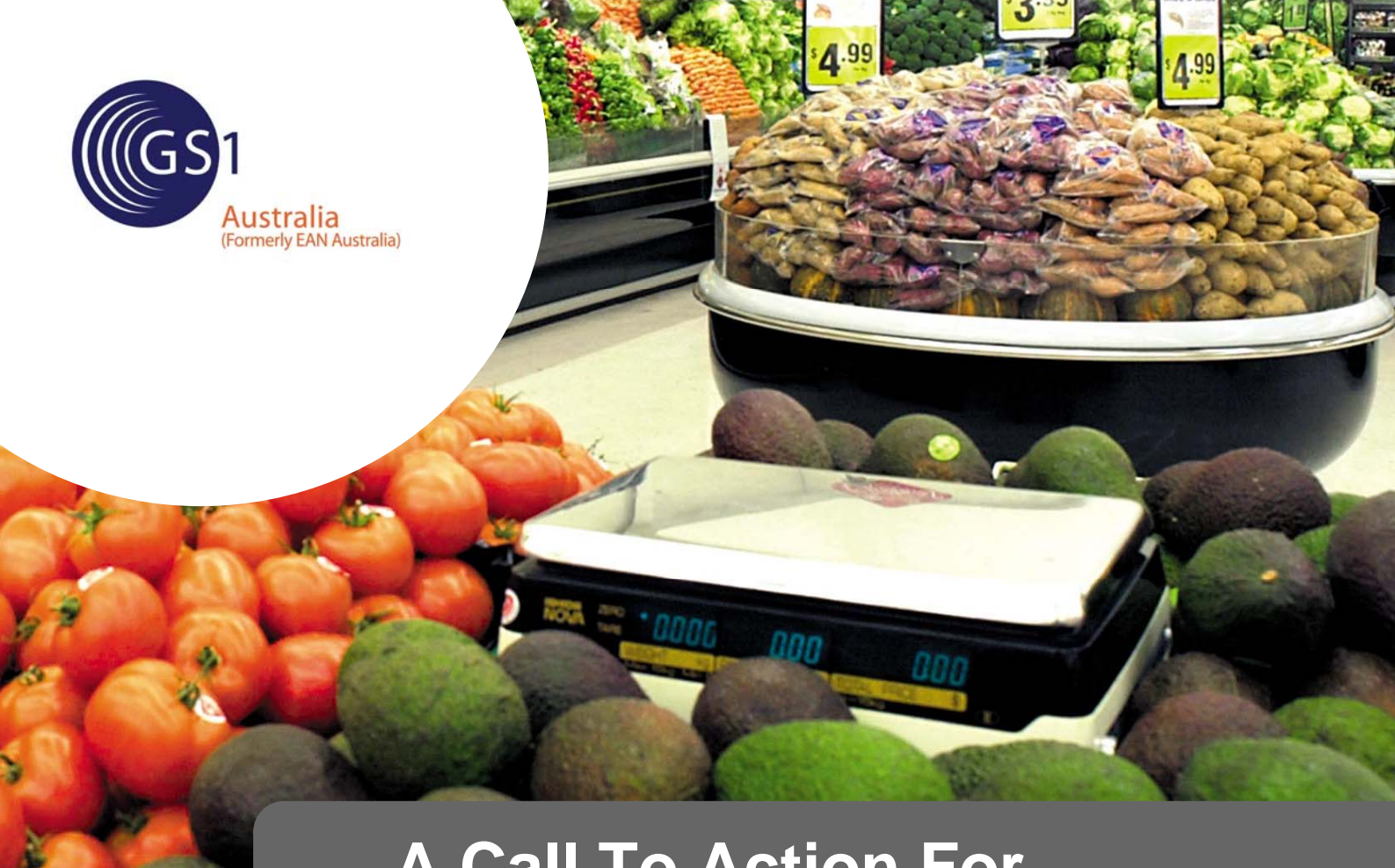




Australia
(Formerly EAN Australia)



A Call To Action For The Australian Fresh Produce Industry

Aus-PIC

Connecting the Australian Fresh Produce Industry.

An open letter to growers, vendors, importers, distributors, wholesalers, resellers and retailers of the fresh produce industry.

Increasingly, for the fresh produce industry, business success is based on efficient supply chain management practices and improving the level of traceability of produce, from field to packer and from packer to retailer.

The globally accepted GS1 System (previously called the EAN•UCC System) is based on an innovative and proven suite of standards that permits organisations of any size to order, track and trace, deliver and pay for goods across the supply chain, anywhere in the world. The GS1 System has been successfully tested and implemented by Australia's retail, grocery, and liquor industries, to name a few. Now the push is on for other industries to gain the benefits of GS1 System supply chain best practice.

Through the automation of business information, the GS1 System drives an increasingly fast, efficient and accurate flow of data between trading partners, a

fundamental factor for the success of any business. The GS1 System allows for continuous improvement in eCommerce supply chain management practices by providing international standards for item identification, data capture, electronic messaging and data synchronisation.

Accurate ordering, delivery, invoicing and product tracking are essential to industry's profitability – now and in the future. Errors rapidly erode profitability. Australian research shows that data errors occur in up to 70% of all business transactions, costing millions of dollars each year

Your trading partners and industry colleagues invite you to embrace a global system that will provide the Australian fresh produce industry with significant savings every year and boost your bottom line.



Aus-PIC - Connecting the Australian Fresh Produce Industry



The undersigned companies announce that we are committed to adopting the GS1 System as an essential foundation to a range of emerging business to business supply chain and eCommerce initiatives. Accordingly, we would call upon all industry participants to commence their preparations for adopting the GS1 System.

Guidelines are being developed by the fresh produce industry and GS1 Australia, the not for profit organisation that administers the global GS1 System (in particular the EAN•UCC standards of numbering, bar coding and electronic messaging) in Australia.

In 2005, the undersigned representative group called the Australian Produce Identification Committee (Aus-PIC) agreed to further develop the GS1 System to support the Australian fresh produce industry with adoption.

The short term objectives for Aus-PIC are to:

- Develop Numbering and Bar Coding Guidelines. (The Numbering and Bar coding Guidelines are already implemented within many Australian industries)
- Schedule an Industry Awareness and Preparedness program
- Promote the use and adoption of a global standard, the GS1 System, to conduct business

With industry wide adoption of the GS1 System, we anticipate the following benefits:

- Ability to track and trace products through your business processes
- More efficient stocktake and inventory control
- Reduction in paper based transactions
- Minimising of manual data entry
- Provide industry with a solid foundation to enhance other eCommerce initiatives and applications.
- Improved business efficiency through improved data integrity between trading partners

How to join us.....

Your decision to be part of this fresh produce industry initiative gives you the support of the fresh produce industry and GS1 Australia. To join the group and adopt the GS1 system, become a member of GS1 Australia.

Joining GS1 Australia is straightforward, but it is important to be properly prepared. Follow these simple steps to make sure your business is ready:

1. Understand how the GS1 System works by visiting GS1 Australia's website at www.gs1au.org
2. Contact GS1 Australia to identify the options for joining.
3. Talk to your trading partners about implementing the GS1 System
4. Consider integrating the GS1 System with your current information systems for seamless, efficient ordering invoicing and stock control.

'The Fresh Food People'
WOOLWORTHS



For Further information on the GS1 Industry Program visit:
www.gs1au.org or call 1300 366 033

