

## Electronic Delivery Mechanisms – Future Technology Task Force

### A. Overview

#### Task Force Recommendations

The Future Technology Task Force was assigned the task to “further define GISB Standard 4.3.6 on formats for non-transactional data”. The GISB Standard 4.3.6 required that transportation service providers post five specific groupings of non-transactional information on an HTML page(s) accessible via the Internet’s World Wide Web. After much consideration, the task force approved the following proposal:

**“The documents identified in GISB Standard 4.3.6 should be made available in HTML or RTF format.”**

During the task force discussions, there was deliberation as to whether the format definition should apply to GISB Standard 4.3.5 or GISB Standard 4.3.6. It was concluded that the recommendation should pertain only to that information specifically required on a transportation service provider Web site. As each category of information is specifically mandated for presentation on a Web site, the appropriate time to evaluate the formats for presentation is when the industry needs for the data are identified. This allows for more flexibility to define a best fit for the information required.

#### Executive Committee Action

After review of the proposal from the task force on formats defined for GISB Standard 4.3.6 in March and April of 1997, the GISB Executive Committee adopted the proposal from the Future Technology Task Force by notational ballot. This recommendation from the task force has since been incorporated into GISB Standard 4.3.16.

The task force has been asked by the Executive Committee to work jointly with the Business Practice Subcommittee and the Information Requirements Subcommittee on GISB request number R97102 to provide standardization for “common look and feel” for posting non-transactional information on a Transportation Service Provider’s Web site. This request was issued by the GISB Executive Committee on June 11, 1997, in response to the precedent resolution expressed by the GISB Board of Directors on May 13, 1997:

**“Be it resolved that the GISB Board of Directors requests the GISB Executive Committee to further evaluate such standards as are necessary to ensure that the five postings in GISB Standard 4.3.6 version 1.1 are implemented by Transportation Service Providers in a consistent and user friendly manner including the development of common Web page structures, viewing formats, nomenclature, logon procedures, and download capabilities.”**

The Executive Committee assigned request number R97102 to the committees jointly so that the appropriate combined skills of business analysis and Web application development may be leveraged to work toward a solution that meets the needs of the natural gas industry more effectively. The combined committees for this specific task have been merged into the Internet “Look and Feel” Team. The first meeting for this team is scheduled for August 27, 1997 to address the standardization requested in R97102.

#### Business Process Summary

The GISB Future Technology Task Force (FTTF) investigates and recommends the minimum standards of technologies and practices that could or should be used to conduct electronic commerce within the gas industry. This task force has also assumed the responsibilities of what was formerly known as the GISB FTTF

Implementation Subgroup. These responsibilities include identifying industry EDM participants, establishing proper test procedures, testing and demonstrating implementation of technology.

**B. Standards**

GISB has adopted the following standards:

4.3.5 Documents that are made available on the Transportation Service Provider's designated Site should be downloadable on demand in a GISB specified electronic structure.

4.3.6 By August 1, 1997 Transportation Service Providers should establish a HTML page(s) accessible via the Internet's World Wide Web. The information that is currently provided should be posted is as follows: information that is currently provided should be posted is as follows:

- 1) Notices (critical notices, operation notices, system wide notices, etc.)
- 2) FERC Order No 566 affiliated marketer information. (affiliate allocation log, 24hr. discount postings, etc.)
- 3) Operationally available and unsubscribed capacity
- 4) Index of customers
- 5) Transportation Service Provider's tariff (Terms, conditions, and rates), or general terms and conditions.

Transportation Service Providers should make all pertinent EBB functions and information available via the Internet or via the technology recommended by GISB within a reasonable amount of time after each such function or information has become standardized as appropriate by GISB.

and

Within a reasonable amount of time, all EBB information, functions and transactions should be achieved via one mode of communications. Information and functions should remain available through existing systems until one mode of communication is available. Implementation timelines for this activity would be determined during the 1997 annual planning activities held in 1996.

4.3.16 The documents identified in GISB Standard 4.3.6 should be made available in HTML or RTF format.