EASEE-gas

European Association for the Streamlining of Energy Exchange - gas

Common Business Practice

Number: 2007-001/02

Subject: Message Transmission Protocol

Approved: 18 September 2007

Summary

This Common Business Practice specifies the use of AS2 for the transmission of Edig@s messages. The specification assumes adoption of the Common Business Practice for the Data Network.

About EASEE-gas

The European Association for the Streamlining of Energy Exchange-gas or EASEE-gas was created by six founding members in Paris on March 14th, 2002. EASEE-gas' aim is to support the creation of an efficient and effective European gas market through the development and promotion of common business practices (CBPs) that intend to simplify and streamline business processes between the stakeholders.

The formation of EASEE-gas was prompted by the success of the Gas Industry Standards Board in the United States and has been modelled on it. The GISB has now evolved into the North American Energy Standards Board. The creation of EASEE-gas is a project that is fully supported by the European Commission and by the European Regulators through the so-called Madrid Forum. It was achieved through the work of a dedicated Task Force supported by EFET, Eurogas, Eureiectric, GEODE, GTE, OGP and the Edig@s group.

The association is fundamentally based on company membership and voluntary contribution towards the development of common business practices.

Full membership in EASEE-gas is open to all companies, European or other, that are involved in the European gas business, from producers to end users, and to companies that are their service providers. Companies can subscribe to full membership in one or more of the eight gas industry segments.

Associate membership in EASEE-gas is open to government agencies, e.g, regulators, through to organisations such as gas business trade associations and to individuals that may contribute to the benefit of EASEE-gas. Associate members do not pay annual fees, nor do they have voting rights.

The development of common business practices within EASEE-gas is organised through working groups under the supervision of an executive committee that is representative of the various gas industry segments. Participation in the working groups is limited to members only.

EASEE-gas association loi 1901
12 Tour Opus, La Défense 9, 77, Esplanade du General de Gaulle, La Défense, 92914 Paris, France
Head Office: 142 Avenue Jules Bordet, Brussels 1140 Tel: +32 2 761 16 33 Fax: +32 2 761 16 99
Mail: easee-gas@kelleneurope.com Web: www.easee-gas.eu

EASEE-gas
Streamlining the gas business

<u>**Common Business Practice 2007-001/02:**</u>
<u>**"Message Transmission Protocol"**</u>

0. PREAMBLE

On 1st of May 2015, the Regulation (EU) 2015/703 establishing a network code on interoperability and data exchange rules was published. The network code defines AS4 as the data exchange protocol for document-based data exchanges. It does allow for AS2 to be further used but as an exception and subject to local NRA's approval.

The TSWG will continue support on AS2 as long as we see reasonable application of the protocol within the EASEE-gas organization.

We do urge members to continue use of EASEE-gas certificates in AS2 and AS4 because of the established procedures when handling certificates within the EASEE-gas community.

1. APPLICATION AREA

The adoption of this Common Business Practice means that EASEE-gas members will use the AS2 protocol instead of current FTP / OFTP implementations.

AS2 has been chosen as the most suitable protocol for reliable messaging of structured business data over the Public Internet. It was designed by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) specifically to meet this need.

The definition of AS2 referred to in this Common Business Practice is Version 1.1 as described in RFC4130 by the IETF.

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Mail: easee-gas@kelleneurope.com Web: www.easee-gas.eu

2. TECHNOLOGY TO BE USED

AS2 gateway products are certified by the Drummond Group (www.drummondgroup.com) as being compliant to the AS2 standard. Only AS2 gateway products certified by the Drummond Group are recommended to be used.

3. CERTIFICATES

EASEE-gas will obtain a root certificate from a Trusted Certification Authority on behalf of all EASEE-gas members.

The EASEE-gas General Manager will be responsible for the generation of client certificates signed by the EASEE-gas root certificate. The General Manager will also be responsible for publishing and operating the procedure for managing (issuing, revocation, renewal etc) the certificates for EASEE-gas members.

The General Manager will be responsible for defining the validity period of certificates. The General Manager will recommend dates and times at which all members will implement certificates issued during the renewal process. The date and time for each renewal will be authorised by the Executive Committee, based on the recommendation of the General Manager and consultation of the membership.

There is no mandatory requirement for server certificates. This is at the discretion of each EASEE-gas member as to whether they install a server certificate. Each member is responsible for the certification process for their own server(s).

4. AS2 ADDRESS BOOK

The EASEE-gas General Manager will be responsible for maintaining the AS2 Address Book used by all users. The Address Book will contain the following items as a minimum for each entry:

- AS2 System Identifier
- Business Partner (Name)
- Role (EASEE-gas Segment - eg TSO, DSO etc)
- Security Contact Information (person receiving certificate, requires full legal postal address)
- Technical Contact Information (direct telephone number, email mandatory)
- URL
- Port Number

The General Manager will also publish all public certificate files along-side the Address Book in the members' area of the EASEE-gas web-site.

5. IP ADDRESSING

Sending and receiving servers must be reachable via fixed public IP addresses. *Configuration*

Parameters for the AS2 Protocol

Encryption:	3DES
Signing:	SHA1
Compression:	On
Message Disposition Notification (MDN):	Signed (Mandatory) Synchronous (Highly Recommended)
AS2 System Identifiers:	AS2-From/AS2-To same as ZEW code list in Edig@s catalogue
TCP Port Number:	Http - default port 80 Https - default port 443