



ECG Erdgas-Consult

# IT as Enabler for Transparency in an Efficient Business Process

*'Success begins with understanding'*

*Marco Wettig*

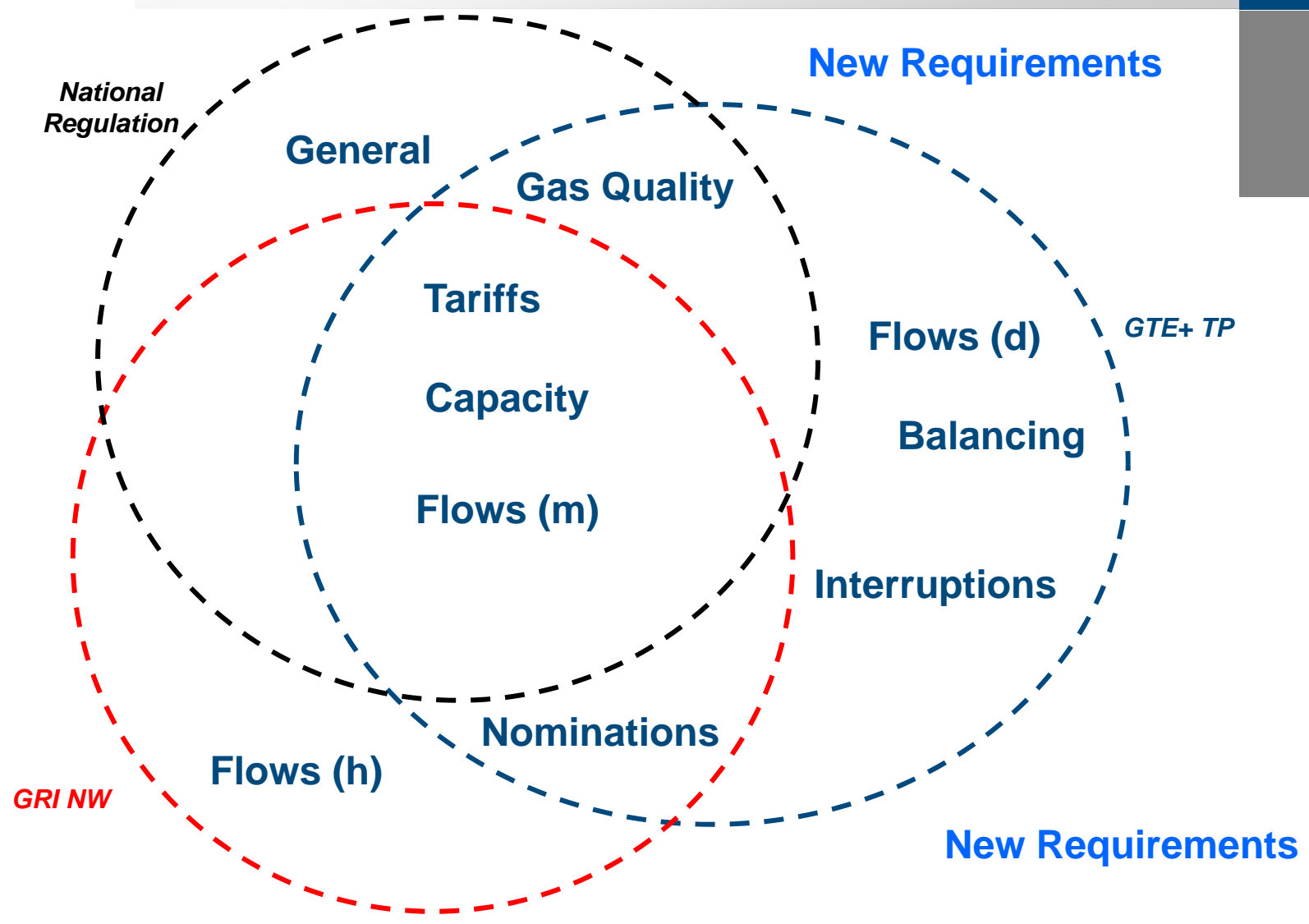
**GTE Transparency Workshop**

Brussels, 31 March 2009



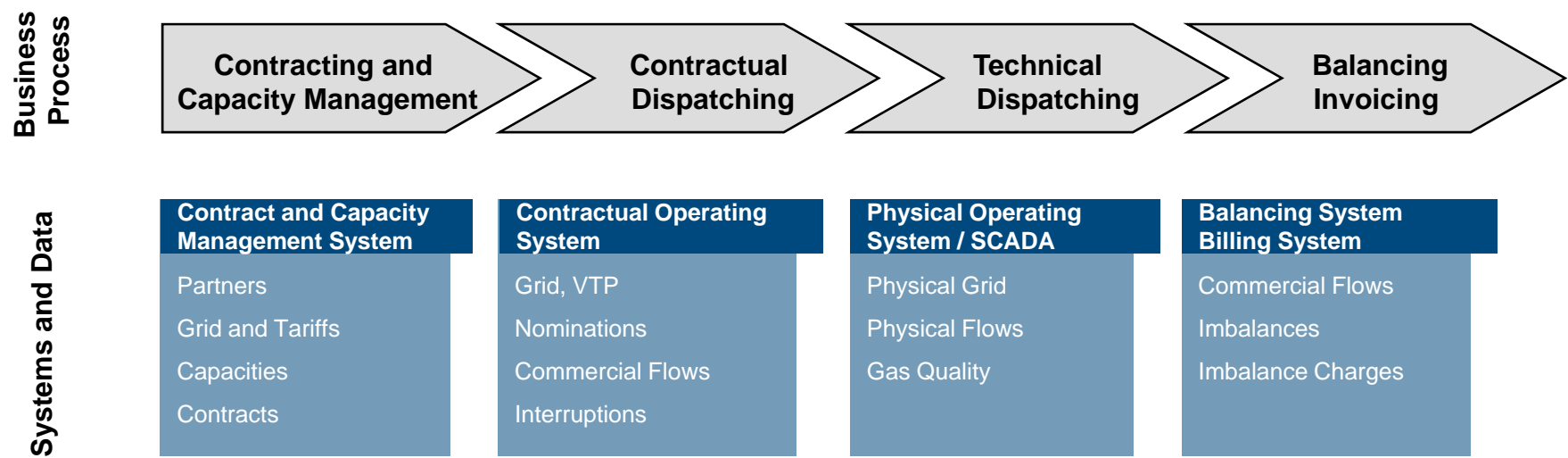
1. Introduction ECG
2. Transparency Requirements
3. Where does the Data come from?
4. Way forward

- **ECG Erdgas-Consult GmbH**
  - Located in Leipzig, Germany
  - Specializes in the natural gas and energy industry
  - Offers software solutions and consulting services
  - Number of employees: app. 95 (consultants/developers)
  
- **MTS product family for commercial processes of**
  - Transmission System Operators (TSO)
  - Storage System Operators (SSO)
  - Gas Traders
  - Platforms
  
- **Competitive advantages**
  - ECG understands the complexity of gas business processes
  - ECG is able to flexibly react to changes



Standardized and Flexible Interfaces

## Web Portals and Central Platforms



Different Systems and Vendors

## Flexibility and Agility

Mergers and Acquisitions

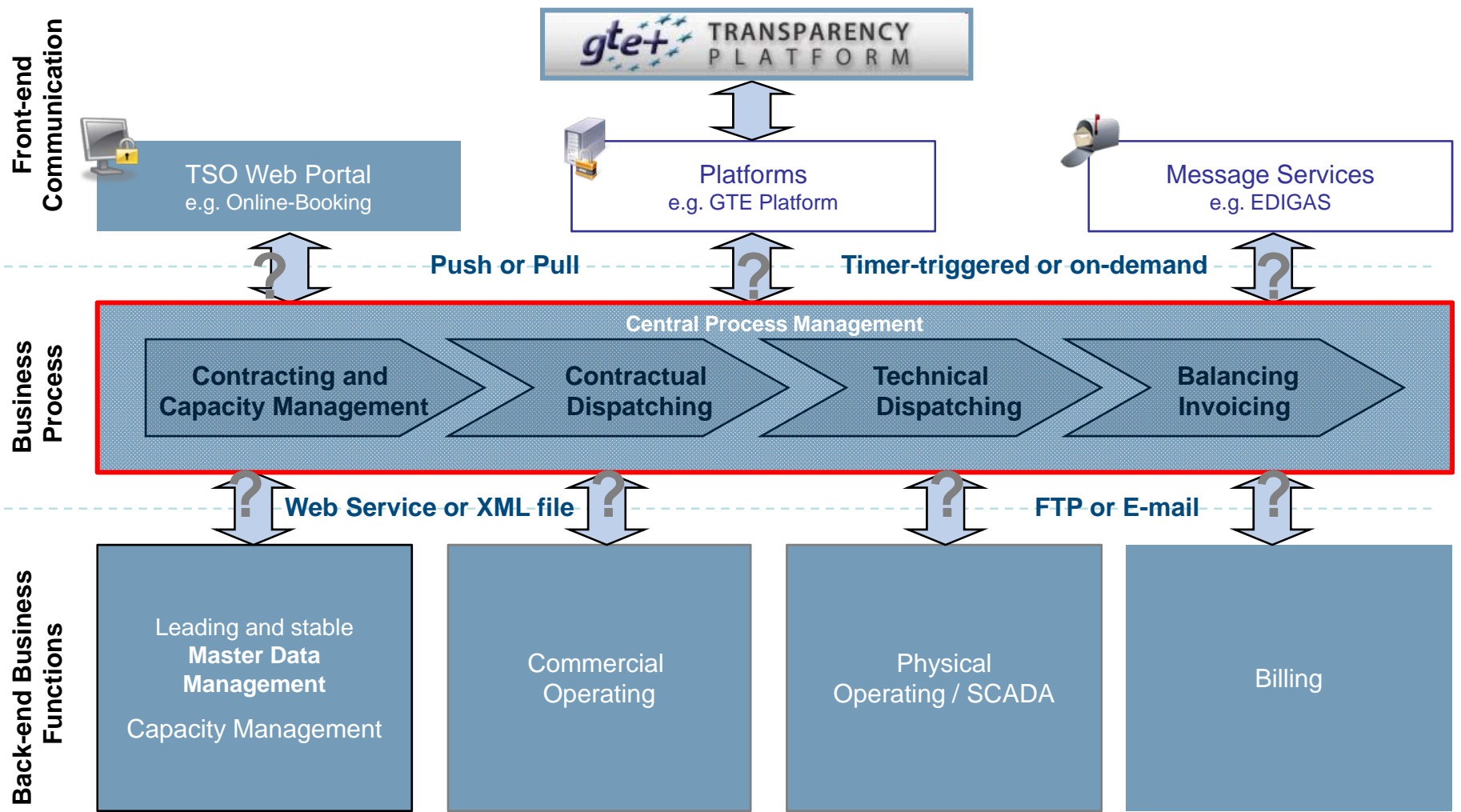
- **What is needed for successful transparency implementation?**
  - Systems need to be open with standard interfaces
  - Good specification necessary (before or in IT project phase)
  - e.g. What is a flow? (allocated value, measured value)
  - Good cooperation of IT and business side is vital
  
- **Cost increases with**
  - Function (read-only information, interactive features)
  - Publication frequency (yearly, monthly, daily)
  - Data granularity (aggregation level)
  - Technical data quality (offline, near-time, real-time)
  - Legal data quality ('length of disclaimer')
  - Usually: Number of systems involved

- **Identify IT systems that need to be integrated**
- **Identify available interfaces options of IT systems**
- **Re-use existing interface if possible or implement new interfaces**
- **Set-up of solution and interfaces**
  - Unit Conversion
  - Security policy
  - Data quality
  - Testing
- **Operations of interfaces**
  - Availability requirements!



# Where does the Data come from? A very first glance at implementation

Transparency Data	Update	System	Time Range	Cost Range	Remarks
Gas Quality	M+1	SCADA, Billing System			
Transmission Capacity	Real-time	Contract and Capacity Management System			
Daily Flows for Network Users (Provisional)	D+1	Contractual Operating System Billing System			
Daily Flows for Network Users (Final)	M+1	Balancing system Billing System			
Daily Flows for Network Users (Settlement)	M+12	Billing System			
Historic Daily Flows and Interruptions (36 M)	Last 36 M	Contractual Operating System			
Daily aggregate day-ahead nominations	D-1	Contractual Operating System			
Imbalance Charges - Real-time	D				
Imbalance Volume and Cost (Provisional)	D+1	Contractual Operating System			
Imbalance Volume and Cost (Final)	M+1				
Imbalance Volume and Cost (Settlement)	M+12				
Linepack	D-1, D+1 36 Months				



- **TSOs should seek to implement an architecture that is**
  - Modular
  - Flexible
  - Offers standard interfaces
- **Keep in mind future challenges**
  - Further transparency requirements
  - New business processes
  - New platforms
- **Business process and IT need to go hand-in-hand**
- **Best practices are developed in projects, not on the drawing table**



**ECG Erdgas-Consult**

**Thank you for your attention!**

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