

February 5, 1999

VIA FACSIMILE, ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW

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Dear Mr. Freidberg, Ms. Doss and Ms. Banyra,

I want to thank you for your time and efforts to explain the current status of your PGP security software application and the RSA key generation software. The Gas Industry Standards Board has defined and approved more than three hundred standards to provide a more accessible marketplace for natural gas through improved electronic commerce and underlying business practices. Most of these standards have been incorporated by reference into federal regulations by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. One of these standards references the use of PGP security software:

4.3.15 Trading partners should implement all security features (secure authentication, integrity privacy, and non-repudiation) using a file-based approach via a commercially available implementation of PGP 2.6 or greater (or compatible with PGP 2.6). Trading partners should also implement basic authentication. This should be regarded as an interim solution since this technology is not an open standard. This technology supports all of the above security features while providing independence of choice of Web servers and browsers. Encryption keys should be self-certified and the means of exchange should be specified in the trading partner agreement.

In addition, our standards manual on electronic delivery mechanisms references the use of RSA key generation software:

"Each company must generate its own public and private key pair. The RSA key generation algorithm should be chosen for the versions of PGP that offer alternatives."
(GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism Standards, Technical Implementation EDI Section, p17).

With the commitment of GISB to the use of PGP security software and the RSA key generation algorithm, your attentions to our concerns were most appreciated. As we understand from the conference call held today, the RSA key generation algorithm continues to be supported in your PGP security application products. For the UNIX operating system, the command line RSA key generation algorithm will be

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available on most versions shortly in beta release with production release planned for the first week of April. While we realize that your plans for UNIX development do not extend currently to the AIX or HP versions for the inclusion of the command line RSA key generation algorithm, you are willing to discuss development for these versions with the assistance of some of our members. Your openness to our requests to extend the applicability of your software provides a level of support required for successful implementation across the natural gas industry for the above standard.

The time you spent answering our questions and clearing up any misunderstanding about the status of your products is important to our members to ensure that there is no confusion regarding the direction of GISB with respect to Internet security. Your assistance in providing a guide explaining how to order the RSA key generation algorithm in conjunction with your PGP security application will help some of our members as they begin to implement the GISB standards. We expect to post that information on our home page (www.gisb.org) unless you have concerns otherwise. Should you be able to provide functionality through add-ons or other means for backward compatibility for the Diffie-Helman keys, specifically for version 4.5 of the PGP security application, applications installed by our members become more flexible. This also would be appreciated.

We look forward to continued communications with you.

Best Regards,

Rae McQuade

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