

## A Message from the Editor

Welcome to the NEIS Bulletin, providing an insight into the journey of the NEIS programme. We have been busy preparing for roll-out of Phase 1A, which will see the Pilot Construction Projects and Capital Management Programme go live on Monday 18th October. We were delighted to see Michael Martin present at the recent Construction IT Alliance BIM Gathering, showcasing NEIS as HSE Estates and Capital take a leading role in public sector implementation.

This edition demonstrates how NEIS is progressing at pace and includes features on NEIS Construction Management Module, key changes for users involved with Pilot Projects as well as setting out the extensive training programme roll-out. You might also be interested in our featured Case Study or learn some new NEIS lingo! Don't forget to check out our Guest Spotlight with our Aconex System Administrator.

Until next time!

**Bernard Pierce**

# NEIS

NATIONAL ESTATES INFORMATION SYSTEM

# BULLETIN

## Oracle Aconex explained

**A**conex is a cloud-based Construction Management software solution which promotes collaboration and standardisation on every project.

All project roles will have access to Aconex, from the Design Team, Contractor, Project Delivery Team and Users. The platform is based on system neutrality meaning each organisation is treated equally and has the same functionality.

Each organisation can see all of their own information and no one else's, unless and until, that information is shared (or transmitted) to other organisations meaning information management and security is at its core.

Aconex works on a Project Basis (information is not shared between projects) and is a document and



**An introduction from Michael Martin, Product Owner - Capital Programme & Construction Management**

project management tool. It will be used to store and transmit all project related documents and communications (using the mail function). Aconex will provide the HSE with a Common Data Environment (CDE) which will allow design teams upload the various drawings and Building Information Models (BIM) for review and comment.

There is a built in BIM viewer which can be used to review and provide mark-up's and comments

within the design team and HSE. The system is configured to suit the CWMF Contracts including timescales etc. Standard document naming will be promoted for all offices using Aconex which also has excellent revision control. The solution also helps to manage cost using the connected cost module and the field module can be used for recording inspections on site when downloaded via the app on smartphones.

There is a lot of other functionality including creating packages to group documents etc together for review which can be done by setting up workflows. Demonstrations will be provided on the full functionality in due course.



# A Glossary of NEIS terminology

Throughout our design and development of the new system, we have learned a series of terminology which can mean one thing to you (the reader), and something different to the NEIS team. Take a look at some examples below:



By Phil Totten  
Product Owner - Capital  
Programme & Construction  
Management

**Requirements** – similar to construction contract works requirements, this is a list of functionality which was requested at tender stage and against which the final system will be tested during User Acceptance Testing (UAT). If functionality is requested that was not included in the requirements, it is deemed a new requirement (AKA variation) and robust conversations ensue!

**Out of the Box** – both platforms (Tiriga and Aconex) have been designed to work in a certain way without any configuration. Mutually agreed design principles commit us to using the systems as originally designed where possible. Where required functionality does not exist out of the box bespoke functionality may need to be developed to meet our requirements i.e. “customisation”.

**Iteration** – The capital projects module has been developed over six (4 week) periods called iterations, each one with its own particular focus on a distinct area of

functionality (funding, capital submission, project in-flight data, project budgets, reporting) with the final iteration dedicated to end business user acceptance.

**User Acceptance Testing (UAT)** – the process by which developed functionality is tested to ensure that it performs as expected and that a robust solution has been developed and that meets our requirements.

**Backlog** – this is a list of functions or new requirements that should have been developed in a particular iteration but there was insufficient time to complete. Backlog items are developed during future iterations as time allows.

**Container Projects** – Each regional Estates office will have a distinct space within Aconex called a container project. This container project will be used to store and communicate all the documentation and correspondence associated with capital submissions in the Estates managers area.

Once approved, a project will be given its own space on Aconex. Each container project will run for a period of 5 years at which time a new set of container projects per office will be issued.

**Aconex Templates** – Templates are configuration of the system set-up to suit the way we do our business. Each template contains suites of prepared processes and mail types relevant to that template. Four templates have been developed -

- 1 PWCF i.e. Public Works Contract Forms 1 to 8 & 11 as well as conditions of engagement for design consultants
- 2 PPP i.e. Public Private Partnership contracts
- 3 Project initiation i.e. submission of capital projects for approval
- 4 Knowledge Library i.e. a standardised repository for all reference documents

They will standardise communication and guide compliance with approved processes and timelines.

# GUEST SPOTLIGHT

**H**aving been appointed to the NEIS team as a System Tester and Aconex System Administer, I started on the 22nd of February and my role mainly includes working on the Aconex Platform and also testing Aconex integration with Tririga. This is a great opportunity for me and I am delighted to be part of a great team.

My main role is Aconex Administrator and my day to day job in working closely with Oracle(Aconex), Michael Martin (Product Owner) and the implementation team to ensure the solution is configured to the best of its ability for the organisation's needs.

Also as I am part of the test team, I work daily with our Test Lead and System Tester on ensuring the system is working to our requirements. I also provide any help or guidance to the organisation in terms of Aconex and trying to help people gain a better understanding of the system.

As a qualified Software Engineer and having worked with similar software platforms before, this has helped me gain knowledge of the Aconex platform.

Not having a full understanding of the construction industry and how the HSE do their business can be challenging at times, but working closely with Michael Martin has

been a great help in pointing me in the right direction when I have struggled to understand our current processes.

The biggest thing I have noticed is that everyone is willing to help within the team, everyone wants to play their part in implementing a solution across the 10 different offices around the country.

It is great to work with a team that has experience in many different areas and walks of life and while challenging at times I find this a great experience. This can bring many different opinions which is beneficial as everyone wants to ensure the solution suits all our of needs.

I feel lucky to work on the Aconex platform as it is a very strong solution and I think this will be a great asset to the organisation.

We have recently provided demos on the Aconex system and the feedback and support from the highest levels within the HSE has been really positive thus far.

Over the coming months I am looking forward to further engagement from colleagues and nominees and also rolling out sessions to demonstrate the functionality of the system, along with providing support to new users.



**By Mark Egan**  
**Aconex**  
**Administrator /**  
**System Tester**

## NEIS TIMELINE

**WE ARE  
HERE!**

**Phase 1A: Capital  
Projects and  
Construction  
Management,  
October 2021**

Aconex  
(Project CDE,  
Contract and  
Cost  
Management)



Tririga  
"Projects" i.e.  
Capital  
Programme  
Management

Phase 1B: Tririga  
"Operations" i.e.  
Maintenance incl.  
Medical Equipment,  
March 2022



Phase 2: Tririga  
"Real Estate" i.e.  
Property  
Management,  
October 2022

Phase 2: Tririga  
"Facilities" incl.  
Space  
Management,  
April 2023



Phase 3: Tririga  
"Environmental" i.e.  
Environment &  
Sustainability,  
October 2023





*Below, the HSE site on Tivoli Road in Monkstown, Dublin. The Cois Ceim building is on left and Community Headquarters building is on right.*



*Left, the Boiler House, and above, how the boiler controls will look when completed.*

# Case Study: Tivoli Road plans

The Health Services Executive (HSE) site on Tivoli Road consists of two HSE-owned buildings, one being the HSE Community Services building, with the other being Cois Ceim, which is occupied by two HSE services.

Cois Ceim is an old two-storey building that was formerly occupied by an orphanage with a chapel attached to it. Primary Care Services split the building between Consultation Rooms and Administration Services that occupy the old residential part of the building.

The existing heating system consists of an antiquated gas-fed boiler, circa 50 years old, located in the basement boiler house that is well past its design life. The existing system has minimal control and no redundancy resulting in the risk of one boiler failing and the

**By Craig Doyle, Chief Assistant Technical Services Officer**

whole heating system shutting down.

The pipework serving the existing radiators is a mixture of copper pipe, qualpex pipe and gun-barrel which has corroded in a number of places throughout the system.

The intention is to replace the existing floor-mounted boilers with a wall-mounted cascade condensing boiler arrangement and re-pipe the system to a pex-al-pex system.

The building will be served by dedicated circuits to individual zones which will in turn be individually controlled.

A new Motor Control Centre (MCC

Panel) will also be installed in the boiler house. With the introduction of wall-mounted boilers a new flue system will be incorporated into the design. The building is a live environment so works will be phased and communication with both Older Person Services and Primary Care Services will be crucial to the successful delivery of this project. This new project to install new heating will be a pilot project on the new Aconex system.

My expectations for using a system like Aconex is the ease of compiling and locating all design information as well as all "As installed drawings" and sign off documentation for the project. We're excited to be one of the first Estates offices to use Aconex, and look forward to working on it now and in the future.

# TRAINING KEY TO NEIS PROJECT

Effective training is a key factor to successful implementation of a new IT system, and research shows how the skills and knowledge of employees influence the adoption of new technology.

NEIS is no different, and the plan is to deliver an effective training programme relevant to the varying requirements that different users will have to confidently navigate the two applications being delivered as part of Phase 1A i.e.

"Tririga Projects" (Capital Plan Management) and "Oracle Aconex" (Common Data Environment, Document Management and Contract Management).

Training Topics	
WEEK ONE 10am-12pm	Aconex Fundamentals
	"Mail Forms" for BCAR, Design Query,
	Safety File & Other Processes
	Bulk Document Management
	Project Reviews
WEEK TWO 10am-12pm	"Mail Forms" for PWCF Management
	Project Initiation
	Connected Cost 1
	Other Modules (BIM Models, Workflows,
	Packages & Supplier Documents)
	Connected Cost 2
	Field Inspections

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions the first series of training will be delivered virtually. These sessions will be accompanied with Training Guides and Process Flows.

The focus will be on training for those directly involved in the Aconex Pilot Projects, and will be offered monthly

in the initial go-live period w/c 27th September, w/c 11th October, w/c 22nd November.

The hope is that we will be in a position to deliver this training on a face to face basis to all regional Estates offices as soon as possible thereafter. Anyone keen to get a head start in Aconex Training is welcome to view the 30min online "Getting Started" video.

Tririga Training will initially be delivered directly to the Corporate Capital Projects team, as well as ANDs and EMs and this will be scheduled for mid-October.

Please contact [NEIS.support@hse.ie](mailto:NEIS.support@hse.ie) for any further information.

## Find out what changes NEIS will bring for you

**"The Only Constant in Life Is Change."**-  
**Heraclitus**

With the "go-live" date of October 18th 2021 for Phase 1A of the NEIS, one of the biggest questions asked is "what will this mean for me?"

In answering this, it is important to distinguish between the two systems (TRIRIGA & Aconex), and also between how different users might be affected. Looking at Tririga first, the application that is being switched on is the Tririga "Projects" Module.

This will enable for the management of the Capital Plan over one single shared system. This will be a significant change for the Corporate Capital team, who currently manage the €1 billion annual capital plan.

The transition to Tririga will be a gradual

one for this team as they adapt to a new system.

Initially, there will be limited change for other users as a consequence of Tririga, but as the 11 pilot construction projects (1 in every Estates office) progress, operational ANDs and EMs will be approving final project requests and reviewing information on Tririga. This is a change from the traditional approval of information usually circulated by attachments via e-mail.

This change away from individual e-mails between Estates teams and external design teams and contractors is also the one of the most significant changes for Project Managers of Construction projects.



**By Anna Boch,  
Business Change  
Manager**

The Aconex system will become the day to day management tool of contract communication and also of the management of documentation and drawings associated with projects.

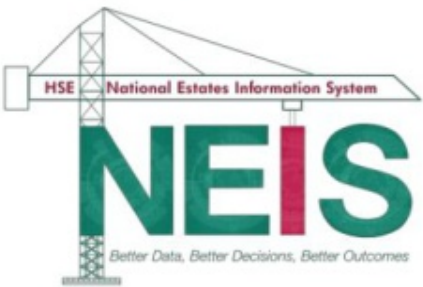
There will no longer be issues with attachments exceeding e-mail capacity or having to access shared cloud based folders set up by 3rd parties. Instead there will be one central system where Project

Managers can do their daily business, from their work laptop, mobile phone or any device with an internet connection.

This also applies to design teams and contractors – initially those involved in the pilot projects, but over time, all HSE projects will be managed through the Aconex system.

# Phase 1A “Roll-Out” Road Map

*Q3 2021 to Q4 2022*



# Have any questions?

Contact us on our dedicated  
email address

✉ **NEIS.support@hse.ie**



Find out more about NEIS on  
[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)



Seirbhís Sláinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt

Building a  
Better Health  
Service