



Pipeline Open Data Standard

# PODS Association Newsletter

Pipeline Open Data Standard

September 2008

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## New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

[SULGAS](#)  
[Global Information Systems LLC](#)

[Complete list of members](#)

## PODS User Group Meeting

As you know, the PODS User Group Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2008, at the Houston Marriott Westchase in Houston, TX, was cancelled due to Hurricane Ike. We hope that everyone affected by the hurricane has now begun the recovery process and that it goes smoothly and quickly.

Many of you have asked if we plan to reschedule. At this time, we are considering rescheduling for sometime in early 2009 but will know more

## Upcoming Events

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

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

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## Quick Links [Our Website](#)

in the next four to six weeks. Our primary concern is the safety and recovery of everyone affected by the hurricane.

We would like to extend a special thank you to many people. First, thank you to everyone who registered. We were expecting another great conference in spite of the multiple hurricanes affecting the region.

Second, thank you to the PODS User Group Meeting Committee:

- Terry Allen, GeoFields
- Ron Brush, New Century Software
- Kris Gill, Atlas Pipeline
- Kris Neese, New Century Software

The committee provided resources, developed the meeting program, contributed ideas, and much more.

Third, thank you to our PODS Industry Panel. The panelists included:

- Mikel Collins, ConocoPhillips
- Bryan Ferguson, BP
- Kenneth Greer, CenterPoint Energy
- JW Lucas, Enterprise Products Operating
- Tommy Thomas, DCP Midstream

Our moderator was Mike Harris, Anadarko Petroleum. This group was prepared to openly discuss the PODS Association and the PODS Model, including what works and where they want to see enhancements.

Fourth, thank you to the Technical Committee. They have spent a significant amount of time developing and improving the Introduction to PODS Seminar. The Technical Committee Members leading the seminar included:

- Kirk Cameron, New Century Software
- John Chioles, Chevron
- Bryan Ferguson, BP
- Dean Mikkelsen, Colt Geomatics
- Teresa Young, GeoFields

Fifth, thank you to the PODS Spatial Committee. Both the PODS ESRI Geodatabase and PODS Oracle Spatial Working Groups had developed a presentation that included descriptions and demonstrations of their spatialized solutions. Those involved in the presentations included:

- Mike King, BP
- Luke Hutmacher, Willbros Engineering
- Sue Whiting, Ubisense

Sixth, we would like to thank John Jacobi, US DOT PHMSA. Mr. Jacobi and PHMSA have provided strong support of the PODS Association for several years.

Finally, we thank the PODS Board of Directors and Technical Committee. Their willingness to volunteer, participate, and organize have always made this meeting successful. They are the true backbone of our organization.

## Thank You to Our Sponsors

Along with the thank you's above, our sponsors deserve special recognition. Almost 20% of our members agreed to sponsor the PODS User Group Meeting. Many of those sponsors provided funding as well as resources, including personnel, printing, and much more.

## Sponsors

The following companies sponsored:

- [American Innovations](#)
- [CenterPoint Energy](#)
- [CH2M Hill](#)
- [Chevron](#)
- [Coler & Colantonio](#)
- [Colt Geomatics](#)
- [DCP Midstream](#)
- [Eagle Information Mapping](#)
- [GE](#)
- [GeoFields](#)
- [Intergraph](#)
- [Kinder Morgan](#)
- [Michael Baker](#)
- [Moore Resource Systems](#)
- [New Century Software](#)
- [ONEOK](#)
- [Ubisense Consulting](#)

We appreciate the support of our sponsors.

## FAQ - New Releases from PODS

*How does the PODS Association release new versions of the PODS model? What is the process around the release?*

The PODS Association has developed a schedule by which new versions of the PODS model are released. Here are the steps:

1. The Board of Directors evaluates the needs of the pipeline industry, the current state of the PODS model, and the resources of the Technical Committee. The Board then decides along with the Technical Committee what is to be included in the next major release as well as the minor releases.
2. Once the general outline for the major and minor releases have been determined, the Technical Committee begins work. Completing releases takes a significant amount of time and effort.
3. Once the Technical Committee has completed a major or minor release, the release goes to the Board for review and comment. The Board reviews it and then returns any comments to the Technical Committee for review.
4. Once the Board review process is complete, the release goes to members for review and comment. Member comments are compiled and returned to both the Board and Technical Committee for review.
5. Member comments are addressed by both the Board and the Technical Committee. Appropriate changes are made to the data model as necessary.
6. The final release is sent to members.

## Beyond PODS 5.0

The Board of Directors is re-assessing the data model, the pipeline industry, and the needs of our members. To this end, the Board is actively developing a strategic plan for our organization.

We expected to discuss this in detail during the PODS User Group Meeting; however, Hurricane Ike has changed that. Your participation in the PODS Association is critical to our continued growth. Over the past two years, our membership has increased by more than 60%. The standards have also grown significantly. As the Board of Directors looks to the future, we want to know what is important to you. What expectations do you have of the Board and the standards?

We would like for you to help us formally determine the next phase.

Here are some questions to consider:

- What is important to you?
- What enhancements should we consider?
- Where do we need to go next?

If you have ideas or suggestions, please send them to Sheila Wilson at the PODS Association.

## PODS 5.0 Release Status

The PODS 5.0 release has been sent to the Board of Directors for comment. The standards were expected to be released for comment the first week of October. Hurricane Ike has delayed the review process by several weeks; therefore, we expect to release PODS 5.0 for member comment soon with the final release expected early next year.

Your input is what makes the standard work. Please take the time to evaluate and comment as necessary.

## Strange Maps

The [Strange Maps](#) website has been listed here before but the site is continually updated. It's worth a second visit.

## 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 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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