

## INTRODUCTION

The Gas Industry Standards Board (GISB) is a voluntary non-profit organization comprised of members from all aspects of the greater gas industry. GISB Standards are a product of the Gas Industry Standards Board. The GISB mission is to take the lead in developing and implementing standards across the industry to simplify and expand electronic communication, and to streamline business practices. This will lead to a seamless North American marketplace for natural gas, as recognized by its customers, the business community, industry participants and regulatory bodies.

The standards are written as 'minimums,' which industry participants are encouraged to exceed (if they are not doing so already) through provision of value-added services and customized arrangements. GISB defines 'exceed the minimum standard' to mean surpassing the standards without negative impact on contracting and non-contracting parties.

All of the standards have been adopted in the realization that as the industry evolves and uses the standards, additional and amended GISB standards will be necessary. Any industry participant seeking additional or amended standards (including principles, definitions, standards, data elements, process descriptions, technical implementation instructions) should submit a request to the GISB office, detailing the change, so that the appropriate process may take place to amend the standards.

### **TAB 1 Version Notes**

Contains notes about this version, and, if appropriate, a brief summary of changes from the immediately preceding version.

### **TAB 2 Introduction**

Provides a background statement about GISB's Mission and the underlying concepts behind the design and use of this guide.

### **TAB 3 Executive Summary**

Provides a brief outline of the industry business situation which is the basis for development of this guide.

### **TAB 4 Business Process & Practices**

Provides a brief overview of the business process and the GISB approved principles, definitions and standards related to the business process covered by this guide.

### **TAB 5 Related Standards**

Provides a reference to any related standards.

**TAB 6 Technical Implementation - Internet EDI/EDM and BATCH FF/EDM**

Provides an overview of the business process for Internet EDI/EDM and Batch FF/EDM.

**Data Dictionary**

Provides definition of the standard data elements and the usage requirements for each element.

**Batch Flow Diagram**

**Sending Transactions**

Provides instructions to develop mechanisms for sending of GISB standard format data files.

**Receiving Transactions**

Provides instructions to develop mechanisms for receiving of GISB standard format data files.

**Security**

Provides guidelines for data privacy, data integrity, authentication and non-repudiation of inbound and outbound transactions.

**Other Considerations**

Provides information regarding error notification and testing. Includes a reference guide and examples for repudiation and validation.

**TAB 7 Technical Implementation - Informational Postings Web Site**

Provides an overview of the business process for IP/EDM.

**TAB 8 TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION - EBB/EDM**

Provides an overview of the business process for EBB/EDM.

**TAB 9 TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION - INTERACTIVE FF/EDM**

Provides an overview of the business process for Interactive FF/EDM.

**TAB 10 Appendix**

Appendix A - Reference Guide

Appendix B - Repudiation and Validation Examples

Appendix C - ~~Minimum Technical Characteristics and Guidelines for the Developer and User of the Customer Activities Web Site~~  
~~Minimum (11/15/99) Technical Characteristics and Guidelines for the Customer Activities Web Site~~

Appendix D - ~~Minimum and Suggested Technical Characteristics and Guidelines for the Developer and User of the Informational Postings Web Site~~  
~~Minimal and Suggested (7/31/98) Technical Characteristics and Guidelines for the Developer and User of the Informational Postings Web Site~~

Appendix E - Minimum Technical Characteristics for an EDM Server