

R97058

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

1. Submitting Entity & Address:

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2. Contact Information:

Jim Buccigross, Legal Counsel
Gregory M. Lander, President

3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

The request addresses those instances where a company may not have a D-U-N-S[®] Number, which is the GISB common code entity number, but still wishes to utilize services on a transportation service provider (TSP).

The proposed standard would utilize the sending and receiving of the TSP's proprietary code for that entity. This proprietary code would be "published" by the TSP and available to service requesters and others upon reasonable request.

4. Use of the Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

GISB has determined that D-U-N-S Numbers should be the common entity code used in electronic transactions. However, in those cases where an entity does not currently have a D-U-N-S Number, some entity code number still needs to be supplied (the data element is mandatory). In those cases where a company does not have a D-U-N-S Number, but wishes to transact business on a TSP, the TSP's proprietary number for that entity would be used. Said proprietary number would be made available by the TSP to requesters.

In this manner, companies that do not currently have a D-U-N-S Number could still conduct and transact business using the GISB standardized datasets.

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

As stated above, this would allow smaller companies, government agencies, individual home and business owners, as well as joint ventures and other corporate forms which do not have

D-U-N-S Numbers, to conduct and transact electronic natural gas transactions using the GISB standardized datasets. If this is not provided for, the standard would have the effect of "shutting out" a class of companies from electronic transactions. Adoption of this request will open up the GISB process to all potential participants, large and small, regardless of their corporate form.

Note that this process would be used only in those cases where a company does not have a D-U-N-S Number. Thus, it is not contradictory to GISB standard 1.1.8, but simply fills an identified gap in the process.

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

Any costs associated with this proposed enhancement are minimal. The request does not propose to increase the volume of data sent or require any additional processing by a sender or receiver. In the case where a company does not have a D-U-N-S Number, a proprietary number provided by the service provider (usually the code used in the service provider's internal system) would be sent in its place.

7. Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:

None.

8. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement is Not Tested Yet, List Trading Partners Willing to Test Standard or Enhancement

The change is minor and little or no testing will be required. Nevertheless, TransCapacity would certainly be willing to undertake testing with any other party.

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

While this process is proposed for the "new" GISB standardized datasets, many companies currently sending and receiving capacity release data using the "old" GISB datasets do utilize proprietary codes in many cases. Thus, a large number of trading partners already have experience with these codes in GISB standardized EDI documents.

10. Attachments

None.