

**GISB Future Technology Task Force Meeting**  
**El Paso Energy--Travis Place, Houston, Texas**  
**February 23, 1998**  
**Final Meeting Minutes**

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1. Susan Croley called the meeting to order. The anti-trust warning was issued. Jim Keisler was appointed secretary for the meeting. The draft agenda was adopted. Housekeeping was reviewed by Mike Stender. The meeting participants introduced themselves.
2. The minutes from the meeting of January 19, 1998, were approved as written.
3. Susan Croley asked if there were implementation issues to be discussed. No issues were brought up.
4. Susan Croley briefly reviewed proceedings of the January Internet "Look and Feel" Team (ILFT) meeting. She indicated that the ILFT was reviewing the Framework to craft standards, and reiterated the Task Force position that the Minimum and Optimal Technical Requirements should not be "cherry picked," but should be accepted in whole or returned for revision.
5. Richard Hamilton reviewed the results of his review of the GISB EDM Standards with respect to Year 2000 Compliance. He concluded that, based upon his careful review, there was no EDM Standard that would preclude a company from implementing a system that was Year 2000 Compliant. The group discussed whether it was appropriate to issue a Year 2000 Compliance statement for the EDM Standards. Susan Croley indicated that she would check with the GISB office to determine what further steps we need to take on this item, if any.
6. Terry Lehn reported on his findings with respect to PGP's support of the RSA algorithm. His conversations with PGP revealed that the company plans to continue to utilize the RSA algorithm for the foreseeable future in the business version. However, PGP does have a personal version of its software, which does not employ the RSA algorithm. Terry Lehn volunteered to draft revised language for the GISB EDM Implementation Guide to indicate that a version of PGP, which utilizes the RSA algorithm, is required.

A subgroup composed of Richard Hamilton, Susan Croley, Steve Hinton, Andy Sicignano and John Tsucalas will meet to draft a set of revisions to the EDM Implementation Guide classified as typo cleanup, clarification, etc., to be reviewed at the March meeting of the full Team.

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The group reviewed GISB Standard 4.3.15 to determine if a clarification of the requirements for encryption software was needed. A motion was made to recommend to the appropriate GISB process that the first sentence of Standard 4.3.15 be changed as follows:

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)~~ encryption software compatible with PGP Version 2.6.

The motion carried with 14 in favor, none opposed, and 1 abstention. A second motion was made to recommend to the appropriate GISB process that the last sentence of Standard 4.3.15 be changed as follows:

Encryption keys (generated using the RSA algorithms) should be self-certified and the means of exchange should be specified in the trading partner agreement.

The motion carried with 12 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention. Susan Croley will send these changes to the GISB office for further action. The two changes will be sent as one GISB Change Request.

7. Prior meeting implementation issues were discussed as follows:

a) Diagnostics and troubleshooting for communications problems--Richard Hamilton said that when a trading partner is down, it is difficult to determine when that partner is again ready to receive data. Richard suggested that an "echo response" be developed for use in such situations. The "echo response" would be used mainly to determine if the trading partner's connectivity was restored, but could also be used to determine the status of infrequent trading partners, to benchmark response time, and to test data integrity through the trading partner's firewall. It was agreed that the "echo response" was an optional feature that active EDI participants would want to implement.

Richard explained that, in his view, there were four (4) levels of testing that could be performed with the "echo response": communication, encryption, translation, and the back

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end system. Since the translation and back end system levels are clearly beyond the scope of this group, Susan will notify the Technical Chair of this effort so that they can extend the testing developed by FTTF as they deem appropriate. A subgroup composed of Richard Hamilton, Susan Croley, Steve Hinton, and John Tsucalas will meet to draft a description of the "echo response" mechanism which addresses the communications and encryption levels, and to draft the related GISB Change Request to be reviewed at the March meeting of the full Team.

b) Notification of error messages--Richard Hamilton indicated that there was a gray area between the decryption process and the issuance of the 997 transaction for which error messages were not developed. For example, there is no error message that addresses the situation where a GS segment is missing. GISB request R96126 also suggests that additional error messages need to be developed in this area. A subgroup composed of Richard Hamilton, Susan Croley, Steve Hinton, John Tsucalas (alternate: Terry Lehn) and Dick Brooks will meet to prepare a draft set of additional error messages to be reviewed at the March meeting of the full Team.

c) Notification method of EDM outages--Richard Hamilton said that EDM outages are now communicated to trading partners via phone calls, e-mail, and faxes. He said that there may be a need to define better ways of alerting trading partners to down time so that the information can be disseminated to the people in the organization that need to be aware of the problem. After discussion of this item, the group found that there was no need for additional standards in this area at this time.

d) Retry interval tests and scenarios/guidelines draft--Steve reported that he had not been able to execute the 1-minute retry interval test that he wanted to perform due to high production volumes, and suggested that this item be deferred to the next meeting. The group accepted his suggestion.

9. Schedule for the next meeting--Susan indicated that we might meet on Monday, March 9, from 9:00-12:00, and that the Internet "Look and Feel" Team meeting might be scheduled for that Monday afternoon and Tuesday. No definite schedule was announced.

10. The meeting adjourned at 11:40.

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11. List of Meeting Participants

In Person:

Sandra Barnett	Mobile Bay
Susan Croley	Duke Energy Corp.
Richard Hamilton	The Williams Companies
Darline Sandlin	Koch Gateway Pipeline
Mike Shahan	CNG
Andy Sicignano	Enron Capital and Trade Resources
Mike Stender	El Paso Energy
Stan Thomas	MidCon Corp./NGPL
Ron Payne	Sonata Services Inc
Roger Bournival	Southern Natural Gas
Pete Whatley	NGC Corporation
Michael Bencal	Natural Gas Clearinghouse
Jim Keisler	Transco
Kathy Benson	SABRE Technology Solutions
Michael Javier	PG&E Gas Transmission
Mark Gracey	Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company
Rich John	Consolidated Natural Gas
Terry Lehn	EDS
John Tsucalas	EDS/Kearny
Dick Brooks	Group 8760
Henry Nix	Group 8760

By Phone:

Steve Hinton	TransCapacity
Lyle Schenher	NrG Highway
Kim Van Pelt	Duke Energy
Leigh Spangler	Latitude
Christopher Phillips	Columbia Gas Transmission