the MTWG,
- “Challenger” shippers balanced across the “Big 6” shippers, however, due to the level of production activity with Big 6 organisations, the larger organisation were required to carry out more tests to enable all parties to take an active part in Market Trials as they were matched with 4-5 challenger organisations each.
- Geographic considerations were made to the matching where possible
- iGT matching was also made to ensure that appropriate testing could be completed
- Only switches which had been carried out in production could be used for testing on the basis that both parties already had access to the data
- Where partners were not available , dummy portfolios were used
- The main premise for partnering arrangements was to comply with Data protection guidelines in place at the time and the data agreements reached across the industry

Findings :

- Dummy portfolio was extensively used by some organisations
- difficulties in arranging matching within differing testing schedules
- independent arrangements were made between “friendly” organisations to enable appropriate testing to take place

Considerations for CCMT :

- there are a limited number of organisations taking part in CCMT making partnering more problematic
- dummy portfolios will not be provided due to the volume of other activities taking place across the programme
- CSS programme are suggesting, for E2E testing, that organisations will arrange their own partnering and switches will not have had to have taken place in production - this is currently with Ofgem for further advice