R01016 REVISED
Gas Industry Standards Board
Request for Initiation of a GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions
or
Enhancement of an Existing GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions

Date of Request: 24 November 2001

1. Submitting Entity & Address:

    _____Systrends, Inc._____
    _____7855 South River
Parkway_____
    _____Suite 111_____
    _____Tempe, AZ 85284-2510_____

2. Contact Person, Phone #, Fax #, Electronic Mailing Address:

    Name   :   Dick Brooks_____
    Title   :   Vice President, Secure Systems _____
    Phone :   480-756-6777_____
    Fax   :   (509) 441-6982_____
    E-mail :   dick.brooks@systrends.com_____

3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

    Please consider replacing the requirement to use proprietary PGP 2.6.2
    compliant products, with the IETF developed open standard for PGP,
    called OpenPGP, as defined in RFC 2440
    (http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2440.txt)

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4. Use of Proposed Standard or Enhancement (include how the standard will be used, documentation on the description of the proposed standard, any existing documentation of the proposed standard, and required communication protocols):

> OpenPGP is a non-proprietary protocol for encrypting documents using public key cryptography. It is based on PGP as originally developed by Phil Zimmermann. The OpenPGP specification defines standard formats for encrypted messages, signatures, and certificates for exchanging public keys, using open industry standard, freely available software.
>
> Beginning in 1997, the OpenPGP Working Group was formed in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) to define this standard that had formerly been a proprietary product since 1991. Over the past decade, PGP, and later OpenPGP, has become the de-facto standard for cryptography.
>
> By becoming an IETF standard (RFC 2440), OpenPGP may be implemented by any company without paying any licensing fees to anyone.
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> The OpenPGP Alliance brings companies together to pursue a common goal of promoting the same standard for document encryption and to apply the PKI that has emerged from the OpenPGP community.

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5. Description of Any Tangible or Intangible Benefits to the Use of the Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

> OpenPGP would allow market participants of all sizes be able to implement this cryptographic standard at no additional charge. Currently, the Network Associates version of PGP is considered to be too expensive, thus serving as a financial barrier to market entry for some

smaller market participants.

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5. Estimate of Incremental Specific Costs to Implement Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

There would be no incremental costs to the market participant associated with this enhancement. OpenPGP software is freely available for commercial use, with no licensing fees.

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7. Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:

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8. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is Not Tested Yet, List Trading Partners Willing to Test Standard or Enhancement (Corporations and contacts):

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9. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is In Use, Who are the Trading Partners :

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10. Attachments (such as : further detailed proposals, transaction data descriptions, information flows, implementation guides, business process descriptions, examples of ASC ANSI X12 mapped transactions):

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