

## PROJECT SNAPSHOT

### ACSONE FACILITATES AUTOMATIC DATA EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE BELGIAN ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATOR AND ELECTRICITY PRODUCERS TO STRIKE BETTER USE OF PRODUCTION RESERVES



Acstone was very helpful in helping us better manage network balance. The decision support tool enables us to make real-time, highly-informed decisions regarding the activation of production reserves.

**Joris Houben**

Elia National Control Center, head of Energy Scheduling and Balancing Office.

#### → THE CHALLENGE: MANAGING THE BALANCE OF THE BELGIAN ELECTRICITY NETWORK

One of the major missions of Elia is to effectively coordinate the production of electricity to achieve the balance between overall energy generation and end-user consumption. To achieve this goal, Elia leverages the production reserves that are contracted with various energy producers across the market.

#### → THE CHALLENGE: GATHER PRODUCTION DATA AND OPTIMIZE THE USE OF RESERVES

Implementing reserve mechanisms requires many data exchanges with producers, including power plant availabilities, capacities and prices, reserve activation orders and more... The first objective of the project then, was to automate these exchanges.

Activating production reserves involves the evaluation of both technical and economic criteria. For instance, the activation price varies greatly from one production site to another. Selecting the most attractive offer is imperative to mastering network regulation costs. Therefore, a second objective of the project was to provide system operators with a new decision support tool for optimizing reserve activations.

#### → OUR SOLUTION: A B2B PLATFORM AUTOMATING DATA EXCHANGES AND A DECISION SUPPORT UTILITY OPTIMIZING RESERVE ACTIVATIONS

Acstone designed and implemented a B2B platform to automate data exchanges with producers. This platform standardizes message formats, communication protocols, and interaction timing.

The utility deployed at the national control center enables system operators to better monitor and activate production reserves. The optimization module copes with technical and economic parameters and provides the optimal offer selection for activation.

## → OUR RESULTS: EFFICIENT DATA EXCHANGES AND OPTIMAL USE OF PRODUCTION RESERVES

The application developed by Acsoné is a major asset for the day-to-day management of network balance. It enables efficient and reliable activation of production reserves and better control of network regulation costs resulting from the use of the optimization module.

The application integrates seamlessly with the existing infrastructure: a CRM application for the management of production reserve contracts; an application dedicated to the settlement of reserves; and the SCADA (real-time supervision and control of the network).

The use of open standards for the implementation of the B2B platform (XML, SOAP) facilitates the easy integration with partner systems (producers).



## → PROJECT DETAILS

COUNTRY: Belgium  
PERIOD: 2003-2009

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