



Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 LOUISIANA, SUITE 4925, HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77002
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BETONTE CHART

Excerpts from FERC Docket No. RM96 - 1 - 007; Order No. 587-G

The Commission is adopting the requirement that all transactions and information be conducted using the Internet.

GISB and the pipeline's should consider measures to ensure communication reliability, such as mirror (duplicate) servers and the use of a back-up ISP.

First , pipelines conducting business transactions electronically must conduct all such transactions using EDI format.

Thus, the pipelines and GISB need to create EDI datasets for all transactions not yet standardized.

Second, pipelines may, but will not be required to, provide interactive web sites. Pipelines will be permitted cost-of-service recovery in subsequent section 4 rate cases for the costs of the interactive web site only if the pipelines together with GISB create standards governing the access to, presentation, and format ("look and feel") of the sites.

As NGC notes, many electric utilities collaborated on developing a common Internet site that not only provided shippers with a standardized format, but significantly reduced the utilities' development costs as well. The pipelines and GISB should give serious consideration to pursuing a similar course.

All transactions available on the interactive web site also must be available through EDI communications.

Forth, by the June 1, 1999 conversion to Internet communications, communications using EBBs should cease.

The Commission will require pipelines to provide third-party connections as long as the third-party pays a reasonable fee, to be included in the pipelines' tariff, reflecting the costs of the pipeline of providing the connection.

All transactions provided on EBBs are covered by the regulation.

The pipelines should be prepared to move to the Internet by the June 1,1999 deadline regardless of whether standards are developed.

In addition, as discussed earlier, pipelines can save significant monetary and personnel resources as well as provide a more standardized product if, instead of each pipeline developing a proprietary solution, they collaborated on development of a standardized Internet communication system, as was done in the electric industry.

While pipelines should accommodate reasonably current versions of web browsers, they should not be required to accommodate browsers that have been out-of-date for several years. GISB should consider standards reflecting the level of HTML coding that should be supported.



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DESCRIPTIONS OF CATEGORIES

[PRINCIPLES - DEFINITIONS]

ACCESS	Access covers the issues surrounding how <i>towe</i> get to the Web pages
NAVIGATION	Navigation deals with the issues of once we are in the Web page how <i>towe</i> move around the page, <i>the location, look and nomenclature of navigational tools</i> . where things are located, what they look like, their names, etc.
CONTENT/FORMAT	Content deals with the services that are offered. For example, when we go to the Web page we navigate to nominations by selecting the "Nomination Button" and then we enter the Nomination content area. Format deals with the arrangement of the nomination content area. Content deals with the data displayed on the Web pages. Format deals with the architecture of the Web page.
UPLOAD/DOWNLOAD	Upload/Download deals with the ability to access and input data from the Web site <i>page without viewing the data on the Web site</i> . instead of going directly into the Web page. (i.e. X12)
TIMING	Timing deals with <i>priority and schedule for transition to the Internet</i> . the issue of what we are going to transition to the Internet and when.
SCOPE OF TRANSACTION STANDARDIZATION	This issue deals with the need to discuss, identify and explore what services need to be standardized with regard to transactional data during <i>as we transition to the Internet.</i>



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GISB EBB TRANSITION PLANNING TEAM
TRANSACTIONAL WEB SITE ("BETONTE")
COMPARISON CHART

CATEGORY/KEY COMPONENTS	MODELS:	
	Camel	Buccigross et al
ACCESS		
1 The public Internet and internet communication protocols will be one mode of communication for accessing all pipeline business functions. (Norm Walker)	✓	
2 Web browser interface should use Internet compatible browser software. (Carl Caldwell)	✓	
3 A TSP's EBB should be accessible via the public internet via standard browser software. (Mike Novak)	✓	
<i>Added by Munson:</i>		
4 Any non-mandatory functions provided on web pages should be treated as a competitive offering and, consistent with GISB Standard 1.1.11, users of such services should bear the cost (Buccigross, modified).	✗	
NAVIGATION		
5 GISB should develop a standardized Web site navigational structure (Common Internet Format) to provide access to business functions. (Mike Novak)	✓	
6 Non-transactional data (informational Postings) under Standard No. 4.3.6 would be communicated over the Internet via a "common look and feel" standardized web page. (Jim Buccigross)	✓	
7 Standard navigation screens should be developed as templates. (Mike Novak)	✓	
8 Navigation through the "menus" of the Common Internet Format should be consistent so far as location and technique. (Mike Novak)	✓	
CONTENT/FORMAT		
9 The necessity and order of the existing 32 standard X12 data sets should be examined. (Norm Walker)	✓	
10 Standard field name descriptors or abbreviations should be used on all transactional web pages. [No standards for screen layouts, exact placement, font size, colors, etc.] (Carl Caldwell)	✗	
11 A list of standard transactions should be provided with the Common Internet Format. [Master Menu] (Mike Novak)	✓	
12 Consequently, the alternative solution is to simplify and consolidate, through standardization, the EBB screens. (Jerry Hahn)	✗	
<i>Added by Novak et al:</i>		



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		MODELS:	
CATEGORY/KEY COMPONENTS		Camel	Buccigross et al
13	Standard field name descriptors or abbreviations should be used on all transactional web pages. [No standards for font size, colors, etc.] Standards to define screen layouts and data placement should be considered. (Carl Caldwell, modified)	✓	
UPLOAD/DOWNLOAD			
14	Common Valid codes (i.e. DRN and D-U-N-S® Numbers) should be available for data validation or selection for viewing on transactional web sitepage should also be available in a downloadable format for use by customers and their third party service providers. Cross references to proprietary numbers may be provided on a mutually agreeable basis. (Carl Caldwell)	✓	
15	Flat file uploads and downloads from the transactional web page should be allowed on a mutually agreeable basis. (Carl Caldwell)	✓	
TIMING			
16	The process of creating standards for transactional web sites should begin by 7/1/98. (Norm Walker)	✓	
17	The initial phase (of a multiple phase implementation) of common look and feel for internet transactions that are not currently standardized should be implemented subsequent to the implementation of the currently standardization data sets that are determined to be necessary on the web page.. (Norm Walker)	✓	
18	Phased The producer community would support delay of Web site implementation for transactional content should beginpast 6-1-99 in order to achieve greater standardization of TSP Web sites. (Jerry Hahn)	✓	
SCOPE OF TRANSACTION STANDARDIZATION			
19	This approach should begin with an industry 'survey' or 'study' of existing EBBs to determine the range of transactions that remain to be standardized. (Sylvia Munson)	✓	
20	EDI Data Set development should address all current EBB transactional functions (Sylvia MunsonWalker, modified)	✗	
21	All business transactions that are available in an electronic format should be defined in X12 datasets (Caldwell modified; Buccigross modified)	✗	
22	There should be a set of core data sets that are identified as mandatory for any party who offers electronic transactions. To choose to offer those transactions electronically.	?	