



Pipeline Open Data Standard

PODS Association Newsletter

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June 2008

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Upcoming Events

August 4-8, 2008: [ESRI International User Conference](#)

August 7, 2008: PODS User Group Meeting at the ESRI Conference (one hour)

September 21-24, 2008: [GIS for Oil & Gas Conference](#)

September 25, 2008: PODS User Group Meeting (all day)

Address Change

Please note that the PODS Association address has changed to:

PO Box 1726
Sand Springs, OK 74063

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

[LMKR](#)

[Complete list of members](#)

PODS User Group Meeting

The annual PODS User Group Meeting will be Thursday, September 25, 2008, from 8am to 5pm, in Houston, TX. This is a great opportunity to meet with other operators and service providers to learn how they are using the PODS model to meet their business and regulatory needs. You will also hear updates from the working groups, information about the Technical Committee, and the future plans of the Board of Directors.

The meeting will be at the Marriott Westchase in Houston, TX, after GITA's GIS for Oil & Gas Conference. GITA has arranged a special room rate for a limited number of rooms to be extended through Thursday. Please book your room early to receive the discounted rate.

Registration is now open. Attendance is free for PODS members and only \$50 for non-members. You will need to register early because space is limited.

Call for Papers

The annual PODS User Group Meeting is September 25, 2008. Thanks to your participation, we will have another successful year. Do you have a subject on which you would like to speak? Do you have an idea you would like to share? Has your organization overcome a difficulty from which the pipeline industry could learn? Now is the time to share that information. The PODS Association Board of Directors invites you to submit a paper for presentation at the PODS User Group Meeting.

Who Will Be Attending

GIS Analysts, Database Administrators, Pipeline Operators, Project Coordinators, Project Managers, Software Providers, Web Developers, Spatial Data Managers, GIS Managers, Programmers, Application Developers, GIS Developers, System Integrators, Right-of-Way

The phone numbers, website, and email addresses are the same:

918-246-9343
866-460-PODS (US only)
www.pods.org
info@pods.org

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

Managers, Tax Managers, Pipeline Managers, Engineers and Constructors, Mapping Professionals, Safety & Compliance Officers, Information Systems, Environmental Coordinators, Corrosion & Cathodic Protection Personnel, Risk Analysis Personnel, Integrity Management Personnel

Abstract Format

Please provide the following speaker information:

- list the names of all presenters and copresenters
- your organization
- complete address including phone, fax, and email

Please note that only presenters and copresenters listed on the abstract form may present at the conference. Please provide the following presentation information:

- Abstract title
- Target audience
 - Managers
 - Developers
 - End Users
- Abstract: 250 words or less

Note: **Abstracts must be submitted by July 11, 2008.** You are responsible for confirming that your abstract was received. Please contact Sheila Wilson by email or phone (918-246-9343) to verify that we have received it. Remember, presentations must be noncommercial.

Conference Registration Is Required

Speakers are responsible for arranging conference registration. Giving a presentation does not mean that you are automatically registered. Registration will be available soon.

Open Standard Policy

The PODS Association maintains an open data model that adheres to a policy of vendor neutrality. The goal of the presentations is to provide quality, unbiased educational material. At no time is a presenter allowed to use his/her time slot to advertise or promote a product, service, or company. This rule will be strictly enforced.

New Construction Working Group

Are you or a member of your staff involved in the engineering or construction of new pipeline? Would you be interested in having your organization help play a role in defining the standard for construction data interchange? If so, participating in the New Construction and Survey Data Exchange Working Group can ensure that you have a say. The working group charter has been approved by the Technical Committee but it isn't too late to get involved. All those interested in playing a role in this new standard should contact Sheila Wilson.

Technical Committee Tip

What is an EVENT_ID and how does it work?

In the PODS model, the EVENT_ID is the primary key. It is defined as an integer. This means that every event in the database has a unique number by which it can be identified. The number is unique to the database; however, when two databases are combined, the same number could easily exist in both databases. This is a disadvantage when combining databases or importing data from other sources.

What is a GUID and how does it work?

A GUID is a "Globally Unique Identification" number. It is defined as a string, which is a group of alpha-numeric characters. The GUID string is commonly generated in part with the date-time stamp and the IP address

of the computer which generated it. This makes the character string unique not just within its own database but to every database in the world. The primary disadvantage of a GUID is the length of the character string and the amount of space required to store it.

Weird Polygons

The [GIS Lounge](#) defines weird polygons as "polygons with missing nodes. The most common occurrence of this is when two lines cross over, giving the appearance of a polygon."

This can also be defined in non-Euclidean geometry or finite geometry using four point geometry. Dr. Bill Cherowitzo at the University of Colorado at Denver has a good definition of strange geometries including four point geometry in his [lecture notes](#).

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

Daniel Colby, Sentinel USA

Mark Goodman, ONEOK

Scott Hills, Chevron

Terrie Spicer, Kinder Morgan

Technical Committee Chairmen:

Gary Hoover, Enterprise

Technical Committee:

Rod Burden, Moore Resources

Kirk Cameron, New Century Software

John Chioles, Chevron

Mikel Collins, ConocoPhillips

Michael Emanuel, Michael Baker Corp

Bryan Ferguson, BP

Olga Ingerman, Fluor Enterprises

Janice Jett, Eagle Information Mapping

Costas Kotzbassis, BITS

Dean Mikkelsen, Colt Geomatics

Michael Ray, Boardwalk Pipelines

Sterling Overturf, ONEOK

Yan Wang, Geonamics

Rodger Weller, GE

Teresa Young, GeoFields

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