

# The tempo TARIFF

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# **OVERVIEW**

1- WHY tempo?

2- WHAT is *tempo*?

### 3- THE FOUR STEPS OF THE tempo STORY

- 3-1 experimentation (1989-1992)
- 3-2 launch (1993-1995)
- 3-3 generalisation (after 1995)
- 3-4 evolution of the context

### 4- CONCLUSION



#### 1- WHY tempo?

➢ Since the 1960's, little by little, EDF has been moving towards real time tariff linked to the marginal costs.

➤As a consequence, its customers have been incited to reduce their consumption when the generation costs are high.

tempo is the most sophisticated tariff for mass market customers in the present French monopoly context.

> It allows to smooth both annual and daily load curves









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## 3- THE FOUR STEPS OF THE tempo STORY

# STEP 1: EXPERIMENTATION (1989-1992)

### The objectives

➤ to evaluate customers' reaction to the price and their satisfaction level,

➤ to test new technologies (electronic meter, notification device, energy controller, ripple control).

#### Pilot

- > 800 customers in 6 French regions,
- > with load curve measurement in 70 homes.



#### The results of the step 1

- > On average the daily consumption has been reduced
  - by 15 % on white days compared to blue days,
  - and by 45% on red days compared to blue days.
- > Concerning customer satisfaction level:
  - 84% were quite or very satisfied with tempo,
  - 59% told us that they had made savings,
  - 53% considered the option as slightly unrestrictive or entirely unrestrictive,
  - 87% have understood the tariff principle very well.



# tempo CUSTOMER POWER DEMAND VERSUS OUTDOOR TEMPERATURE





### STEP 2: LAUNCH (1993-1995)

#### tempo is a product with

4 different versions:

- standard tempo (only electronic meter),
- dual energy tempo (boiler can be switched from one energy to another),
- thermostat tempo (able to manage space heating, and water heating according to the electricity price),
- comfort tempo (with a sophisticated energy controller).

### Linked with a new range of services:

- > Are you a *tempo* customer ?
- Right price Advisory (using the software tool GUITARES),
- Electric heating and domestic hot water diagnostic.



### **Conclusion at the end of the step 2**

### Customers' point of view

- Customers are satisfied or very satisfied (90%),
- Their bill has been reduced by 10%.

### EDF's Decision

- To introduce *tempo* in the EDF tariff list,
- To keep on studying *tempo* customers: for example : satisfaction barometer (2 telephone surveys, the first 3 months after the installation of tempo, the second, one year later).



# **STEP 3: GENERALISATION (after 1995)**

Tempo has been offered to all mass market EDF customers.

Gradually 300,000 residential customers and More than 100,000 small business customers have chosen *tempo*.

> The feedback:

- Tempo is chosen in order to reduce electricity bills,
- Globally the customers are happy with this tariff,
- The main negative point is the fact of having consecutive red days.



## **STEP 4: EVOLUTION OF THE CONTEXT**

Because of,

technological progress, the range of the generation costs has been reduced,

> opening of the market (July 2004 for small business and 2007 ? for residential customers):

- market prices are more volatile,
- the network prices and supply prices must be separated.

And tempo might become less suited to this new situation and maybe less attractive for customers.



# 4- To sum up

- tempo has been successful in the monopolistic situation.
- In an open market, if EDF needs to manage its global load curve, it will probably have to define other types of dynamic prices for mass market customers.
- Until now nothing has been announced.
- Nevertheless the tempo feedback will be very useful for the definition of new contracts including supply and services.