METER DATA IMPORT CONNECTOR / ILLUSTRATIVE CASE

Did every reading reach the reporting system?

The management decision

Give the receiving team a simple count it can reconcile. A completed import is useful only when staff can find what was accepted, what failed and what to do about it.

When a site changes its export format, a reporting team can spend hours fixing files by hand. A poorly checked import can also finish while silently dropping readings. This connector turns agreed source files into a common dataset and records what happened to entries that could not be loaded. The result lets the report owner show the site exactly what needs attention.

Worked example

A site sends 1,200 rows. With 1,175 accepted and 25 rejected, all rows are accounted for. If results cover only 1,190, ten need investigation even when the system says the import completed.

Example figure	What it represents
1,200	Submitted
1,175	Accepted
25	Rejected

What changes the answer

If five rejected rows are corrected and sent again, link the new attempts to their original rows. The original batch size remains 1,200.

Meter data import connector

What to commission

Build an importer for one agreed source layout and target reporting dataset, including an invalid row and a corrected resubmission.

We agree how fields should be translated and which values are required. We test representative files and make rejected rows visible with their reasons so the team knows what to fix and resubmit.

How to judge the result

The report owner can account for every input row as accepted or rejected and trace corrected attempts to the original file.

Track reconciliation time, unresolved rows and reporting delays. Include the cost of maintaining mappings when a site changes its file format.

Decision worksheet

Project detail	Starting point for your team
Decision owner	Data operations or reporting manager. Name the person who will approve the next step.
Records to gather	Sample meter exports, a description of the target dataset and known file differences.
Agreed output	A tested import connector, field mappings and a log of rejected records.
Decision date	Record the deadline, any unresolved assumption and who will confirm it.

Discuss this case

Tell us where the files come from, where they need to go and the differences that cause most rework. Name the report that depends on them and any deadline for switching. We can start by agreeing which export format to use for a first test.

Email info@oxetc.co.uk and mention DEV-05. All figures in the worked example are illustrative.