

# PODS Association Newsletter

Pipeline Open Data Standard

January 2009

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## Upcoming Events

February 23-25, 2009: [PUG Conference](#)

February 23-March 6: *Board of Directors' Elections - voting*

March 31, 2009: [Mapping Our Pipeline Future](#)

April 1, 2009: [PODS User Group Meeting](#)

June 8-9, 2009: [GeoGathering](#)

September 13-17, 2009: [GIS for Oil & Gas Conference](#)

September 17, 2009: *PODS User*

## New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

[Teradata](#)

[Complete list of members](#)



This spring, a unique conference will be taking place for the pipeline industry. The conference will create an open forum for those in the industry to share what they feel are the most pressing needs related to GIS and pipelines in the coming years.

## Mapping Our Pipeline Future

On March 31, operators and service providers will meet together for a full day of active discussions on the current and future needs of the industry. Along with defining the needs of the pipeline industry, we will determine how to best meet these needs and what changes will be required.

This conference is designed for discussions beyond data models in order to promote active participation in attendee driven topics. Suggested topics include

- Key issues facing operators
- Enterprise integration

Group Meeting

- Vertical integration: gathering, transmission, and distribution
- Field deployment and data
- Emerging technologies

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## Quick Links

### [Our Website](#)

### [Registration: Mapping Our Pipeline Future](#)

### Membership Renewal Time

Membership renewals were due January 1, 2008. You have received your membership renewal invoice the first week of December. PODS membership dues will remain the same for 2009.

Meeting attendance is free and open to the industry at large. *Seating is limited; please [register](#) early.*

The meeting will be held at Fluor Enterprises in Sugar Land, TX.

## PODS User Group Meeting

April 1, the day immediately following Mapping Our Pipeline Future, the PODS Association will have a PODS User Group Meeting.

During this meeting, we will focus on positioning the PODS Association to serve the industry for the future. Areas of focus include:

- Needs outlined in the previous day's meeting
- 5 year strategic plan discussion
- PODS 5.0
- Current activities
- Working Group updates

The PODS Association will also provide demonstrations of:

- The PODS ESRI Geodatabase
- The PODS Oracle Spatial Model

Finally and because of many requests, the PODS Technical Committee will be presenting:

- The Introduction to PODS Seminar

Attendance is free but seating is limited. Please register on the [PODS website](#).

## Elections - Board of Directors

The annual election process has begun for the Board of Directors. The nomination period will close Friday, January 30, 2009. Nominations are open to any member in good standing.

If you have questions about the election process, participation on the Board of Directors, or any other related topic, please contact Sheila Wilson. We look forward to your participation in the election process.

## PODS 5.0 Release

The PODS 5.0 comments have been received. All comments are now being addressed by the Board of Directors and/or Technical Committee.

We appreciate your comments and contributions to the model. An update will be provided at the PODS User Group Meeting on April 1.

## Technical Committee Tip

Member questions are regularly used for the Technical Committee tip. Here is an important question that came in this month:

*I am evaluating the PODS model but my data does not currently fit the data types. How flexible is the model? Do I need to use the model as is? Can I make changes to the data over time?*

The PODS Association recommends that you modify the data to fit the model; however, this is not a requirement for using the model. Some

companies have chosen to only use the parts of the model they need. Other companies want to use the model but are choosing to convert their data over time in order to lessen the up front expenses. Most companies can generally map the data into the model with minimal changes.

## Converting Coordinate Systems

Converting coordinate systems can be confusing; however, many good tools are available on the internet. Please check out these tools:

[Converting UTM to Latitude and Longitude](#)

[UTM Coordinates](#)

Other conversion tools:

[Lat-Long to Degrees-Minutes-Seconds](#)

[Geocoding addresses](#)

## PODS Association Leadership

*Executive Director:* Sheila Wilson

*President:* Mike King, BP

*Vice President:* Scott Moravec, Eagle Information Mapping

*Secretary:* JW Lucas, Enterprise

*Treasurer:* Kenneth Greer, CenterPoint Energy

*Board Members:*

Scott Blumenstock, Sunoco Logistics

Rob Brook, ESRI

Ron Brush, New Century Software

Keith Chambless, GeoFields

Mark Goodman, ONEOK

Scott Hills, Chevron

Terrie Spicer, Kinder Morgan

*Technical Committee:*

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Kirk Cameron, New Century Software

John Chioles, Chevron

Mikel Collins, ConocoPhillips

Michael Emanuel, Michael Baker Corp

Bryan Ferguson, BP

Gary Hoover, Enterprise

Olga Ingerman, Fluor Enterprises

Janice Jett, Eagle Information Mapping

Costas Kotzbassis, BITS

Michael Ray, Stantec Consulting

Sterling Overturf, ONEOK

Yan Wang, Geonamics

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