Market Coupling Consultative Group Webinar

Q&A
23.10.2025

Agenda & Meeting Material

	AGENDA		
	TOPIC	**PRESENTER**	**TIME**
1	**Welcome & Introduction** - Welcome, Agenda and Action Points Review	Zélie Gautier, Pierre Milon, Andreas Papanaklis (MCCG)	09:00 – 09:10 (10 min)
2	**SDAC and SIDC 15 Min Market Time Unit (MTU)** - First Observations After the SDAC Go-Live - First Observations After the SIDC W6 Go-Live - Questions and Feedback from MPs	Joël Hoeksema (PCR ALG) Zélie Gautier, Pierre Milon, Andreas Papanaklis (MCCG)	09:10 – 09:55 (45 min)
3	**SDAC and SIDC Scalability Report**	Vladimir Satek (SIDC QARM) Chiara Vitelli, Christoforos Zoumas (NEMO Tech TF)	09:55 – 10:15 (20 min)
4	**SDAC and SIDC Corrective Measures**	Vladimir Satek (SIDC QARM) Chiara Vitelli, Christoforos Zoumas (NEMO Tech TF)	10:15 – 10:40 (25 min)
	Break		**10:40 – 10:50**
5	**6th September 2025 XBID Operational Incident**	Martim Stilwell (SIDC OPSCOM)	10:50 – 11:00 (10 min)
6	**SDAC Fallback Improvements** - Fallback Manual - Update on NEMOs and TSOs Measures - Main Takeaways From the 07/10 PCG WS - Questions and Feedback from MPs	Luiza Holban-Fediuc (SDAC OPSCOM) Zélie Gautier, Pierre Milon, Andreas Papanaklis (MCCG) Gergő Holló (Fallback Expert Group)	11:00 – 11:30 (30 min)
7	**Implementation of 30 min IDCZGCT and Go-live in 2026**	Gergő Holló (30 min IDCZGCT SPoC)	11:30 – 11:45 (15 min)
8	**Regulatory Deliverables and Consultations** - **SDAC/SIDC HMMCP Methodology**	Chiara Vitelli, Christoforos Zoumas (NEMO Tech TF)	11:45 – 11:55 (10 min)
9	**SDAC-SIDC Roadmap and Key Projects** - **SDAC Co-Optimisation – Results of the public consultation & Updated planning of the R1 and R2**	André Estermann, Cosimo Campidoglio, Ondřej Máca (MCSC Co-Chairs) Timo Suhonen, Marja Eronen (SDAC MSD)	11:55 – 12:20 (25 min)
10	**AOB and Closure**	Zélie Gautier, Pierre Milon, Andreas Papanaklis (MCCG)	12:20 – 12:30 (10 min)

Meeting presentation: NEMO Committee website [LINK] and ENTSO-E website [LINK]

List of Actions

#	Date	Responsible	Description	Deadline/Status
1	02/06/2025	MPs	Inform MCSC NEMOs and TSOs as soon as possible in case there is a shared, strong support for including in the 08-12/09 Additional Joint Member Testing the scenario on Full decoupling / Partial decoupling and if so, whether to include also the Shadow auction simulation.	13/06/2025 - **Closed**
2	02/06/2025	MPs	Inform MCSC NEMOs and TSOs as soon as possible if there is a shared, strong request to extend the go-live preparation period from 2 to 3 weeks by moving the Additional Member Tests to 01-05/09.	13/06/2025 - **Closed**
3	02/06/2025	MCSC NEMOs	Clarify whether and when they will publish the auctions results for the Additional Joint Member Testing in September 2025.	July 2025 - **Closed**
4	02/06/2025	MCSC NEMOs and TSOs	Clarify whether the results of the past Joint Member Tests can be published in full (incl. aggregated curves, cross-border flows, etc.).	July 2025 - **Closed**
5	02/06/2025	MPs	Inform MCSC NEMOs and TSOs about any other highly desired scenario to include in the 19/11/2025 testing on full decoupling.	July 2025 - **Closed**
6	02/06/2025	MCSC NEMOs and TSOs	Clarify the final list of SDAC fallback improvement measures for implementation and the implementation timeline.	H2 2025 MCCG - **Closed**
7	02/06/2025	MCSC NEMOs	MCSC NEMOs to consider whether the IDA liquidity data per bidding zone can be provided.	H2 2025 MCCG - **Closed**
8	**23/10/2025**	**MCSC NEMOs**	**Provide metrics on the paradoxical rejection of the 30 min and 60 min curves after the SDAC 15 min MTU GL and present at the next MCCG**	**Q1/2 2026 MCCG**
9	**23/10/2025**	**MCSC NEMOs and TSOs**	**Clarify the reasons for the SDAC results delays after the 15 min MTU GL**	**December 2025**
10	**23/10/2025**	**MCSC TSOs**	**keep preparing updated versions of the overview of the TSOs' borders per 30'IDCZGCT go-live date, as published in [ENTSO-E] Website**	**Q1/2 2026 MCCG**

1. Welcome & Introduction

2. SDAC and SIDC 15 Min Market Time Unit (MTU)

Q&A

- Q: Could MCSC provide an assessment of delays on 7/10/2025 in the publication of SDAC market results and IDA partial decouplings? Is there a heightened decoupling risk following the 15' MTU go-live?
- In general, we would appreciate an update of the 15' implementation on tools and processes on NEMO side.
- A: The switch to 15' MTU does not increase the risk of decoupling. Market Coupling Systems and Operational Processes have been updated to reflect the change in market design. New operational timings are closely monitored by NEMOs and TSOs.

- Q: The next full decoupling test on 19th November should be advertised by the MCSC and electricity market associations to ensure widespread participation by interested market players. In general, we would appreciate periodic training or simulations regarding decoupling incidents, spanning over several NEMOs and considering cross-border impacts experienced during recent decoupling events.
- A: Please find the published Information Package for the 19/11 training on the [ENTSO-E] and [NEMO Committee] websites. We warmly invite all interested market participants to register for those training events.

- Q: Price jumps around hourly changes: Can the MCSC provide an explanation about price jumps around the hourly shift that has been observed in market results?
- A: The described phenomena in price volatility within an hour can be explained by different causes that have not yet been deeply studied: a combination of different granularity when orders are submitted (15' and 60'), cross-border capacity based on D-2 and 60' resolution processes (4 times the same values within an hour), or behavior of physical assets in Q1 and Q4 within the hour.

- Q: After the SDAC 15 min MTU switch, much have you seen, so far, the risk of 60 min and 30 min curves paradoxically rejected?
- A: NEMOs had extensively announced this new concept of curves being paradoxically rejected by the SDAC algorithm. NEMOs will come back with dedicated metrics. As of 07-11, there have been no instances of paradoxical rejection of 60' curves.

- Q: Increase in paradoxical rejection for hourly products: Several members have highlighted an unexplained increase of paradoxically rejected curves for hourly bids. Can the MCSC provide an explanation?
- A: As indicated in the previous answer, the 15MTU market design allows for paradoxical rejection of curve orders submitted at a higher resolution than the markets MTU (for 15' market this concerns 30' and 60' curves). This is only needed in case the 15' prices need to be clipped to either the maximum price (4000€/MWh) or minimum price (-

500€/MWh), and this leads to a situation with extra or missing money. In this case Euphemia activates a mechanism where the extra or missing money issues are addressed at the expense of paradoxically rejecting some of the 30' or 60' curve orders. To date (delivery date 6 November) this mechanism has not been activated, so Euphemia has yet to introduce paradoxically rejected curve orders.

- Q: Thank you for the charts with the metrics on the product usage. Could you please complement them after the meeting with a breakdown by BZ?
- A: NEMOs usually do not report at the granularity of the BZ (one of the issues being that for some BZs, individual market participants could be identified).

- Q: For how long will the 60min product be kept?
- A: The 60 min Period Orders product usage is clearly defined in the SDAC Products Methodology. There is no plan on the NEMOs side to remove this product granularity. Further notice on any product and order type update is under the periodic amendment of the SDAC Products Methodology.

- Q: With regards to the SDAC algorithm calculation time, were there any events already breaching any of the two pre-defined thresholds after Go-Live, triggering the need to activate corrective measures?
- A: No. A solution was always found within the threshold. In the reported Time To First Solution indicators (slides 8-10 in the MCCG meeting material), you can see that all were below the 85% (=25.5') threshold. NEMOs will publish an updated version of Euphemia public description, members will be informed when it is published.

Actions

- NEMOs to consider complementing metrics on the paradoxical rejection of the 30 min and 60 min curves after the SDAC 15 min MTU GL and present at the next MCCG [December 2025]
- TSOs and NEMOs to internally clarify the reasons for the SDAC results delays after the 15 min MTU GL and communicate to MPs in next MCCG [December 2025]

3. SDAC and SIDC Scalability Report

Q&A

- Q: Could you please elaborate what will be done about the latency issues in XBID?
- A: NEMOs and TSOs have been actively looking into the load management as well as corrective measures. Moreover, technical clarification of the possibilities for the XBID limits improvement is underway. With the XBID release 5.0 (2026), the system limits will substantially improve while the corrective measures should provide the necessary support in the meantime.
  Another area of focus is the analysis of the processes triggered by the release of capacities in the XBID platform.

4. SDAC and SIDC Corrective Measures

General Notes

- MPs highlight that any restriction of linked blocks and exclusive group orders need to be strictly considered as the last-resort measure. NEMOs and TSOs confirm that the primary goal is to scale up the capabilities of the SDAC and SIDC platforms.

Q&A

- Q: Can you elaborate more on possible measures to improve the XBID algorithm, considering that you referred it is "close to the limit"? What will happen if the limit of 37 million or 50 million orders per day is reached in the future?
- A: NEMOs and TSOs are aware of the technical limits of the XBID system as well as working on the increase of those limits: a work plan 2025-2027 is already under implementation. Close monitoring of the system performance is ensured with the focus on different details such as the speed or latencies, for evaluation on a weekly basis. When this is needed, individual NEMOs apply measures with a common goal to stay within the system boundaries. NEMOs and TSOs are contemplating improvements on both the intraday continuous and IDAs. Three categories of further improvements can be defined: hardware, software, and usage of products, loads, etc. For each of these pillars, measures are being considered for application in the short, mid, and long-term.

- Q: Could you please specify which measures are already under preparation or implementation by individual NEMOs and to which extent NEMOs will coordinate on corrective measures to avoid market distortions?
- A: Coordination on measures is ongoing among NEMOs, MPs will be informed as soon as the process is completed.

- Q: What is the N-1 (back-up) solution if XBID reaches its limit in a short-term period (asking about a backup solution to avoid problems in the real time horizon like we had recently)?
- A: There are two similar system instances running in production (each one located in a different data center for security reasons), without a difference in the performance capabilities, so if one has performance issues, the other one, strictly similar, is being used. This is part of the failover capabilities of the XBID platform with 2 IT sites acting with a high level of redundancy. Technological and hardware improvement, which contributes to the robustness of the solution, is a part of the performance roadmap and it is regularly addressed.

- Q: Could you provide more insights into the depth of the XBID market in terms of MW, instead of simple orders with lower volumes? Order book depth can be interpreted in terms of number of orders, or in terms of volumes.
- A: NEMOs are considering number of orders, because this is what is impacting the performance of XBID platform: a re-computation of order book needs to be done continuously by the XBID platform for each market area up to the limit of the order

book depth. There is no proven sensitivity of the XBID performance to the MW volume of the orders in the book within this depth limit.

5. 6th September 2025 XBID Operational Incident

Q&A

- Q: What are the compensation measures for MPs in such cases of any failure at NEMO's side? To whom can we reach out? Is there any insurance which could compensate for such delicate cases?
- A: Please address your NEMO / Member association to explain the impact you have observed to receive further information.

The full report prepared by MCSC may be found on [ENTSO-E] and [NEMO Committee] Websites.

6. SDAC Fallback Improvements

General Notes

- MPs were reminded of and encouraged to join the 19/11/2025 SDAC Decoupling training organized by the TSOs and NEMOs for MPs.
- MPs are encouraged to read the SDAC Fallback manual published on [ENTSO-E] and [NEMO Committee] websites prior to joining the 19/11 training as well as to use it as a basis for any internal training purposes.
- Communication of go-live for any measure will be streamlined by NEMOs and TSOs once the go-live is clear under the MCSC.

Q&A

- Q: Fallback manual: what are the next improvements on the public manual to increase the level of details, harmonization of measures across regions and within operational messages?
- A: The second revision of the SDAC Fallback Manual has already been published. This will include further details on regional fallback processes. Further updates of the Fallback Manual will be shared when operational processes or messages are changed and improved.

- Q: Local clearing with SDAC price: MPs request transparency and active involvement in the design of the volume allocation service.
    - Can MCSC share a roadmap for the update of the different MNA agreements? How will these interact with CACM 2.0?
    - Can MCSC explain how they will ensure that this measure will be implemented consistently across NEMOs?
    - Market participants underline that they would like to be consulted on the design of the measure.

- A: Multi NEMOs Arrangements (MNA) are currently under discussion and review between Core TSOs involved in MNA projects, relevant Core NEMOs in these MNA areas and local NRAs. Local MNAs amendments require modification for replacement of local auction by Volume Allocation. TSOs and NEMOs are aligning on common wording; planning is then dependent on each MNA. To be noted that the amended MNA will stay high-level on the volume allocation concept, allowing design details to be defined by NEMOs. Main principle being that "NEMO(s) not participating in the market coupling may offer to their market participants the possibility to have at least some of their volumes on their platform(s) settled at the SDAC Price by way of volume-allocation". To be noted also that even if CACM does not require public consultation on MNA, some NRAs require it. Example: the Belgian MNA amendment review step is done between Elia and NEMOs active in Belgium, and public consultation will be organized end of November 2025, before CREG approval. Other MNAs will follow a similar process.
- The Volume Allocation concept will be available for all areas where multiple NEMOs are operating.

- Q: For the WS2, why should the shadow auctions be replaced to postpone the TSOs' deadline to 16:00?
- A: The short answer is that TSOs experienced low quality nominations in the past in these decoupling situations that took significant time and effort to clean up. TSOs would not have time for such measures in case of the shifted nomination deadline. Therefore, removal of shadow auctions is seen as a prerequisite for the TSOs to move the nomination deadline.

- Q: For WS2, what is low quality nominations you just mentioned?
- A: This means that there were many imbalanced nominations (e.g. nomination of cross-border transmission rights only on one side of the border) and it took a lot of time for the TSOs to properly identify the net positions needed for system operation processes.

- Q: Could you elaborate what are the drawbacks of the snapshot order book? What would be the link with nomination?
- A: Here the drawback is that even if there were a problem with only one order book that would be missing and replaced by an incomplete snapshot taken before the incident occurs, the SDAC market would stay coupled. However, there is no guarantee that the order book represents the market correctly, and that the problem at this respective NEMO is solved in time when the results need to be integrated or before the full decoupling deadline. The measure was considered too risky to be pursued further. Either prices could be erratic within the market results, or the results would be rejected, and full decoupling would be triggered. It does represent in theory a transfer of risk from partial decoupling to full decoupling, which is not acceptable.

- Q: How will fallback pricing ensure consistency with normal SDAC prices?
- A: In case of a partial decoupling, we would get one single price per bidding zone and it would be the SDAC price acting as a reference price for any NEMO which might have been decoupled. In case of full decoupling, the SDAC price would not exist and the NEMOs and TSOs are still investigating alternative solutions for setting the reference price, ensuring unicity as well.

- Q: Will there still be cases of different prices with different NEMOs in case of decoupling?
- A: As described for the WS5 measure, in case of NEMO partial decoupling, there would be no local auction, hence only one single price in a bidding zone with different NEMOs operating. The same objective is for the WS6 in case of full decoupling (or decoupling of all NEMOs in the area), where the reference price will be unique. One option amongst others consists in building a price based on SIDC Continuous. This is still being investigated.

- Q: For WS5, how could the MPs be involved in the operational implementation? Such as deciding on the different timings, etc.
- A: NEMOs and TSOs have agreed on the principles such as follows: If a NEMO is not able to submit an order book to the SDAC, it cancels its participation in the SDAC auction. The affected NEMO is decoupled from the SDAC. Volume allocation at the SDAC Price (VA-SDAC) allows the decoupled NEMO to offer to its market participants the possibility to have at least some of their volumes on its platform settled at the (fixed) SDAC price.
- The NEMOs which remains coupled to the SDAC: shall, prior to the SDAC auction, reopen their order books to allow for market participants to confirm, amend or withdraw their existing orders and/or to switch volumes from a decoupled to a coupled NEMO (and thus participate in the SDAC auction). The SDAC price is published by all NEMOs, including by the decoupled NEMO.
- The NEMO which is decoupled and offering volume allocation, gives to the market participants the possibility to confirm, amend or withdraw orders they have submitted to the decoupled NEMO's order book. These are taken as allocation requests to the Volume Allocation at SDAC price. The decoupled NEMO allocate buy and sell-volumes on a pro-rata basis at the (fixed) SDAC price until all volumes that can be balanced/cancelled out are allocated. Any "overshooting" buy or sell volumes will remain unmatched. The allocated volumes are published to the market participants in time to allow timely nominations to TSOs.
- NEMOs are in touch with MPs on this, and in case MPs would have further inputs for the solution for the Volume Allocation at SDAC price, please channel them via your association representatives or the respective NEMO.

- Q: We would welcome further information about the proposed fallback using continuous intraday allocation in case of decoupling (WS4 & WS6). In particular, we would like to understand how this fallback differs from current practice.
- A: NEMOs and TSOs are currently investigating if Continuous Trading market could be used as both a source for allocation of capacity (replacement of shadow auctions) and clearing price formation. This fallback would differ from the current practice, where relevant, because price would be calculated using data coming from SIDC CT and not from local fallbacks and cross zonal capacity would be allocated via cross border trading in XBID.

7. Implementation of 30 Min IDCZGCT and Go-live in 2026

Q&A

- Q: MPs welcome the reform in support of further integration of the renewable and flexible resources. For the future MCCG, it would be good to have the overview of derogations planned complemented by the break-down of TSOs' borders per go-live plan.
- A: Once the derogation approvals are completed, TSOs will come back with the exact go-live timing. The latest publicly available information may be found in ENTSO-E website [LINK].

Actions
TSOs to keep preparing updated versions of the overview of the TSOs' borders per 30'IDCZGCT go-live date, as published in [ENTSO-E] Website [Q1/Q2 2026 MCCG]

8. Regulatory Deliverables and Consultations

Q&A

- Q: MPs call for centralised monitoring point about max/min price increase limits and triggers, e.g., on the NEMO Committee website. This would help avoid misunderstandings and promote transparency about market functioning.
- A: The NEMOs report already updates the Max Min prices in the News section of the NC website, as well as any relevant information regarding the update/revision of the Methodologies.

- Q: MPs call for an explanation of the 5 MW liquidity threshold (i.e. what is the relevance of the measure for SDAC).
- A: The 5MW was calibrated based on the historical data of IDAs. However, such minimum significance threshold could be also applied to SDAC (same type of auction and algorithm) for taking into consideration cases of unexpectedly low liquidity (the EnC integration could also be considered a candidate case).

- Q: Euphemia public description: there is a reference on additional requirements of price-taking orders at minimum/maximum prices (page 22), pointing to Section 6.5.1 of the document, which however, appears to be missing or misnumbered. Can this be addressed?
- A: For the Euphemia public description on [NEMO Committee] Website, it appears the reference on pp. 22 was a hard code one, thus not automatically updated. It was meant to refer to section 7.9.1 which describes curtailment minimisation and introduces the notion of "price taking orders".

9. SDAC-SIDC Roadmap and Key Projects

Q&A

- Q: How do you plan to implement FB in IDCT? As XBID seems already constrained, how do you plan to implement FB in real time and recalculate allocation in real time?
- A: Significant R&D efforts are planned for the next years to investigate several options. Further information will come in the future once we progress further with the R&D.

- Q: Is there any reason why the planning for the FB in IDAs was moved by several months?
- A: Currently, the solution is under development. Updates to the planning are still dependent on the testing needs which are to be evaluated. Additionally, there is a strict dependency on other performance improvement releases, which needs to be considered.

10. AOB and Closure