

INFORMATIONAL POSTINGS/EDM - DRAFT

INTRODUCTION

The form of Electronic Delivery Mechanism encompassing Informational Postings were generated out of a need in the industry for “common look and feel” of the Web sites used for purposes of posting public information for a transportation service provider. The scope of the standards and guidelines for the Informational Postings Web Site is pertaining to the Website implemented on behalf of the transportation service provider in providing public information identified in Standard 4.3.6 for viewing and downloading. It was perceived that for those customers that dealt with multiple transportation service providers, commonality of presentation of such information would expedite the communication. The three major goals underpinning the

development of the standards and guidelines to support common accessibility of the Web site and information contained therein were to provide the ability to easily: locate a Transportation Service Provider's "Informational Website", locate information within a Transportation Service Provider's Website, and easily read information across Transportation Service Provider's

Website. The following principles, definitions and standards were developed for this implementation:

Principles pertinent: 4.1.15 - 4.1.21

Definitions pertinent: 4.2.1 - 4.2.8

Standards pertinent: 4.3.16 - 4.3.35

See Appendices C - P for pertinent examples of implementation.

Related Standards

Common Codes

A decision made in 1993 by a FERC-established standards development group (EBB Working Group 5) resulted in a location coding system which cross-references proprietary point codes to a common industry-supported location code. This common location code, called the GRID Code, was developed based on the American Petroleum Institute (API) well code model. The FERC, in Order 563-A, directed the industry to establish any necessary relationships and to proceed with the implementation of the GRID Code. To achieve this implementation, in August 1994 trade associations representing three segments of the natural gas industry entered into an agreement with Petroleum Information Corporation (PI) to develop and maintain the PI *GRIDJ*

Common Code database. As GISB prepared standards for capacity release (July 1995) and nominations (September 1995), GISB fully endorsed the use of the PI *GRIDJ* common codes.

However, after extensive consideration by GISB's Common Code Subcommittee, GISB

adopted, on September 30, 1996, a new Common Code for Gas Transaction Points, the GISB/PI Data Reference Number (generally referred to as "DRN"). The DRN is a one-to-nine digit, non-intelligent number also assigned by PI, which has a one-to-one relationship with the PI *GRIDJ* Code. For more information, call GISB at (713) 757-4175 or access the GISB Web Page at www.gisb.org.

In keeping with the trends in other industries involved with EDI, EBB Working Group 5 recommended the acceptance of the D-U-N-S Number as a common company identifier. This recommendation was also adopted in FERC Order 563-A. The D-U-N-S Number is assigned

to companies by the Dun & Bradstreet Corporation (D&B). Similarly, as GISB prepared standards for capacity release (July 1995) and nominations (September 1995), GISB fully endorsed the use of the D-U-N-S Number common code.

However, after extensive consideration by GISB's Common Code Subcommittee, GISB, on December 10, 1996, did confirm the use of the D-U-N-S Number, but with a major refinement: For GISB Common Code purposes, a legal entity will use one and only one D-U-N-S number. Since D&B offers customers the option of carrying more than one D-U-N-S number per legal entity, please refer to GISB's Web Page at www.gisb.org for directions on determining the one and only one D-U-N-S number constituting the GISB Legal Entity Common Code.

In the datasets, an asterisk by a data element means that it is a "common code," so the field will reflect the industry-supported common code for location or company.

NOTE: Model Trading Partner Agreement, Party Roles, and ANSI ASC X12 standards do not apply to Informational Postings/EDM. Please take a look at the original RELASTD.rtf or .wpd document to verify what I mean.

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)

The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is an application-level protocol with the lightness and speed necessary for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems. It is a generic, stateless, object-oriented protocol which can be used for many tasks, such as name servers and distributed object management systems, through extension of its request methods (commands). A feature of HTTP is the typing of data representation, allowing systems to be built independently of the data being transferred.

HTTP has been in use by the World-Wide Web global information initiative since 1990. This specification reflects common usage of the protocol referred to as "HTTP/1.0".

Please refer to the request for comments (RFCs) from the Internet Engineering Task Force regarding the use of Internet protocols.

GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards
SPECIFICATION

General Layout

The general layout of the Informational Postings Web site is divided into three areas: the title at the top of the Web site when appearing in the window of the browser, the navigational section on the left where links leading to other content areas of the Website are contained, and the content area on the right where the information is viewable.

Security

The contents and access to the Informational Postings Website is not protected by a password since the information is required to be viewable by the public.

APPENDICES - INFORMATIONAL POSTINGS

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Appendix C - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.17

"Informational Postings" should be the label used for navigation to or within the Web site.

Appendix D - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.20

A user ID or password should not be required to access the Central Address Repository or the Transportation Service Provider's Informational Postings Web Site.

Appendix E - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.21

The categories and the labels for Informational Postings required under Standard 4.3.6 should be as follows:

- Affiliated Marketer Info.
- Capacity
- Index of Customers
- Notices
- Tariff

These categories and labels should appear in the order specified above and before any others.

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Appendix F - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.22

The following navigational links should appear last in the Navigational Area and be labeled as follows:

- Downloads
- Search
- Site Map

Appendix G - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.23

The subcategories and labels for the categories of Informational Postings should be as follows:

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>SUBCATEGORIES</u>
Affiliated Marketer Info.	Capacity Allocation Log (when applicable) Discount Offers
Capacity	Operationally Available Unsubscribed
Index of Customers Notices	Critical Non-Critical
Tariff	Title Page Table of Contents Preliminary Statement Map Currently Effective Rates Rate Schedules General Terms and Conditions Form of Service Agreement Entire Tariff Sheet Index

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Appendix H - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.24

The Transportation Service Provider's Informational Postings Web Site should include the name, nickname, or name abbreviation of the Transportation Service Provider so that it will appear first in the browser title bar. Content Area documents should have a similar name when printed.

Appendix I - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.25

The Site Map should be provided in the Content Area and should include links to all levels of categories described in Standard 4.3.21 and Standard 4.3.23. Each level of category and subcategory should be indented to show its relationship and should be presented in text form to best utilize space.

site map

Informational Postings

affiliate marketer info.

Capacity allocation log
discount offers

capacity

Operationally available
unsubscribed

index of customers

notices

critical
non-critical

tariff

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Appendix J - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.26

Transportation Service Providers should provide search capability for a word or phrase within the text, headers, and footers of the entire tariff and within any of the following tariff subcategories: 1) Rate Schedules, 2) General Terms and Conditions, and 3) Form of Service Agreement. The results of the search should provide a list of links to the pages containing the word or phrase. "Search" should appear as a link and be labeled as such, appearing immediately above the Site Map link.

Appendix K - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.27

The "Notices" category (as shown in the Navigational Area) should expand to a list of subcategories (in the Navigational Area) when clicked; there are no display requirements for the Content Area. Each of these subcategories, when clicked, should display a list of notices for that subcategory in the Content Area.

Appendix L - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.28

For the subcategories of Notices, the first column headings in the Content Area should be Notice Type, Posted Date/Time, Notice Effective Date/Time (and Notice End Date/Time, when applicable), Notice Identifier (optional*) and Subject, with the list sorted in reverse chronological order by Posted Date/Time.

* When used as a reference, the Notice Identifier should be displayed.

Appendix M - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.30

The links to categories of Informational Postings should be displayed vertically on the left (Navigational Area) of the screen at all times.

Appendix N - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.32

Each line of the Table of Contents of the Tariff should provide a link to a corresponding sheet by clicking on the sheet number shown. The subcategories Currently Effective Rates, Rate Schedules, General Terms and Conditions, and Form of Service Agreement should provide either a table of contents or a similar breakdown, when applicable, and a link function to a corresponding sheet. For example, if General Terms and Conditions has a separate table of contents, it should provide corresponding links.

Appendix O - Related Illustration Standard 4.3.33

For Tariff documents, "previous" and "next" links should be displayed at the top of each HTML document. If the "previous" and "next" links may scroll off the display, they should also be provided at the bottom of the HTML document.

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

User technical characteristics provide specifications to the developer on the user environment for which the application will be designed and tested. Likewise, they will serve as guidelines to the user when purchasing the appropriate hardware and software to enable him/her to use the application.

Informational Postings Web Site User Technical Characteristics

	<u>Minimal</u>	<u>Suggested (7/31/98)</u>
Connection Device:	28.8 KB	Direct Connect
Operating System:	Multi-threaded & Preemptive	
RAM:	32 MB	>32 MB
Browser Capabilities:	Cookies & JavaScript™ Frames & Nested Frames Tables & Nested Tables HTML 3.2	
Display Resolution:	800x600, 256 colors	16k colors

Definitions:

Minimal user technical characteristics - The environment and components for which the Web site application is designed and tested. This should include:

- a client environment comprised only of characteristics listed above, and,
- support for all mandated functions in accessing Informational Postings

Suggested user technical characteristics - Environment or components not required to perform all mandated functions in accessing Informational Postings, but could provide an enhanced user experience.

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Examples of User Workstations Meeting Criteria of Informational Postings Web Site User Characteristics

	<u>Minimal</u>	<u>Suggested (7/31/98)</u>
Hardware:	Pentium® 90MHz or equivalent	Pentium® 200MHz or greater
RAM:	32 MB	> 32 MB
Communication Device:	28.8	Direct Connect ISDN Satellite 56 KB modem
Monitor:	12" Laptop 15" Desktop	> 12" Laptop > 15" Desktop
Display Capabilities:	800 x 600 256 colors	> 800 x 600 > 256 colors
Operating System:	Windows® 95 System 7® Solaris® 2.5	Windows® 95 Windows® NT 4.0 or greater Solaris® 2.6 System 8®
Browser:	Microsoft® Internet Explorer 3.02 Netscape® Navigator 3.0	Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.0 Netscape® Communicator 4.0 or Netscape® Navigator 4.0

Informational Postings Web Site Developer Technical Characteristics

User's environment supporting the above minimum characteristics should be able to access all GISB standardized features of Informational Postings Web Sites.

Any other Web technologies may be considered for use by the developer as long as they can be used by the client without requiring special actions including firewall rule changes, use of a specific browser, logons and downloads of special helper applications such as plug-ins, viewers or readers.

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