



GS1net User Guide ‘Cookbook’

For Suppliers implementing and using GS1net in Australia
& New Zealand

March 2012

GS1net Overview

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| Mar 2010 | Update community references from 'Australia' to 'Australia & New Zealand'. | M.Robb |
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Audience

This document is designed to be the reference for all suppliers implementing and maintaining data in GS1net, including the National Product Catalogue (NPC) for healthcare. It is a central repository of and directory to (via links or references) all the relevant information required to successfully implement and maintain your GS1net/NPC catalogue. Suppliers should use the GS1 Services Support team throughout their GS1net journey.

Note that this document is not intended to be the only reference document for users who are:

- a) implementing an integrated solution directly from their back office systems to GS1net, or
- b) GS1net™ Certified Product providers developing/maintaining GS1net integration software

Whilst these users (in a and b) will find this document useful with respect to the overall choreography and user types involved in data synchronisation via GS1net, they should also liaise directly with GS1 Services Support to access more technical support and testing services.

The GS1net “Cookbook” is intended for Australian and New Zealand based suppliers supplying to Australian and New Zealand based Trading Partners.

What is GS1net?

GS1net is the data synchronisation solution for the Australian and New Zealand community. GS1net enables you to enter, validate, store and maintain all your product, pricing and other related trade information in a single location. You can then easily share this global standards-based information with the trading partners you work with, across all industry sectors, both in Australia, N.Z. and around the world.

GS1net is a **certified data pool** that is part of a global network, the **GS1 Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN)**, a powerful environment for secure and continuous synchronisation of accurate data.

n.b. For a glossary of terms, refer to section ‘GS1net Concepts and Key Terminology’

GS1 Australia & N.Z are working with members in more than eighteen industry sectors and GS1net is endorsed locally across more than five of these sectors including Supermarkets, Liquor, Healthcare, Automotive Aftermarket and Hardware. Many businesses in these sectors are seeing real business benefits delivered through using GS1net.

GS1net is underpinned by its user driven community – GS1 Australia and GS1 New Zealand members who have subscribed to the service and partake in user groups and other governance groups to drive the direction of development in partnership with GS1 Australia and GS1 New Zealand.

GS1net benefits for users

- GS1net provides a single channel for the maintenance and synchronisation of master data for all trading partners
- Increases the efficiency and accuracy of communicating information by removing the need for paper based “item submission” and “price change” forms
- Facilitates the adoption of industry based standards and uptake of the one standard process for providing item details to retailers and other data recipients.
- Provides a fundamental tool to enable accurate business-to-business electronic commerce transactions
- Help to reduce lost supplier and retailer sales, "Out of Stocks" and instances of excess stock levels caused by ordering errors
- Help to reduce ordering errors and costs associated with processing invoice reconciliation, credit claims and returns

- Allows for the identification and reduced occurrences of retail scanning of "unknown items"
- Helps prevent a reduction in supplier or retailer margins that are caused by incorrect pricing
- Helps eliminate the rejection of deliveries to stores or warehouses resulting from price discrepancies and incorrectly ordered/delivered items
- Provides access to images and dimensions for shelf space management
- Significantly reducing the time and cost of introducing new products into the market
- Will lead to an overall reduction in supply chain costs for both supplier and retailer

GS1net Lifecycle – annual releases and sub-releases

GS1net is part of the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) and as such users should plan for one significant GS1net release per year. In addition, GS1net users can expect one to two lower-impact releases, which are typically related to functionality improvements requested by our local community.

GS1 Australia and GS1 New Zealand are working hard to minimise any impacts of these releases, however, given the global (GDSN) nature of GS1net and additional local user requirements, this may not be always possible, especially if there are new features implemented that we would like to use.

User Types

The GS1net workflow involves two user types:

1. **Data Source or Supplier** – usually a manufacturer or importer; this is the catalogue owner who populates item and price master data into their GS1net catalogue. When discussing technical aspects of GS1net the term “Data Source” is often used. When referring to the commercial relationship the term “Supplier” is usually used.
2. **Data Recipient or Trading Partner** – this may be a Retailer or a Health Jurisdiction, a wholesaler or other type of business entity¹ which is a customer of suppliers on the system. When discussing technical aspects of GS1net the term “Data Recipient” is often used. When referring to the commercial relationship the term “Trading Partner” is usually used.

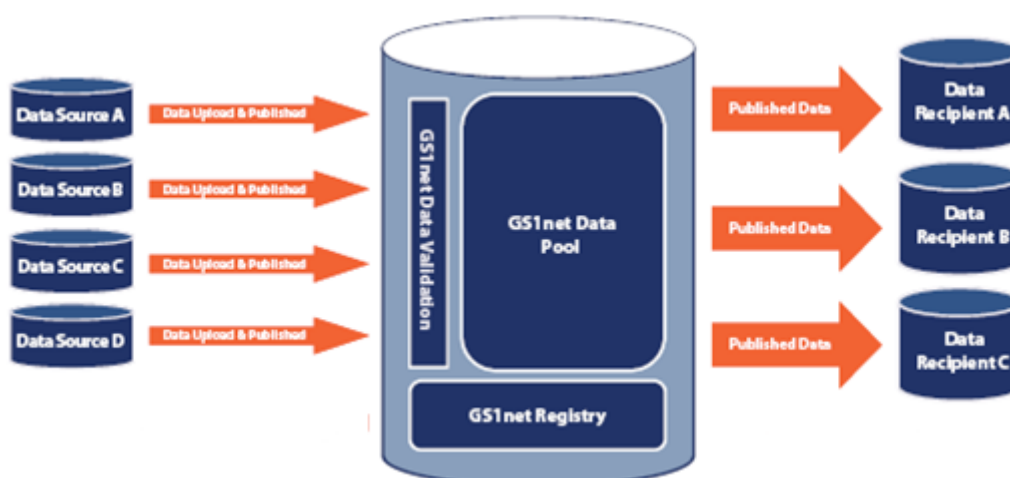


Fig. 1 – GS1net User Types – Data Source and Data Recipient

Fig. 1 above depicts, at a high level, Data Sources uploading and then publishing their data to Data Recipients. Published data is then accessible by those Data Recipients, however, each Data Recipient

¹ excluding end consumers

will choose how to access the data, whether manually or by subscribing to your data, which will automatically push it and enable synchronisation with that Recipient.

Wholesalers – a special type of user

Wholesalers are both suppliers to customers and customers of their suppliers and so will be both data source and data recipient user types on GS1net.

Whilst the Supplier section of this document is relevant to wholesalers in their supply capacity, it is recommended that wholesalers contact the GS1 Services Support team to map out the best way to function as both data source and recipient via GS1net.

GS1net Concepts and Key Terminology

This section contains useful terms and concepts that you need to know before starting your GS1net/NPC Project. There is a full glossary of terms later in this document.

ATTRIBUTE

A piece of information reflecting a characteristic related to an identification number (Global Trade Item Number) - For example: a trade item description or expiry date.

BASE UNIT

Lowest-level unit of the trade item hierarchy — a base unit trade item cannot have child items. The base unit is usually also the consumer unit i.e. goes through retail point of sale, although not always.

CASE

Highest Level unit of the trade item hierarchy – This is commonly known as the “Shipper” or “Outer” and is often flagged as the Orderable Unit.

CATALOGUE REGISTRATION

Applying for a GS1net Catalogue in order to add and maintain your data for release to your Data Recipients

CERTIFIED DATA POOL

GS1 certified data pools are electronic catalogues of standardised item master data. They can serve both as a source and recipient of master data, and can be run by a GS1 Member Organisation or service provider. The latest list of GDSN certified data pools available on <http://www.gs1.org/gdsn>

These data pools conform to GS1 System standards, confidentiality and integrity of user information, global interoperability, Global Validation Rules, and global search functionality.

To maintain its “certified” status, GS1net must follow a standard version release schedule. Releases can be expected annually.

CERTIFIED (GS1net) PRODUCT

Sometimes referred to as “middleware”, GS1net certified product providers can assist with maintaining and uploading data onto your GS1net catalogue. The product providers have a GS1net certified product+, sometimes referred to as a **middleware** product which will assist with your data maintenance. Partners may also create a customised solution that fully integrates with your internal systems.

GS1net DATA DICTIONARY

A set of attributes in the GS1net Data Model - for example: GTIN, GLN, Price Value. It does not include all attributes in the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN), only those used by Australia and N.Z. An attribute can be classified as a party, item or price related attribute.

DATA LOAD STATUS REPORT – (DLSR)

This is the report from GS1net that confirms your data load, or errors that may have occurred. It is recommended that users reconcile every data upload with the corresponding DLSR to ensure all records loaded correctly.

DATA RECIPIENT & INDUSTRY SECTOR REQUIREMENTS (DRISR)

This is a critically important document for anyone implementing GS1net as it defines the set of data that must be populated for your industry; typically only a subset of the total GS1net data set.

This document links to the DRISR via hyperlinks in the Data Set chapter. Alternatively, the DRISR may be accessed directly from the GS1net web site.

All detailed definitions of each data attribute referred to in the DRISR, can be found in the Data Set chapter of this document.

DATA SYNCHRONISATION

Data Synchronisation is the continuous and automated exchange of item and price master data between and within organizations. Synchronized data eliminates errors in data alignment between trading partners, which creates supply chain information efficiencies, and thus ensures accurate data in transactions.

DDF File

Delimited Data File (DDF) format for loading data to GS1net

GLN

The GS1 Identification Key used to identify physical locations or legal entities. The key is comprised of a GS1 Company Prefix, Location Reference, and Check Digit. The Global Location Number (GLN) is used to uniquely identify a physical location or legal entity. GLNs can be used to identify a supplier, a retailer, a health jurisdiction, an area health service, a state health jurisdiction or a hospital.

GLOBAL DATA SYNCHRONISATION NETWORK - GDSN

The GS1 Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) is an automated, standards-based global environment that enables secure and continuous data synchronisation, allowing all partners to maintain consistent item data in their systems. The GS1 GDSN connects trading partners to the GS1 Global Registry® through their selected GDSN-certified data pools.

GLOBAL REGISTRY

Stores details of all parties and items on GDSN certified data pools. It performs a key role in the GDSN network architecture.

Directory for the registration of unique catalogue items and parties contains a Global listing of GTIN/GLN/Target Market information to ensure that no product within the Global Registry is duplicated.

GS1net Live

Your trading partner will declare your company GS1net Live if

- Your company has already been declared GS1net Ready
- The data is in parity. No discrepancies between GS1net and their internal systems

- Trading partner has subscribed to your catalogue

GS1net Ready

GS1net Ready is a term used to describe the process that a supplier undertakes with GS1 Australia/N.Z. to load, validate and publish Item and pricing information on GS1net. This process ensures that the data being loaded is complete, up to date, accurate, standardised and that it satisfies all of the GS1net data validation rules.

Each industry and geography (Aus / NZ) can have slightly different requirements for achieving this status. For example, the Australian grocery industry includes a process with the ATO to verify correct GST rates before a supplier can be made "GS1net Ready" for grocery. This step may not apply in other industries or geographies. Refer to your industry's *GS1net Ready Checklist* to confirm the steps you need to take.

GTIN

All products in GS1net are identified with a Global Trade Item Number (GTIN). This is the unique identifier (usually represented as a bar code printed on the product's packaging) assigned by the product brand owner or supplier from the GS1 Company Prefix allocated by any GS1 Member Organization. The GTIN is also used to identify inner packs, multi packs and shippers as it is a unique identifier for each level of a Trade Item Hierarchy.

GUI – Graphic User Interface

Graphic User interface which allows users to enter data online on GS1net.

INNER PACK OR PACK

Intermediate Unit which is usually represented as a package within the Case (outer most level)

ITEM MASTER DATA

Data Attributes providing general information about a particular item such as description, dimensions and classification codes. This information can be shared with all the trading partners and remains relatively static.

LOCAL REGISTRY

Is a list of basic product information, images and attachments stored in a local data base available to Australian and New Zealand users that can be accessed from your catalogue main menu.

Specifically allows cross catalogue search and download, i.e. across multiple vendor catalogues using search criteria such as product classification, key word search, product hierarchy level, with/without images etc.

MIDDLEWARE

GS1net certified product providers can assist with maintaining and uploading data onto your GS1net catalogue. The product providers have a GS1net certified product, sometimes referred to as a **middleware** product which will assist with your data maintenance. Partners may also create a customised solution that fully integrates with your internal systems.

NPC

The National Product Catalogue is a single repository of product, pricing and healthcare data for all Health Industry Product Categories for the purpose of data synchronisation. These categories include pharmaceutical, medical devices (including orthopaedics, implants, dental, imaging, etc), catering and food services, cleaning products, etc. The NPC is hosted on GS1net™.

NPC Populated

Status granted to your company by the GS1 Services Support team when you have completed all steps in the NPC Ready Checklist for all items that are on contract with 1 or more jurisdictions.

NPC Ready

Status granted to your company by the GS1 Services Support team when you have completed all steps in the NPC Ready Checklist for your entire product range.

PRICING MASTER DATA

Data attributes providing the price of a particular item, the place/location where the price applies as well as charges and allowances. This information is private per trading partner and dynamic in nature i.e. typically changes over time.

PUBLICATION

Release of Item/Pricing data to the Trading Partner - This is normally the last step in becoming GS1net/NPC Ready

TARGET MARKET

The target market is the geographic location where the supplier makes the item available to Retailers. Note that this indicator does not in any way govern where the Retailer may sell the item to customers.

TRADE ITEM

A trade item is any item (product or service) about which there is a need to retrieve pre-defined information and that may be priced, ordered or invoiced at any point in any supply chain. Trade Items are allocated a GTIN – Global Trade Item Number; this is the recommended primary item identifier and is part of the key for every trade item record in GS1net.

TRADE ITEM HIERARCHY

A group of related trade items, in a parent-child relationship, a trade item hierarchy is sometimes referred to as a “product hierarchy”.

A 3 level trade item hierarchy is generally composed of a Base Unit an Inner Pack and a Case/Shipper. The Case is parent of the Inner Pack. The inner Pack is the parent of the Base Unit.

Two level hierarchies are also common, having no inner pack level.

Some trade item hierarchies have a common base unit, such as a single 250ml can packed into both a case of 24 and a case of 48.

UOM

Acronym for Unit of Measure.