

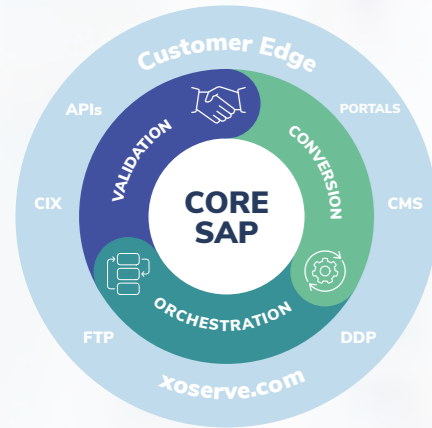


Future-proofing the gas markets data infrastructure

UK Link

UK Link connects the complex information, technology and communications systems that are essential to the successful competitive retail gas market in Britain.

The suite, which is used and managed by Xoserve in its role as Central Data Service Provider (CDSP), ensures the industry operates smoothly, effectively and efficiently, in accordance with the Uniform Network Code and its IGT equivalent.



UK link is made up of three interlinked and interdependent layers:

- **Core** - a bespoke configuration of SAP ISU ECC6 and SAP BW
- **VCO** - a collection of systems that validate, convert, and orchestrate data in and out of Core, maintaining data quality and integrity
- **Customer Edge** - customer-facing systems that DSC parties use daily to engage with Xoserve and ultimately Core

Support for SAP ISU ECC6 expires in 2027 and **UK Link will need to be modernised** with a new solution - one which will meet both current and future needs.

Project Trident: an overview

In May 2024, Xoserve announced Project Trident, a significant project of work to modernise UK Link.

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The objectives for Project Trident are:

- Maintaining the CDSP service throughout Project Trident, and enabling our stakeholders and customers to access the data required;
- Delivering a UK Link solution that provides the same functionality for stakeholder groups it provides today, as a minimum;
- Delivering a simple and robust solution that can efficiently adapt to future requirements – with the new solution being supported until at least 2040;
- Limiting changes to our customers, while exploring options for improvement which may enhance how they access their data within UK Link.

Standard support for the current version of the SAP platform that supports UK Link ends in 2027. Xoserve has the option to extend support for the current UK Link until 2030, but we have reasons for considering a broader range of options:

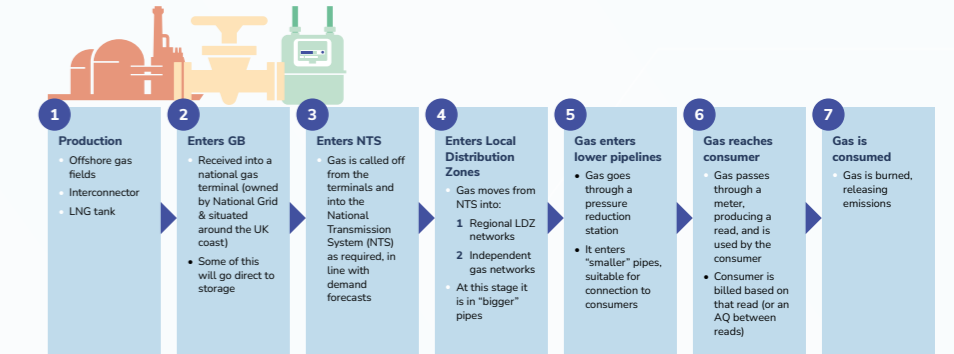
1. The risks of unsupported UK Link components.
2. The current limitations and opportunities of UK Link functionality, including:
 - Data processing capabilities
 - Customisation and complex architecture
 - Supply chain and organisational optimization

We are assessing all available options, to ensure we select the best possible path and meet future industry demands. This means that, to prepare for the future of UK Link, **we need to start Project Trident now.**

Xoserve and the future of the gas sector

The modernisation of Xoserve's infrastructure will present opportunities to make service delivery more efficient and economic. But as with any large-scale technological transformation project, timing and smart planning in the context of the wider sector will be crucial.

Project Trident and the Future UK Link solution will need to meet both current and future needs and consider unknowns. These can range from the introduction of blending into the current gas network, to changes to the gas code that may require delivery during the upcoming evolution of the gas market.



For questions, ideas or feedback regarding Project Trident, please
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