



# Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 LOUISIANA, SUITE 4925. HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77002  
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HOME PAGE: www.gisb.org

August 21, 1998

**TO:** GISB Members, Posting on the Web Page for Interested Industry Participants  
**FROM:** Rae McQuade, Executive Director  
**RE:** Final EBB Internet Implementation Task Force Meeting Minutes - August 21, 1998

Mr. Caldwell opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees, and introduced and thanked the hosts, Dynegy. Mr. Buccigross gave the antitrust advice. The agenda was adopted with no changes. The revised posted minutes of August 13 and 14 were reviewed and all submitted red-lined changes were accepted. These minutes will reflect the decisions made. For a full accounting of the discussion, the transcripts can be ordered from Ms. Copeland of Ak/Ret Reporting at (512) 882-9037. Ms. Yarbrough walked through the example of the Pipeco model.

## **RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR CONTENT/FORMAT**

31. Transactional Web pages should support GISB Business Practice Standards in the following phased implementation stages:

- nominations
- flowing gas
- invoicing
- capacity release

The order (priority) of transitioning the existing 32 standard X12 data sets within each of the listed categories should be examined. (This does not preclude a service provider from accelerated implementation.)

Vote: The motion was made to delete this item. It passed unanimously.

32. The Customer Activities Web site should include the name, nickname, or named abbreviation of the Transportation Service Provider in the browser title bar. The name of the business function should be displayed in the header.

Note: GISB Standard No. 4.3.24 should be reviewed for consistency.

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.

Definition of header and footer will be undertaken at later meetings.

Vote: The item was adopted unanimously as a standard (4.3.x).



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33.

Where they exist for the same business function, flat files and EDI should use the same nomenclature for data set names, data element names, code values and/or code value descriptions, abbreviations and message text. Corresponding Web pages should use data set names, data element names, code value descriptions, abbreviations and message text that correspond to those used in flat files and EDI, where they exist.

Vote: This item was voted as a standard (4.3.x)

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	11	1.83	1	0.17
Producers	2	2	0	0
Pipelines	15	1.88	1	0.13
TOTAL	29	6.71	2	0.29

34.1. Display space for content on Web sites should be maximized.

Vote: Dropped, duplicative of GISB Standard No. 4.1.20

4.1.20 Display space for content on Web sites should be maximized.

34.2 On the Web sites the use of scrolling, especially left to right, should be minimized.

Vote: Dropped, duplicative of GISB Standard No. 4.1.21

4.1.21 On the Web sites, the use of scrolling, especially left to right, should be minimized.

34.3 Information that is constant for the displayed content section may be placed in the page header.

Vote: Item was adopted unanimously as a principle (4.1.x).

34.4 Related data elements may be listed together so long as the standard flat file construction is not altered. Example: If a pipeline chooses to display Fuel (proposed mutually agreed data element) on the nominations screen, it would be after the Rank data element.

Vote: Item deferred for determination until after the models were discussed.

34.5 Data elements that have default values may be placed last to minimize scrolling.

Vote: Item was adopted unanimously as a principle (4.1.x).

34.6 Display of column and column headings for unused data elements should not be required.

Vote: Dropped, duplicative of GISB Standard No. 4.3.34

4.3.34 Columns that would contain data not supported by the Transportation Service Provider should be eliminated on display and left blank on download.



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34.7 Totals, when appropriate, should be displayed within the Content Area of the Web page in a manner which distinguishes them from the data.

Vote: This item was adopted unanimously as a standard. (4.3.x)

34.8 Where navigation and/or processing functions exist for a customer activity, the content area should contain navigation in the header on the left and processing functions in the header on the right.

Vote: This item was adopted as a standard through the following vote. (4.3.x)

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	7	1.17	5	0.83
Producers	2	2	0	0
Pipelines	4	0.36	18	1.64
TOTAL	14	4.53	23	2.47

Note: This item, as with others, can be revisited with replacement language should participants choose to offer language.

34.9 Navigation for input data lookups, if provided, should be placed near the field being looked up. Navigation for informational lookups, if provided, should be included in the header.

Vote: This item was adopted unanimously as a standard. (4.3.x)

35. Standards for placing data elements on the Nominations related Web pages for the PATHED model:

- Transactional Web pages displaying or allowing input for receipt/delivery data elements should display receipt data elements on the left and the corresponding delivery data elements on the right.
- Allow multiple nominations to be entered and/or displayed on each Web page.

Vote: This item was deferred to be discussed with the nominations topic.

## **RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR UPLOAD/DOWNLOAD**

36. "Download" is the term used to describe the retrieval of information from a Web site in a format suitable for storage.

Vote: Dropped, duplicative of GISB Standard No. 4.2.2

4.2.2 "Printing" is the term used to describe the typical printed layout derived when a document is printed from a display tool (browser, word processor, etc.)



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37. "Printing" is the term used to describe the typical printed layout derived when a document is printed from a display tool (browser, word processor, etc.)

Vote: Dropped, duplicative of GISB Standard No. 4.2.4

- 4.2.4 "Display" is the term used to describe the typical visual presentation derived by a browser as a result of retrieval of information from a given URL.

38. GISB Common Codes for entity and location should be available for data validation or selection (viewing) on a Customer Activities Web site and in a standardized downloadable format for use by customer and third party service providers. Cross-references to proprietary numbers may be provided on a mutually agreeable basis.

Vote: This item was adopted through the following vote.

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	10	2	0	0
Producers	2	2	0	0
Pipelines	15	1.88	1	0.12
TOTAL	28	6.88	1	0.12

39. Standardized flat file uploads and downloads from the transactional Web page may be supported.

Vote: Deferred to be addressed with 4.3.a, submitted by TransCapacity.

## **RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR TIMING**

41. As a general guideline, the initial phase of each business function category (of a multiple phase implementation) of common look and feel for Internet transactions that are not currently standardized should begin subsequent to the implementation of the currently standardized data sets to the Web. This does not preclude the implementation of new standardized data sets as they become available.

Vote: [Principle] Passes unanimously

47. There is displayed information on Customer Activities Web sites which does not have a comparable data element in EDI; however, the data (e.g. totals, reports, calculations) is derived from other EDI data elements. Provision of such information does not require the development of an EDI dataset to accomplish a one-to-one match. However, any Customer Activities Web function should be derivable from information available in EDI data sets.

Note: The record should reflect that item no. 47 belongs in the content section.

Vote: [Principle] Passes unanimously



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48. Any group of parties should be able to mutually agree to initiate a new business practice, and within 18 – 24 months after implementation of such practice submit a request to GISB for standardization.

Vote: Motion Withdrawn; will be reworded and presented at a later date.

**OTHER RECOMMENDED STANDARDS** (Submitted by TransCapacity)

4.2.A Category - Content

- i) GISB EDI/EDM is the term used to describe ANSI ASC X12 computer-to-computer electronic data interchange of information in files as mapped from the x.4.x GISB standards to the GISB Implementation Guides and communicated between trading partners over the Internet using the GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism.

Vote: [Definition] Passes Unanimously

- ii) GISB FF/EDM is the term used to describe a standardized flat file computer-to-computer electronic data interchange of information in files as mapped from the x.4.x GISB standards. GISB FF/EDM is communicated between trading partners over the Internet using the GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism.

Vote: [Definition] Passes with the following votes:

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	0	0	0	0
Services	12	2	0	0
Producers	2	2	0	0
Pipelines	14	1.87	1	0.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5.87</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.13</b>

- iii) GISB EBB/EDM is the term used to describe the GISB standardized electronic interchange of information for Customer Activities web site presentations. GISB EBB/EDM is communicated between trading partners over the Internet using the GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism for GISB EBB/EDM.

Vote: Adopted unanimously as a definition (4.1.x)

- ii) GISB FF/EDM is transmitted as an ASCII file for a GISB x.4.x standard and is comprised of rows and columns set up with a standard delimiters with GISB Field Names (data elements associated with the GISB x.4.x standards) as the first record in the file. Determine if there should be no requirement imposed by a recipient of a file that the sender provide the file in any particular field order or a particular field size that should not exceed the corresponding ANSI ASC X12 field size.

Vote: AS INSTRUCTIONS ONLY

Send a request to Technical Subcommittee and the Future Technology Task Force and Information Requirements Subcommittee to investigate flat file format and electronic delivery mechanism and those subcommittees should refer to the transcript for pertinent discussion.



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## 4.2.B Category - Content

For the purposes of GISB standards an EBB is an electronic method of presenting on a screen images containing data and which responds to user-entered keystrokes, without regard to mode of communications between the presentation screen and the source of the image. As used in GISB standards, EBB includes Internet EBB, web page EBB, dial-up EBB etc.

Vote: Withdrawn

## 4.3.A Category - Content - Upload / Download

Except where specific exclusions are made, a Transportation Service Provider which determines to provide transactional functions via electronic means (other than phone or fax) should support at least two out of the three GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanisms (i.e., GISB EBB/EDM, GISB FF/EDM or GISB EDI/EDM) for each transaction upon inception of support for such transactional function.

Vote: Deferred to be discussed as the next meeting with item nos. 39 and 48. New language will be presented.

## 4.3.B Content - Upload / Download

A Transportation Service Provider which determines to provide transactional functions via at least the GISB EBB/EDM standards should provide, upon reasonable request, tab-delimited downloads of files containing appropriate code value data and data element contents which code value data and data element contents are present in the EBB and used by the Transportation Service Provider for validation or submission of a valid transaction(s) via such EBB.

Examples:

- Upstream Contract
- Downstream Contract
- Upstream ID (the entity codes)
- Downstream ID (the entity codes)
- Transaction Types (the subset supported by the TSP)
- Reduction Reasons (the subset supported by the TSP)
- Deal Type
- Associated Contract
- Capacity Type Indicator
- Allocation Model Type (Methodology)
- Fuel Matrix (Receipt Zone, Delivery Zone, Fuel percentage, EFF DTM)

If not validated by TSP on EBB, then not necessary to provide in Download.

Vote: Deferred for later consideration.



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## **OTHER RECOMMENDED STANDARDS** (Submitted by Transco)

### 4.1.x Abbreviations for Navigational Links:

<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Proposed Abbreviation</b>
Customer Activities	Cust Acty
Nominations	Nom Area
Flowing Gas	FloGas Area
Invoicing	Invc Area
Capacity Release	CapRel Area
Contracts	Contr Area
Informational Postings	Info Post Area
Site Map	Site Map
Nomination Area	Nom Area
Nomination	Nom
Nomination Quick Response	Nom QR
Request for Confirmation	Req Conf
Confirmation Response	Conf Resp
Confirmation Response Quick Response	Conf Resp QR
Scheduled Quantity	Sch Qty
Scheduled Quantity for Operator	Sch Qty Oper
Flowing Gas Area	FloGas Area
Pre-Determined Allocation	PDA
Pre-Determined Allocation Quick Response	PDA QR
Allocation	Alloc Stmt
Shipper Imbalance	Imbal Stmt
Measurement Information	Meas Info
Measured Volume Audit Statement	Meas Audit
Invoicing Area	Invc Area
Transportation/Sales Invoice	Invoice
Service Requester Level Charge/Allowance Invoice	Svc Req Invc
Payment Remittance	Pmt Rmt
Statement of Account	Stmt Acct
Capacity Release Area	Cap Rel Area
Offers	Offers
Bids	Bids
Awards	Awards
Contracts Area	Contr Area



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Vote: Deferred to later consideration.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The following agenda items were deferred or were not addressed due to lack of time. They will be addressed at the next EII Task Force meeting on September 3 and 4 in Houston.

### 1. RECOMMENDED STANDARDS

34.4 Related data elements may be listed together so long as the standard flat file construction is not altered. Example: If a pipeline chooses to display Fuel (proposed mutually agreed data element) on the nominations screen, it would be after the Rank data element.

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Vote: Motion Withdrawn; will be reworded and presented at a later date.

#### 4.3.A Category - Content - Upload / Download

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Vote: Deferred to be discussed as the next meeting with item nos. 39 and 48. New language will be presented.

#### 4.3.B Content - Upload / Download

A Transportation Service Provider which determines to provide transactional functions via at least the GISB EBB/EDM standards should provide, upon reasonable request, tab-delimited downloads of files containing appropriate code value data and data element contents which code value data and data element contents are present in the EBB and used by the Transportation Service Provider for validation or submission of a valid transaction(s) via such EBB.

Examples: Upstream Contract  
Downstream Contract  
Upstream ID (the entity codes)



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Downstream ID (the entity codes)  
Transaction Types (the subset supported by the TSP)  
Reduction Reasons (the subset supported by the TSP)  
Deal Type  
Associated Contract  
Capacity Type Indicator  
Allocation Model Type (Methodology)  
Fuel Matrix (Receipt Zone, Delivery Zone, Fuel percentage, Eff Dtm)  
If not validated by TSP on EBB, then not necessary to provide in

Download.

Vote: Deferred for later consideration.

4.1.x Abbreviations for Navigational Links

2. Other standards to be considered for access, navigation, content, upload/download, and other categories
  - Identification of other categories
  - Review of proposed standards by category
3. Rewrite of GISB Standard No. 4.2.8
4. Time frame for contracts development
5. Questions and Answers on the Pipeco Model, with specific identification of the following aspects of the model:
  - Access
  - Navigation
  - Content Area
  - Upload/Download
  - Nominations Specifics
6. Demonstration of other models, with specific identification of the following aspects of the models:
  - Access
  - Navigation
  - Content Area
  - Upload/Download
  - Nominations Specifics
- 
7. Review of survey items related to nominations business function and determine course of action for the items.
8. Review of additional standards needed for nominations transactional web pages
9. Review of additional standards needed for nominations flat files.

Appendix A: Scanned Sign in Sheets for the EII Task force meeting on August 21, 1998