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Program to Certify Companies in Compliance
With GISB Technical Standards Begins Sept. 1

HOUSTON—A voluntary program to grant certification to companies that are in compliance with Gas Industry Standards Board (GISB) technical standards will begin Sept. 1.

Companies seeking certification will choose a certifier from a list provided by GISB. The GISB certification program will enable companies requesting certification to determine whether their software products or software solutions meet specific criteria defined in GISB standards.

Software products or solutions approved for certification will be able to display a special logo, either printed or electronic, for a period of two years. Each certification is based on a specific version of the GISB standards, beginning with version 1.3.

Certifiers must take a course on GISB standards and pass a test on the subject matter.

(more)

GISB Board of Directors Chairman Jim Templeton, principal of Comprehensive Energy Services, said, " This program fills a real need in the natural gas industry by providing an objective measure of GISB compliance for companies that want to advertise this fact to prospective clients."

Peoples Gas Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel Bill Boswell, a board member who headed a task force on the certification program, said, " Certification is part of the natural evolution of a standards organization. This is a step that will greatly increase GISB's effectiveness and enhance its stature in the gas industry."

GISB Executive Director Rae McQuade added, " In developing this program, we are responding to the expressed wishes of GISB's members. We think certification adds considerably to the value of our organization."

GISB was established in September 1994 as an independent and voluntary North American organization to develop and promote the use of business practices and related electronic communications standards designed to promote more competitive, efficient and reliable gas service. The organization has over 150 corporate members, a board of directors, an executive committee, an advisory committee and many other working committees and task forces.