



Gas Industry Standards Board

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September 17, 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 - September 3 & 4, 1998

SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

I. Administrative

The meeting opened at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Caldwell opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees, and introduced and thanked the hosts, Koch. Each attendee introduced himself. Mr. Buccigross gave the antitrust advice. The agenda was adopted. The minutes of the previous meeting will be reviewed and adopted on September 4. 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.

II. Recommended Standards Remaining from Previous Meetings: Item Nos. 34.4, 39, 48, 4.3.a, 4.3.b, 4.1.x Navigational Links

Proposed standard no. 34.4 will be deferred until after the discussion and resolution of standards needed for data groupings. Proposed standard nos. 38 and 48 will be discussed with the work paper provided by TransCapacity in conjunction with the 4.3 numbered standards.

4.3.A/L A Transportation Service Provider who determines to provide transactional functions via GISB EBB/EDM, for each transaction upon inception of support for such service, should:

- Provide the service via EDI/EDM, or FF/EDM or both, utilizing modifications defined by the TSP to the existing file structures, where GISB standards do not provide a solution, until such file structures are standardized by GISB; and,
- Submit a request for standardization to GISB including details of the EBB/EDM, EDI/EDM and/or FF/EDM implementation.

39. ~~Standardized flat file uploads and downloads from the transactional Web page may be supported.~~ [This standard is no longer necessary.]

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.~~ [This standard is no longer necessary.]

VOTE on 4.3A/L, 39 and 48: The motion passed with the following votes cast:

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	5	1.67	1	0.33
Producers	1	0.67	2	1.33
Pipelines	3	0.32	16	1.68
TOTAL	10	3.65	19	3.35

4.3.B Deferred until after nominations are completed.



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Discussion then turned to the work paper provided by Williams Gas Pipelines and edited by Duke Energy and TransCapacity.

49 With regard to Navigational Links on Customer Activities Web Sites, when using abbreviations, the following abbreviations should be used:

Full Name	Abbreviation
Customer Activities	Customer Activities
Nominations	Nominations
Flowing Gas	Flowing Gas
Invoicing	Invoicing
Capacity Release	Capacity Release
Contracts	Contracts
Informational Postings	Info Postings
Site Maps	Site Maps
Nomination Area	Nominations
Nomination	Nom
Nomination Quick Response	Nom QR
Request for Confirmation	Req for Conf
Confirmation Response	Conf Resp
Confirmation Response Quick Response	Conf Resp QR
Scheduled Quantity	Sched Qty
Scheduled Quantity	Sched Qty Oper
Flowing Gas Area	Flowing Gas
Pre-determined Allocation	PDA
Pre-determined Allocation Quick Response	PDA QR
Allocation	Allocation
Shipper Imbalance	Shipper Imbal
Measurement Information	Meas Info
Measured Volume Audit Statement	Meas Vol Audit
Invoicing Area	Invoicing
Invoice	Invoice
Service Requester Level Charge/Allowance	Svc Req Invc
Invoice	
Payment Remittance	Pmt Remit
Statement of Account	Stmt of Acct
Capacity Release Area	Capacity Release
Offers	Offers
Bids	Bids
Awards	Awards
Contracts Area	Contracts

VOTE: The motion to adopt proposed standard no. 49 as a standard passed unanimously.



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II. Recommended Standards Remaining from Previous Meetings and Work Papers Posted for this meeting

The discussion then centered on the work paper provided by Enron with proposed standards, principles and definitions provided by Duke Energy. After reviewing the various data groupings provided, Enron recommended that the work paper was conceptual, representing a base model based upon Duke Energy's proposed standards. It was noted that additional details are needed. No action was taken nor intended to be taken on Enron's paper -- it was used for illustrative purposes. For the proposed standards, principles and definitions provided by Duke Energy, it was noted that the proposed standards are designed with Pathed Model in mind. Without modification, they could be applied to Non-Pathed. Some modification would probably have to be made for the Pathed Non-Threaded Model. For discussion purposes, these proposed standards should be considered initially for the Pathed Model. As such, for initial consideration the proposed standards will be applied to the Pathed Model.

50.A. On the Nominations Web page for the Pathed Model Type, data should be organized in the content area in logical groupings. The logical groupings of data should be as follows:

- Contract
- Dates
- Receipt
- Delivery
- Transaction Specific

VOTE on 50A as a standard:

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	10	1.54	3	0.46
Producers	3	2	0	0
Pipelines	13	2	0	0
TOTAL	27	6.54	3	0.46

After the vote on proposed standard no.50A, it was considered as a packages with proposed standard nos. 50B through 50F. The reconsideration does not negate the above vote on standard no. 50A as a standard.

- 50B. On the Nominations Web page for the Pathed Model Type, the Contract data group should include the Transportation Service Provider, Service Requester Contract and Service Requester Name. Additional MA or BC data elements or other informational fields related to contracts may be displayed.
- 50C. On the Nominations Web page, the Dates data group should include the Begin Date and End Date. Additional MA or BC data elements or other informational fields may be displayed.
- 50D. On the Nominations Web page, the Receipt data group should include the Location, Quantity, Upstream Entity and Receipt Rank. Additional MA or BC data elements or other informational fields may be displayed.
- 50E. On the Nominations Web page, the Delivery data group should include the Location, Quantity, Downstream Entity and Delivery Rank. Additional MA or BC data elements or other informational fields may be displayed.



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50F. On the Nominations Web page, the Transaction Specific data group should include the Transaction Type and Package ID. Additional MA or BC data elements or other informational fields may be displayed.

MOTION: Items 50.A-F and the Proposed Modifications to Nomination Screens (Groupings) should be transferred to IR as instructions for completion in the format specified by proposed standard 4.3.O (Group substituted for Area) by September 17, 1998.

VOTE: Motion Passes Unanimously

It was noted that further time outside of the meeting is needed to ensure that the work product is applicable to Non-Pathed and Pathed Non-Threaded.

50.G. Begin Date should default to first date for which a timely nomination could be submitted.

VOTE: Motion withdrawn; meeting adjourns.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1998

I. Administrative

Mr. Caldwell opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees, and introduced and thanked the hosts, Dynegy. Mr. Buccigross gave the antitrust advice. 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.

III. Recommended Standards Remaining from Previous Meetings and Work Papers Posted for this meeting (Continued)

50H. Quantities displayed should be the quantities effective for the Begin Date specified in the header in the Nominations Web page.

VOTE: Withdrawn

50I. Nominated quantities should be provided for more than one day at a time for each line item. A link from the Nominations Web page should be provided to display nominations and/or scheduled quantities for more than one day.

VOTE: Withdrawn

The standards proposed by National Fuel regarding flat files were then discussed:

- Flat Files should be ASCII comma delimited files
- The content and usage of flat files should reasonably correspond to the GISB datasets used for GISB EDI/EDM. This should not necessarily prohibit the design and specification of a flat file that corresponds to EBB/EDM.
- Provisions to provide 'comment' rows within the file should be made. These rows would be ignored for processing purposes.
- The default order of elements within the flat file should be that identified within the standards.
- The first row of the flat file should be reserved for the Business Names of the data elements in the file. This row could be considered a comment row or if a provider supported a non-default ordering, instructions to that effect.
- Flat files could be exchanged via the same designated sites as GISB EDI/EDM files.
- Flat files would be exchanged via interactive means in the manner as follows:
 - The user would click a button indicating a desired upload or download.
 - The system would prompt the user for a filename.



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- The system would acknowledge the status of the exchange.
- The system could display the results on the screen as if the user had entered all data interactively.

Mr. Novak made the motion to adopt his work paper as instructions and send the instructions to Information Requirements Subcommittee, seconded by Mr. Keisler. There was discussion on the need for a single record format. The need for flexibility was questioned. After discussion, Mr. Novak withdrew his motion, which was supported by Mr. Keisler, and he made an alternate motion was made to review each point as a standard which was also seconded by Mr. Keisler.

51.1 Flat Files should be ASCII comma separated value (.csv) format.

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

51.3 Provisions to provide 'comment' rows within the flat file should be made. These rows should be ignored for processing purposes.

Vote: The item was adopted as a standard (4.3.x) with the results of the vote shown below:

Segment	For	Balanced For	Against	Balanced Against
End User	0	0	0	0
LDCs	1	1	0	0
Services	9	2	0	0
Producers	1	1	0	0
Pipelines	5	0.59	12	1.41
TOTAL	16	4.59	12	1.41

51.8 Each transaction (e.g. nomination) within a flat file should be represented by a single row layout.

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

51.2 The content and usage of flat files should reasonably correspond to the GISB data sets used for GISB EDI/EDM.

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

51.4 The order of elements within the flat file should be that identified within the standards.

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

51.5 The first row of the flat file should be reserved for the Business Names of the data elements in the file. This row could be considered a comment row or if a provider supported a non-default ordering, instructions to that effect.

This item was withdrawn.

The discussion then returned to the remaining open items from the work papers submitted by TransCapacity and Altra Streamline.

4.3.O When standardized, all elements used in standard EBB/EDM, EDI/EDM and FF/EDM should be defined in the related GISB x.4.z standard.

Business Name/ Abbreviation	Definition	Area (H/D)	EBB Usage	EDI Usage	FF Usage	Condition
Examples:						
Upstream Identifier Code		Detail	n/u	C	C	as stated
Upstream Identifier Name		Detail	C	n/u	n/u	as stated
US Party						
xxx Code			n/u	M	N	



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xxx Code Description			M	n/u	n/u	
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Note: For instance, for the Nomination (1.4.1) the Upstream Identifier Code could be required for the EDI usage and the Flat File usage, but may not be used for the Web Page usage. Correspondingly, the Upstream Identifier Name could be required for the Web Page usage and may not be used for EDI or Flat File. [Not to be included as part of the standard language.]

Note: The table and note are not part of the standard; they are presented for illustrative purposes only.

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

- 4.3.N The business results of validation should be identical across GISB EBB/EDM, EDI/EDM and FF/EDM.

Vote: The item was deferred for consideration later in the meeting, to be considered as a standard (4.3.x).

- 4.3.Q Where a TSP utilizes a subset of available GISB code values for specific data elements for inbound documents to the TSP, the TSP should make available a list of the supported code values in a download utilizing a GISB electronic format.

Note: If approved, this should go to the IR Subcommittee for identification of the data elements and code values, then to Technical Subcommittee for the EDI or FF structure.

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

IV. Definition of Proposed Standard 4.2.8

- 4.2.8 "Content Area" is the term used to describe the area containing the active data pertaining to the link selected in the Navigational Area. Where the Content Area is displayed simultaneously with the Navigational Area of the browser display, the Content Area should appear directly to the right of the Navigational Area.

Note: This would replace GISB Standard No. 4.2.8: "'Content Area" is the term used to describe the area directly to the right of the Navigational Area of the browser display."

Vote: The item was adopted unanimously as a definition (4.2.x).

V. Timeline for Contracts effort

The below time frame for completion of contracts standards will be added to the time line of activities for all EII task force charges.

5. Recommendations from task forces on contracts related standards for transactional web sites and creation and modifications to EDI data sets as a result of the survey responses would be completed by November 1999. The Executive Committee would consider and vote on the recommendations in December 1999. Membership ratification would occur in January 2000. Implementation by industry would be expected by October 2000.

Vote: The motion to modify the timeline through the addition of the timeline for contracts was adopted unanimously.

VI. Demonstration of models

Ms. Yarbrough demonstrated the Pipeco model. Mr. Lehn demonstrated the Enron model for flat file formats.



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III. Recommended Standards Remaining from Previous Meetings and Work Papers Posted for this meeting (Continued)

51.6 If implemented, flat files should be exchanged via the GISB EDI/EDM site or Customer Activities Website.

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

51.7 As an instruction to FTTF, IR and Technical, flat files could be exchanged via interactively via the GISB EBB/EDM Customer Activities Website in a manner as follows:

- The user would click a button indicating a desired upload or download.
- The system would prompt the user for a filename.
- The system would acknowledge the status of the exchange.
- The system could display the results on the screen as if the user had entered all data interactively.

Vote: The item was adopted unanimously as an instruction.

VII. Pipeline Survey Response Items with Duplicates Shown

Discussion began with the nominations function, nominations sub-function. The discussion can be found in the transcripts. Duke requests were reviewed and described by Ms. Van Pelt. Enron requests were reviewed and described by Ms. Hopkins. Williams Gas Pipelines requests were reviewed and described by Mr. Keisler and Ms. Davis. During the discussion an option of adding a few custom fields, user defined for EDM/EDI, EDM/FF, and EBB/EDM was identified to address those items used by only a few companies so not necessarily applicable for standardization. The CGT requests were reviewed by Mr. Hansen. The CIG requests were reviewed by Mr. Aschbrenner. There was no one present to discuss the EPNG requests. Ms. Barnett discussed the Koch requests. New standards may be needed to highlight that reports and report sorts available through the EBB need not be replicated for EDI if the data is available through a download. As such, the following standard was defined in the meeting:

52. Where display information on a Customer Activities site is derivable from data provided in a previous upload or download, the information should not be included in the EDI/EDM standards [or FF/EDM standard, for later consideration] that directly correspond to the EBB/EDM page being displayed.

Vote: Passes unanimously as a standard.

Further discussion highlighted the need for definitions for transactional flat files and reporting flat files. Categories for survey items were defined as they were discussed by the survey respondents. The categories which were defined were:

Category:

Survey Items - new data elements or code values needed in a existing EDI transaction

Survey Items - name element for display on the EBB (Such as contract name??)

Survey Items - Recommended standard no. 52

Survey Items - cross over "borrowed" elements from one existing transaction to another transaction where it does not exist. Recommended standard no. 27.

Survey Items - not standardardized but are displayed for informational purposes

Survey Items - New transactions



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The survey respondents were asked to review their survey items and determine in light of recommended standard no. 52 if EDI efforts are required. If so they should complete the "GISB Request For Standards" form for each item and forward the completed form to the GISB office.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.