
Appointment of Avanade as the Data Integration Platform (DIP) Service Provider

Following a thorough procurement process, the MHHS Programme and Elexon are pleased to announce the appointment of **Avanade** with their Microsoft Azure infrastructure solution as the Data Integration Platform Service Provider (DIPSP) for the Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Programme.

A vital technical component of the transition to Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement is the introduction of the DIP which will be a new middleware service to process messages to and from participants using next-generation event messaging architecture. This new platform delivers a cloud-native, serverless service which will provide the resilience, availability and scalability required to enable Programme Parties to move to half-hourly Settlement.

For the benefit of the industry, Elexon decided to partner with an expert IT delivery team to ensure sufficient capacity and talent to run a complex, technical transition and long-term maintenance of the platform.

Elexon Chief Executive, Simon McCalla, said: *“Development of the DIP is an essential step towards implementation of MHHS. Elexon was appointed as the initial operator for the DIP based on our experience of managing large volumes of energy data, and developing and operating cloud-native architectures similar to that being deployed for the DIP. One of the primary use cases of the DIP will be for Suppliers to send half-hourly data to Elexon so that it can be processed for faster, more accurate Settlement. Elexon has ensured that the design and operation of the DIP optimises the data and process integration of the DIP and BSC systems. Most importantly, as a not for profit business, we will operate the DIP for the benefit of all industry parties and consumers.”*

The [Architecture Working Group](#) initially developed the high-level design for the event-driven architecture platform. Following the formation of the MHHS Programme, the Design Team, in collaboration with members of the Technical Design Working Group and the Security Design Working Group, produced the functional and non-functional design of the DIP that was consequently approved by the Design Advisory Group (DAG) in May 2022.

A number of high-quality proposals were assessed. Avanade proposed the best value for money, a flexible and 'hands-on' approach. It demonstrated technical proficiency, flexibility, and adaptability in collaborating with Elexon's Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) function and healthy partnership behaviours throughout the process.

Mark Corley, Head of Energy & Utilities, Avanade, said: “We’re delighted to be chosen as Elexon’s trusted provider to develop the new DIP. We are committed to driving Net Zero which the DIP will help enable. It’s increasingly important to consider how to drive more efficiencies, agility and streamline processes through innovation. For Elexon, specifically, we’re excited to work with the team in harnessing the power of Microsoft technology to deliver a better experience for all those that are part of the MHHS Programme.”

Avanade will be tasked with designing, building and testing the DIP and supporting industry-wide End-to-End Industry Systems Integration Testing (SIT). Management and oversight of Avanade, as the DIP Service Provider, will be handed over to core Elexon operations teams to run and maintain.

When will Avanade join the MHHS Programme?

Avanade colleagues will now start work in earnest and are already having workshops with the SRO team. The composition of the Avanade team will change over time to meet the needs of the MHHS Programme. Several workshops between Avanade colleagues, the Programme and the Lead Delivery Partner (LDP) have been scheduled for this month to finalise ways of working, and to complete the project mobilisation with a view to starting Design Build and Test (DBT) activities in Q1 2023.

Introducing the Avanade project team



Dr Paul Brown, Lead Architect at Avanade

Paul is a highly experienced Lead Architect with 30 years' experience in technology and application transformation. He is especially strong in cloud-based transformations (Azure, AWS, and private cloud). He has significant recent experience working in the energy sector on key programmes. Paul has a transformation background with a strong focus on business and technical outcomes, across a range of industry sectors.



Lou Otway, Application Architect at Avanade

Lou has 30 years' experience in software engineering and related disciplines, most recently focusing on the design and implementation of cloud applications on Azure. He specialises in working with clients to understand business requirements and to drive out a solution design to meet their needs. Lou is highly experienced in designing applications that deliver true business value at scale and in helping clients adapt to realise benefits from their systems and processes.



Paul Daniels, Director, Delivery Management at Avanade

Paul is a Delivery Management Director and leads Avanade's DIPSP team. Paul brings over 20 years' experience leading complex technology programmes and projects, primarily within the energy sector; this includes recent successful Azure Migration and Data Modernisation deliveries. Paul's role will be to draw out the talents of his Avanade team and work effectively in partnership with the MHHS Programme team to enable sustainable benefits for the energy industry and, ultimately, its consumers.

Managing DIP costs

The Design, Build and Test costs for the Data Integration Platform are within the overall MHHS Programme implementation cost and will be recovered via the MHHS-specified charge for Section D cost recovery approved by the BSC Panel.

Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital, cloud and advisory services, industry solutions and design-led experiences across the Microsoft ecosystem. Every day, our 60,000 professionals in 26 countries make a genuine human impact for our clients, their employees and their customers.

With the most Microsoft certifications (60,000+) and 18 (out of 18) Gold-level Microsoft competencies, we are uniquely positioned to help businesses grow and solve their toughest challenges. As a responsible business, we are building a sustainable world and helping young people from underrepresented communities fulfil their potential.

Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation.

Learn more at <http://www.avanade.com>

Elexon

Elexon plays a vital role at the heart of the electricity system by managing the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC), one of 11 major codes which set out the rules so that Britain's energy system operates effectively.

We incentivise the balancing of supply and demand by redistributing the costs of balancing the system across market participants.

We are trusted, independent, reliable market experts. We are funded by our customers and provide our services without making profits. As Britain's energy sector continues to evolve we are working to ensure that our BSC systems can support the future needs of our customers and progress to Net Zero. This includes rolling out Elexon Kinnect, which is using a cloud platform to deliver Settlement and all of our services.

Find out more at www.elexon.co.uk