

R97103

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

Instructions:

- 1. Please fill out as much of the requested information as possible. It is mandatory to provide a contact name, phone number and fax number to which questions can be directed. If you have an electronic mailing address, please make that available as well.**

- 2. Attach any information you believe is related to the request. The more complete your request is, the less time is required to review it.**

- 3. Once completed, send your request to:**
Rae McQuade
GISB Executive Director
1100 Louisiana, Suite 4925
Houston, TX 77002

Phone: 713-757-4175
Fax: 713-757-2491

by either mail, fax, or through the GISB EBB.

Once received, the request will be routed to the appropriate subcommittees for review.

The instructions for submitting this request through the GISB EBB are contained within the GISB EBB.

**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: **June 16, 1997**

1. Submitting Entity & Address:

The Future Technology Task Force

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

Name : **Susan Croley**
Title : **Task Force Chair**
Phone : **(713) 627-6021**
Fax : **(713) 627-4066**
E-mail : **spcroley@panenergy.com or
spcroley@duke-energy.com**

3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

The version and revision level of technology standards* adopted by GISB and referenced in GISB standards should be clearly stated in the applicable standard(s). Any implementation of GISB standards should, at a minimum, be compatible with this version.

Changes to the version and revision level of open standards should be made only through the GISB standards process.

***Note: This refers only to technology standards formulated by other standards organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force and the World-Wide Web Consortium.**

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):

As with other GISB standards, the referenced version and revision is considered a minimum level that must be matched in order to remain compliant. Other versions may be implemented *as long as they are fully compatible with the specified version*. This means that they must support all functions and features included in the version designated in the standard.

Because technology and open standards are evolving quickly, there is some concern that inclusion of version information in a standard may be too restrictive. If the published version is considered a minimum as described above, this issue is mitigated. Furthermore, it will ensure that changes to the published version will only be made when that version level no longer serves the industry, either because new functionality is needed or because commercially available products are no longer functionally compatible. Such changes have industry-wide impact and may affect other standards. Therefore it is important for them to be coordinated through the standards process.

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

A concern has arisen over what version of an open standard (e.g. HTTP, HTML) should be used in order to be compliant with GISB standards. This principle defines a mechanism for publishing version information. Specifying this information within the applicable standards conveys important details that the industry needs for successful and compatible implementations. In addition, it ensures that the GISB standards process will be applied to determining if and when that version should be changed.

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

These standards will not result in incremental cost. Rather they will control costs by helping companies to implement technical standards in a more efficient and uniform fashion. Furthermore, they will ensure that versioning of open standards occupies GISB task force time only when there is a material reason to consider a change.

7. Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:

Although technologies are evolving rapidly, there is ordinarily a period of several months during which new technologies are incorporated into commercial products, tested and deployed. It is expected that this cycle will allow sufficient time for GISB to accommodate those changes in an orderly fashion. However, circumstances could arise that might require GISB to accelerate its adoption of technology changes.

**Request for Initiation of a GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions or
Request for Enhancement of a GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions**

Page 4

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

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

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