
Trade Effluent Jargon Buster

Meeting Name:	Trade Effluent Issues Committee
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Purpose of Paper:	Decision
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Synopsis:	The paper sets out the Jargon Buster Guidance document, as developed by the Trade Effluent Issues Committee. The purpose of the document is to provide easy to understand definitions of common terms used in Trade Effluent, as well as any accepted alternatives to these common terms across Trade Effluent services providers.

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Jargon Buster for Trade Effluent Services

v0.1

1. Overview and Purpose

This document provides guidance to Trade Effluent Services customers and Wholesaler and Retailer (Trading Parties) employees of common terminology around the market and provision of Trade Effluent Services. It also aims to clarify where different Wholesalers may use different terms to describe the same common term.

2. How to read this document

Please note, **NfTP** = notes for trading parties. Refers to how Trading Parties interaction with the Central Market Operating System (CMOS).

Items that also have a specific definition under the market codes are marked with a *.

3. Table of Terms (Jargon)

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
Agreed strengths	A site may be extremely complex, or difficult/costly to sample the Trade Effluent discharged on a regular basis. In such cases a Wholesaler may agree with the NHH Customer a fair strength which will be charged as Trade Effluent. NfTP: These should be entered as Ot and St etc. on CMOS	N/A
Agreed volumes	A site may be extremely complex, or it may be difficult/costly to measure/calculate the exact volume of Trade Effluent discharged. In such cases a Wholesaler may agree with the NHH Customer a fair volume which will be charged as Trade Effluent. NfTP: This would be entered into CMOS as a Calculated Discharge.	N/A
Allowance*	A number of Allowances are used in the calculation of Trade Effluent (see DA, FA and PA). Allowances take into account liquid waste that is not actually discharged to sewer (water in product, tankered) or evaporated and are not charged. A retrospective Volumetric Allowance may also be given to an account (Water, Sewage or Trade Effluent) if there has been an error in the volume calculation (e.g. a meter error).	Adjustment
Calculated Discharge*	This is a volume in CMOS than can be set up to help calculate the Trade Effluent volume. This may be an estimated volume, agreed volume, complex calculated volume or calculated rainfall volume. It is a set yearly volume that is applied as per the effective to and from dates.	CD

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	NfTP: If a DPID is set with a SVAM of SUBTRACT, all calculated volumes will be included in the volume subtracted from the total supply meter volume.	
Chemical Oxygen Demand	A test performed by a laboratory that indicates how much oxygen is required to consume the organic component of an effluent. Rinse waters will have a low COD, Food industry effluent will probably have a high COD. The result is entered into the Mogden formula. Chemical Oxygen Demand (Total) is generally used for consent compliance Chemical Oxygen Demand (Settled) is used in the Mogden calculation for charging purposes (Ot)	• COD • Ot • Operational parameter
CMOS*	The Central Market Operating System (CMOS) is a collection of IT systems that Trading Parties and the Market Operator use to carry out market processes. It holds market related information uploaded by Trading Parties.	• Central market operator system • Central system • Market system
COMAH	National regulation that applies to the chemical industry, storage activities, explosives and nuclear sites, and other industries where the threshold quantities of dangerous substances identified in the Regulations are kept or used. Knowing whether a site is subject to these regulations can be important during emergencies.	• Control of Major Accident Hazards
Discontinuation of consent	A new Open Water Market process that temporarily suspends Trade Effluent Consent and charges from a premise. It could be used if a customer stopped discharging Trade Effluent due to its quality standards failing Consent conditions so needed to be removed from site by licensed contractor. Thames Water does not provide this service. If required, a process is enacted that suspends Trade Effluent charges but keeps the Consent active in order to protect its assets. Not all Wholesalers provide this service.	N/A
Domestic allowance*	Estimated volume that is determined by the Wholesaler based on average usage for types of domestic water use. Items for consideration are number of people working on site and if a canteen is on site. Note that each Wholesaler calculates this differently.	• Measured Sewerage Allowance • DA
Domestic sewage	The discharge from a premise that includes toilets, hand washing, showers, canteen washing-up, urinals etc.	• Measured Sewerage
DPID*	Unique identifier generated by a sewerage wholesaler to show that Trade Effluent is being discharge from a premise.	• Discharge Point Identifier • Discharge Point

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	Some Wholesalers will use the same ID for the DPID and Consent number	
EA	Public body with responsibilities relating to the protection of the environment. Applications for a Trade Effluent consent may require the Wholesaler to carry out an assessment to determine whether a particular substance can be discharged. These cases may need to be referred to the EA. The Wholesaler will likely be unable to issue a consent if awaiting a response from the EA. The EA may issue permits to discharge directly to a NHH customer e.g. if they discharge direct to the environment or the TE contains radioactive material	The Environment Agency
Eligibility	Determination of whether a water or sewage premise should be in the NHH Retail Market. Ofwat has provided guidance on market eligibility.	N/A
Fixed Allowance*	Fixed annual volume in cubic meters that is not discharged to sewer and therefore deducted from the total volume of wastewater charged to the customer. For instance, 20 m3 tankered away from site each year.	- FA - Negative Allowance
Full Consent*	Consent issued to a Non-Household (NHH) Customer by a Sewage Wholesaler which allows the NHH customer to discharge Trade Effluent into the public foul sewer. The document includes Customer, premises, Effluent process, volumetric and quality standard information along with billing and other relevant clauses. It is non-transferrable between customers or premises. It is described in section 118 of the Water Industry Act 1991 including all Trade Effluent that is to be discharges for a period greater than 6 months. This may include letters of authorisation and consents in relation to low risk discharges whether Primary Charges are payable on such consents.	- Permanent consent - Full term consent - Long term consent - Permission
Hazardous substances	List of substances that the EA have deemed hazardous such that Wholesalers have to declare any discharge of the substance and may have to abide by environmental limits in any discharge from a sewage treatment works. An application for Trade Effluent needs the applicant to have viewed this list and declare if the discharge contains any of the substances. Failure to declare any substance that is later found to be in the discharge will be deemed to be an illegal discharge and the discharger could face prosecution.	- Priority substances - Environment Agency List of Priority or Hazardous Substances
ILE*	Values of the Industry Level Estimate (ILE) are determined by the Market Operator, and represent rounded median	Industry Level Estimate

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	estimates of the expected flows through meters of the given Water Chargeable Meter Size for Occupied Premises.	
Legal entity	A company's legal name and details. If the company is registered with Company's House then it should be details as provided on the register. If a Sole Trader this would be the owner's details. In the case of partnerships all partner names must be provided. The applicants details on the Trade Effluent application form are deemed to be the legal entity applying for the Consent, and whom will be responsible for the consent compliance and charges.	Customer Legal Name
Market tradability	The status of a SPID as it is set up with a view to ensuring it can be billed. A SPID has a number of statuses: 1) NEW - when initially created in CMOS. 2) PARTIAL - when one or more transactions (either Wholesaler or Retailer) are required to move the status to TRADEABLE. This may include missing meter or owner details. 3) TRADEABLE - the account is set up such that it will now charge and can move Retailer.	SPID status
MDVOL*	If a supply, private water or private trade effluent meter is associated to a DPID then this is the percentage applied to the meter that should be included in the calculation of the Trade Effluent volume.	Meter DPID Volume
Meter association	Action of linking a meter to a DPID such that it can be used in the calculation of Trade Effluent or the sewage volume can be adjusted by the DPID set up. When associating a meter, the percentage association is required (MDVOL)	N/A
Meter disassociation	Action of delinking a meter from a DPID. Once a meter is disassociated, the DPID will cease to influence the meter if the SVAM is set to DA. In such cases the meter will revert to calculating sewage on RTS% of the water volume.	N/A
Meter Network*	If a premises (landlord) has one or more water supply meters and also has a private sub meter on site that records water moved on to a tenant, the meters can be linked together in the market system in what is called a meter network. If the tenant is charged for Trade Effluent, the Landlord will have the sub metered volumes deducted from their sewerage charges so as to avoid double charging.	N/A
Mogden formula	Mathematical formula used by sewerage wholesalers to calculate the unit cost per cubic meter of Trade Effluent.	N/A

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	The more treatment the effluent needs the higher the unit cost. It comprises components that charge for: R - Reception and conveyance (getting the effluent to the sewage works) V - primary treatment (Screens and grit removal at the front end of the sewage works) S - Solids removal B - Organic component treatment (biological treatment) M - Marine (should a WTW have an outfall to sea) A - Ammonia (Note that ammonia is not used by all Wholesalers) (also amended TMs)	
MOSL*	The member organisation established to enable the function of the competitive market, that represents Trading Parties and manages the provision of CMOS to Trading Parties.	• Market Operator Services Ltd • Market operator
Multi-site contents	A Temporary Consent that has an end date which is valid up to but not more than six months from the date of issue. It covers a number of discharge locations and is frequently issued to contractors working at a premise where the discharge is not the main discharge from the site. For example, the cleaning and flushing out of a premises heating and ventilating pipework system. This consent will only be issued to low risk discharges. Note that this Consent is not offered by all Wholesalers.	
Non-primary charges*	Charges that are issued by the Wholesalers to the Retailers but are calculated outside of CMOS. For Trade Effluent this will include any charges relating to Temporary Consents or Temporary Multi-Site Consents. They may also include consent application fees.	N/A
Non-standard charges*	Charges are those that are issued directly to a NHH Customer from a Wholesaler. These charges do not need to be registered in CMOS. These may include 3rd party damage cost recovery or formal sampling charges.	N/A
Os	This is the average strength of Chemical Oxygen Demand (settled) that the Wholesaler has determined to be in sewage. This value is used in the Mogden formula to determine the relative strength of the Trade Effluent Chemical Oxygen Demand, such that it can be billed proportionally.	• Sewerage Strength • Chemical Oxygen Demand
Percentage Allowance*	Percentage figure of wastewater not discharged to sewer and therefore not charged to the customer as Trade Effluent or Domestic Sewage. Commonly used as an evaporative allowance for instance in the laundry industry when water is evaporated off in driers.	• Negative Allowance

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
Primary Charges*	Charges that are issued by Wholesalers to Retailers that are calculated from CMOS. Charges relating to Full Consents that are set up as DPIDs in CMOS. The charges can be standard fixed charges or volumetric.	N/A
Private Trade Effluent Meter*	A meter which is owned a Trade Effluent Customer and not the Wholesaler and is used for the calculation of Trade Effluent. It is the Sewerage Wholesaler's responsibility to set the private trade effluent meter up in the market system (through liaison with the Customer) but it is the retailers responsibility to submit cyclic meter readings to the market. The sewerage Wholesaler can insist that a NHH Customer installs a TE Meter, but most TE premises do not require one.	Flowmeter
Private Water Meter*	A meter which is owned a Trade Effluent Customer and not the Wholesaler and is used for the calculation of Trade Effluent. It is the Sewerage Wholesaler's responsibility to set the private water meter up in the market system (through liaison with the Customer) but it is the retailers responsibility to submit cyclic meter readings to the market. The sewerage Wholesaler can insist that a NHH Customer installs a private water meter (in particular on landlord/tenant sites), but most TE premises do not require one.	Submeter
Receiving WTW	This is treatment plant that receives Trade Effluent that is discharged. The level of treatment of a WTW determines what elements of the Mogden Formula (R, V, S, B, M, A) are used for a DPID in the calculation of charges.	- STW - WwTW - Wastewater Treatment Works - Sewage Treatment Works
Retailer*	A Retailer sells water and sewerage services to the NHH Customer. They are responsible for Cyclic meter readings, Bill production, billing customer service, countersigning application forms and dealing with enquiries and complaints from NHH Customers. The customer is free to switch retailer. The physical supply of water and wastewater services are provided by a wholesaler.	- Retail service provider - Licensed provider - Licensee
Right to appeal	Once a Wholesaler has issued the NHH Customer with a consent document, Direction of Consent, or a consent refusal, the NHH Customer has a period in which they can appeal the documents or the decision. Appeals can be made to OFWAT.	N/A
RTS*	This is the percentage that is applied to a water supply meter or private water meter to determine the sewage volume that is discharged.	Return to Sewer Allowance

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	Note that if a DPID SVAM is set to DA and the supply meter is associated to the DPID, then the RTS will not be applicable as the meter volume is replaced with the DA volume.	
Sample breach	Sample of Trade Effluent that is taken and which when analysed is found to exceed one of more of the maximum limits for substances listed on its consent.	Non-compliant sample
Sample charging average	For a number of Wholesalers, the charging strengths (Ot and St) are calculated using the average of samples over a defined period of time. This is the period over which the samples are taken.	Period of sample average
SIC code	Code associated to a business unit according to its principal economic activity, that is the activity which contributes most to the value added of the unit. Note that when listing a SIC Code reference should also be made to the SIC Code year as the codes differ. The SIC code register is available publicly.	Standard Industrial Classification
SPID*	SPID = Supply Point ID. This is a virtual code that describes a premise where Water (Water SPID) or Sewerage (Sewerage SPID) services are supplied. It is a unique 13-digit code. Most premises have both. These are "paired" and share the same first ten characters. Some premises only need a Water SPID for instance premises that are not connected to the sewer network or cattle troughs. Some premises only need a sewerage SPID for instance a landfill site that discharges Trade Effluent to the sewer but does not have a water supply to the site. A paired water and sewage SPID will share the same core ID.	- Supply Point Identifier - Supply Point
Ss	Average strength of Suspended Solids (pH7) that the Wholesaler has determined to be in sewage. This value is used in the Mogden formula to determine the relative strength of the Trade Effluent Suspended Solids, such that it can be billed proportionally.	Sewerage Strength (Suspended Solids)
Standard strengths	For some discharges (that may be hard to sample or are low risk), Wholesalers will have published a standard set of strengths that will be used for billing a certain type of Trade Effluent. For example, vehicle washes or launderettes. These would be entered as Ot and St etc. on CMOS.	Regional strengths
Suspended Solids	Test that ascertains the solids content of an effluent. Thames Water uses the "Settleable Solids" test rather than suspended solids. E.g. those solids that settle out of an effluent within one hour of settlement. Suspended Solids (Total) is generally used for consent compliance	- SS - St - Operational parameter

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
	Suspended Solids (pH7) is used in the Mogden calculation for charging purposes (St)	
SVAM	Method by which a DPID is set up to determine how the SPID sewage volume is calculated. There are 3 options: - DA - any associated supply meter to the DPID will have their total volume replaced by the DA Allowance volume on the DPID - SUBTRACT - any associated Private Trade Effluent meters will have their total volume subtracted from the total supply volume on the SPID to calculate the sewage. - NONE - the DPID set up will not affect the sewage volume calculation Note: There are limitations on how the 3 options can be implemented i.e. whether allowances can be included	Sewerage Volume Adjustment Method
Temporary consent*	A consent that has an end date which is valid up to but not more than six months from the date of issue. It is frequently issued to contractors working at a premise where the discharge is not the main discharge from the site. For example, the cleaning and flushing out of a premises heating and ventilating pipework system, or a water wholesaler flushing out a recently commissioned water main before reinstating into the water network.	- Short term consent - Short term agreement - Short term discharge agreement - Low-risk discharges
TERA	Some Wholesalers will carry out a TERA on Trade Effluent discharges to determine the level of sampling and/or charging.	Trade Effluent Risk Assessment
Termination of consent	Process whereby a Trade Effluent Consent is cancelled or "Terminated". This is needed when a Consent holder vacates a premise or stops discharging Trade Effluent. A consent termination may also result from a Variation of consent.	- Cessation - Closure
Trade Effluent Application	Application that is made by the NHH Customer (via the Retailer) to the Wholesaler for permission to discharge Trade Effluent. A Full Consent should be applied using the G02 form and a Temporary Consent using the G03 form. The G02 application form covers a number of requests: - New application to discharge - Variation of Consent (including applicant name changes) - Consent Discontinuation - Termination of Consent - Application to discharge following a discontinuation - The G03 application form can only be used for new applications to discharge.	- Trade Effluent Notice - G02 form - G03 form - Application form

Common Term	Definition	Alternate terminology
Variation of consent	Process that allows the terms and conditions of an existing Trade Effluent Consent to be "varied". The NHH Customer can apply for a variation if for instance they wish to have one of the conditions of the Consent changed. The Sewerage Wholesaler can vary the conditions of a Consent as long as two months' notice are given to the customer. This can only be done as long as two years have elapsed since the last document was issued.	• Direction of consent • Direction • Direction to Vary Consent • Notice of Direction
<u>Water Industry Act 1991</u>	Act of the United Kingdom Parliament consolidating previous laws relating to water supply and wastewater services in England and Wales. Trade Effluent is covered principally in Sections 118 to 141.	• WIA 1991
Wholesaler*	Water and Sewerage Wholesalers provide physical services to the NHH Customer. For example, the treatment and supply of water through the water network and the treatment and disposal of domestic waste water and Trade Effluent through the sewerage network and sewage treatment works.	N/A
YVE*	Estimated total annual volume through a meter. It is used for CMOS automated estimated reads should there be insufficient reads against a meter.	• Yearly Volume Estimate

Appendix A: Outstanding Definitions

The following items were indicated by the Committee as important to include on the Jargon Buster but have since faced issues in being confirmed to include in the document. We ask that the Committee review the issues and agree to address them in the upcoming meeting.

Common Term	Issue
SAVA	Was recorded in feedback from a meeting but has not received any suggestions from Committee Members. Committee Members to confirm whether this is a used term or not. Possibly a typing mistake in the minute taking and may be misrepresented given it's an acronym.
Sampling charging allowance	Committee Members who fed back were unable to provide a definition for this term and we require confirmation from the Committee of its use or to remove it from the Jargon Buster.
Retail charges	We have not received input from a Retailer for a definition on this item, so we require confirmation of whether it should be included and what definition should be used.
Shared supply	We have received 2 conflicting definitions which we require the Committee's final agreement on, either: 1) A premise that has the water supplied by a water wholesaler and sewerage services provided by a different sewerage wholesaler. This is common in the Thames Water region as there are numerous private water supply companies such as Affinity and South East water. They only provide water to the customer. Thames provides the sewerage services. 2) This is when 2 separate customers are supplied through the same meter.
Landlord	Was included in a list of desired terms from a previous meeting, but we have not yet received any feedback to suggest a possible definition.
Trade Effluent Consent	Suggested that this is removed because it duplicated short term and permanent consents which are detailed elsewhere.
Wholesale meter network	Listed as an item to define from meeting feedback but Committee Members who have fed back are not aware of such a thing existing. Committee to confirm whether it is a used term or not. Suggest alternative to Meter Network
Assets	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and would like the Committee to consider this.
Low risk discharges	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and would like the Committee to consider this. We have suggested that it instead is included as an alternate term for temporary consents.
pH7	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and would like the Committee to consider this. Evan has also suggested a definition " <i>Point of acidic/alkaline neutrality of a liquid used in trade effluent calculations</i> ".
Site	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and would like the Committee to consider this.
CMOS	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and we have provided a suggested definition.
MOSL	Evan has suggested this term be included in the document and we have provided a suggested definition.