

## Pioneers

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pioneers data management

### Data management: Mike Prokop



Mike Prokop, Amerex

★ When it comes to data management – an essential ingredient for the development of transparent and efficient energy markets – one person’s contribution really stands out.

Mike Prokop, senior vice-president of Amerex, has spearheaded data management in the US energy markets for the last decade, driving forward some very challenging projects, many of which have required cooperation between fierce rivals.

In 2001 he created the Amerex suite of data products, which now spans more than a million historical data points and is used by many leading firms for research and analysis. EnergyMarks – a 2001 joint venture between Amerex and Prebon which allows users to see transactional data – was followed in 2004 by EnergyCurves. This allows customers to view the end-of-day indicative data of Amerex, Prebon, TFS and ICAP.

A step on from this was ConfirmHub,

a standardised order confirmation system founded by Amerex, Icap, and Prebon, which has speeded up order confirmation immensely. “For fierce competitors to work together to create this is quite something,” comments Prokop. “The industry came to us with a real need for a standard confirmation platform. ConfirmHub was created to fill that need,” he adds.

But Prokop’s “most passionate pursuit” has been his work on the newly incorporated Energy Data Hub (EDH). Approached in 2003 by Bob Anderson, executive director of the Committee of Chief Risk Officers, Prokop has been instrumental in getting this pioneering project off the ground.

EDH will make available anonymous certifiable transaction data to all industry participants, allowing publishers to create more accurate indexes. It is hoped it will make a significant contribution to market transparency and thereby aid liquidity. **ER**