On 12 June, 2018 the European Cross-Border Intraday (XBID) trading platform was launched. This is one of the key projects on the roadmap towards the European Commission end-goals of the European Internal Energy Market. The XBID project realised the delivery of a single and harmonised XBID trading platform.

The delivery of the XBID platform has been a complex and intensive but successful process that lasted for several years. The cause for the specific delivery circumstances originate from the fact that the project context consists of a multitude of project partners (TSOs and Operators of the electricity trading markets) and stakeholders (European Commission, European & national regulators, market parties) from 14 countries that joined the XBID GO-live. Managing the complex dimensions such as international governance, political, regulatory, competition, technical, operational, etc. is something all involved parties can be proud of.

The successful delivery of XBID was without any doubt a clear European team effort of above mentioned project parties and stakeholders.

TenneT has at specific moments in the project, and at key positions within the project, clearly put the leading ambitions for NWE integration into practice. Examples of this are the TSO project manager position filled in by TenneT during the early initiation of the XBID project, the IT task force leader role during the implementation of the IT systems and also the broadly acknowledged key-expert contribution of TenneT during the entire project.

Now that XBID is in stable operation, the positive effects can be clearly observed. The short-term and cross-border trading of electricity in Europe has evidently become much easier and attractive. The availability of such an easily accessible, well-functioning and liquid short-term trading platform at pan-European scale is a pre-requisite to smoothly incorporate the increasing share of electricity production from Renewable Energy Sources into the European electricity system.

For the next years, a further European extension of the XBID trading platform is planned simultaneously with additional system improvements and further harmonisation.