PRODUCT INFORMATION COMMITTEE
CATALOG CAPABILITIES PROFILE

NAME OF CATALOG: GLOBAL DATA SYNCHRONIZATION NETWORK

NAME OF SPONSOR: GS1

CONTACT PERSON(S): Robert Noe, GS1 US

I. SCOPE OF PRODUCT COVERAGE:

How long has the catalog been in use?
The GS1 Catalog has been in use since 1999, when it was launched under the name of UCCnet. Some of the significant milestones since then include the 2004 technology transformation that added network support for multiple worldwide competing Data Pools (now known as the Global Data Synchronization network); the merger with the Transora Data Pool and subsequent name change to 1SYNC in 2005; and the addition of our 5000th customer, in 2008. It has and continues to be a part of GS1 US (formerly the Uniform Code Council (UCC)) which was founded in 1973.

This catalog, now known as the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) is based on the GS1 system of supply chain standards. GS1, formerly the Uniform Code Council and EANCOM, has been in existence for over 30 years helping companies increase supply chain efficiency through the use of standards for bar codes, RFID, product description, and business transaction communication.   GS1's most widely used standard is the bar code found on retail products, which is electronically scanned to support billions of transactions daily around the world.

The Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) was created as an industry endorsed initiative to overcome product data inaccuracies and increase efficiencies among trading partners and their supply chains. GDSN is a network of certified data pools that enable product information to be captured and exchanged in a secure environment conforming to global standards. The standards body that governs the GDSN is GS1.

The GDSN enables the registration and publication of product information (e.g., descriptions, weight, dimensions, etc). Suppliers send this data to their chosen data pool. The data pool (e.g., 1SYNC) then checks the data for compliance to GS1 (EAN.UCC) standards and validates it with demand side partners via the

GS1 Global Registry, ensuring that all trading partners are using identical, updated standards-compliant data.

Essentially, the GDSN facilitates the synchronization of Item data between supply-side and demand-side trading partners. Implementing GDSN standards-based electronic synchronization services forms a non-proprietary basis for collaborative capabilities among trading partners.
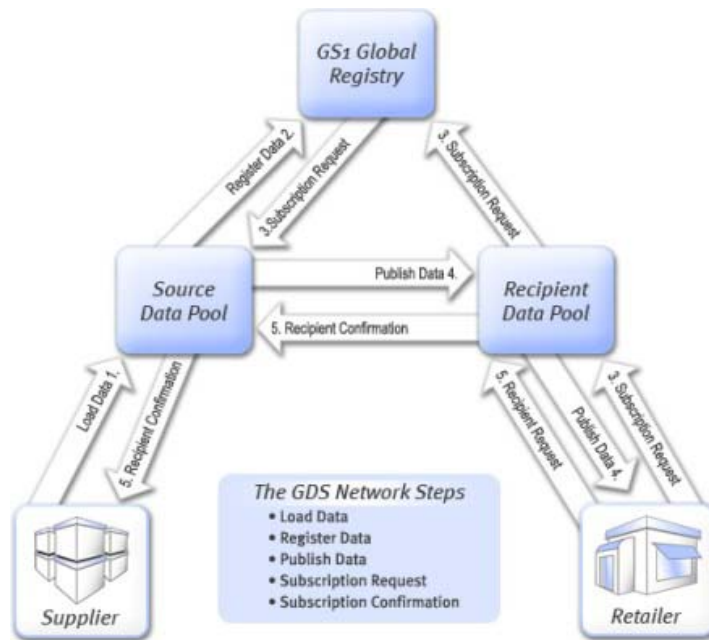
What industry sectors use this catalog as their first choice to publish product information?
- General Retail and Consumer Products
- Food and Beverage
- Tobacco
- Pet Care and Pet Food
- Baby Care
- Beauty Personal Care and Hygiene
- Clothing
- Footwear
- Personal Accessories
- General Merchandise (Furniture & Furnishing, Kitchen Merchandise,
- Musical Instruments
- Toys & Games
- Stationery
- Audio & Visual
- Communication,
- Computing

- Printed & Reference Materials
- Books and Periodicals
- Alcohol, Wine and Spirits
- Sports & Well being
- Arts & Crafts,
- Outdoor & Camping
- Hardlines / DIY (Lawn & Garden Supplies; Building Materials, Hardware; Tools & Equipment Hand; Safety & Storage; Electrical Supplies; Plumbing; Heat,Ventilation,Air Conditioning)
- Health Care – Retail Pharmacy (including over the counter part of Health Care), Medical Surgical (in pre-production trial now in anticipation of legislated FDA regulation requiring standardized product identification)
- Automotive Aftermarket
- Home Appliances

Describe the strength of the catalog in providing product classification information for different supply chains using the separate page titled "Coverage by Product Set." *Please enter "S" for Strong, "M" for Moderate, "L" for Limited, and two dashes (--) for incomplete or no coverage.*

SUPPORT FOR PRODUCT CHARACTERIZATION:

What global product characterizations (GS1 GPC, eCl@ss, UNSPSC) are supported in the catalog?
The 1SYNC catalog currently supports the following product characterizations: GPC, UDEX, UNSPSC, ICC (Interim Class Codes), AMECE, CBL, CCG, EANFIN, IFDA (International Food Distributors Association), IFLS5, X4, EUDS (European Union Dairy Subsidy), GS1PL. The catalog has the capability to support additional product characterizations, as well as synchronize the right characterization based on the data recipient.

Does the catalog support the use of attribute or property value pairs for those dictionaries that use them (e.g., GPC and eCl@ss)?
The Key Structural Component of GPC at the lowest level is the Brick. The business rules and definitions of the GPC Brick have been designed to enable users to assign every product bought and sold to a unique GPC Brick.

In the world of buying and selling products, each buying organization and selling organization typically has its own proprietary Merchandise Hierarchy and schema for buying, merchandising, and selling products. The Brick designation (and its corresponding attributes) was designed to allow each organization to map the Brick into their respective internal proprietary Schema. In order to group the Bricks in standardized framework, GS1 users have defined the need for a 4-level hierarchy to identify all products from their segment (industry

vertical) down to the category (brick) level. These levels include: Segment, Family, Class, Brick.
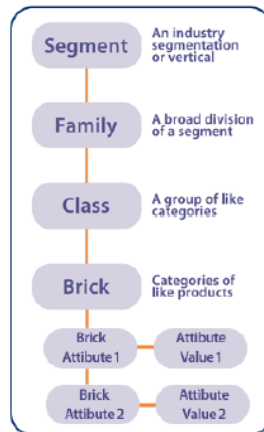
At the Brick level, additional attributes can be defined to provide further grouping capability and more detailed product description characteristics can be further defined with standardized attributes from the Global Data Dictionary(GDD) in the specific product master data record.

LEVEL OF CATALOG ADOPTION:

What languages does the catalog support?
The languages the 1SYNC catalog supports include: English, Spanish, Dutch, French, German, and Portuguese. As the need arises, it has the capability to support additional languages, including special characters.

What indications of active industry adoption and use are there? What level of use is seen for each region of the world?
There is significant use of the GDSN by industry sectors in various areas of the world. Some of that use is well documented in some of the upcoming areas. Different sectors offer unique challenges for data synchronization. 1SYNC's cutting-edge technology, depth of services, standards advocacy, and customer support, work together to meet the specialized needs of suppliers and retailers. Our expertise as the leading provider of data synchronization solutions for trading communities allows us to create scalable and easy-to-use options for companies of all sizes.

Consumer Package Goods (CPG) was the first sector to enable data synchronization and, therefore, has the most implemented retailers and suppliers. Grocers of all sizes are now synchronizing data with their suppliers. Some of those already synchronizing data are: **Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES)**, Carrefour, **DOD**, Metro, Fareway, McLane, Safeway, Walgreen, Best Buy, AHOLD, Schnucks Market, SUPERVALU, Target, Wakefern,

Wal-Mart, and Wegmans. **Defense Commisary (DECA)** is preparing to use GDSN.

The Alcohol Beverage Industry (ABI) is well on its way to standardizing electronic commerce through data synchronization. The ABI Electronic Commerce Council (ABI EC) believes data synchronization will be the launch pad for all future global industry initiatives.

1SYNC has been actively synchronizing data in the Hardlines industry for many years. From facilitating the creation and standardization of the necessary data attributes for the Hardlines industry, to working on standardizing retailer specific selling and marketing attributes in the Hardlines sector. 1SYNC clearly plays an important role in the advancement of the hardlines industry through work with leading retailers (Lowes, Home Depot, Ace Hardware), and manufacturers (Black and Decker, GE, Georgia Pacific, etc).

Leaders in the $300 billion school and office products industry have realized that data synchronization can improve their speed to market and increase supply chain efficiency. Several major players in this industry have been instrumental in developing the standards for the office vertical. 1SYNC has worked with office supply retailers like Office Depot and suppliers like Sauder, 3M, BIC and others to develop a process by which these trading partners can exchange item information within the Global Data Synchronization Network.

There has never been more of an immediate need for proven data synchronization in healthcare than there is today. Hospitals today report that up to 20% of their supply chain costs are due to overhead associated with clearing up confusion caused by non-standardized product data across their operation. The same product can have different product numbers, different names, and different spellings for the manufacturer making it difficult to order products and apply the correct discounts from their Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) contracts. Even ordering quantities can be confusing where an item ordered as an "each" could be a dozen items or a box full of items.

Provide examples of how the catalog is being used in international trade and what companies are using it.
GDSN is being used around the world by end users and their suppliers. Today there are almost 3.2 million Global Trade Item Number (GTINS) registered with 17 Certified Data Pools across the globe, and that number continues to grow.

Registered GTINs
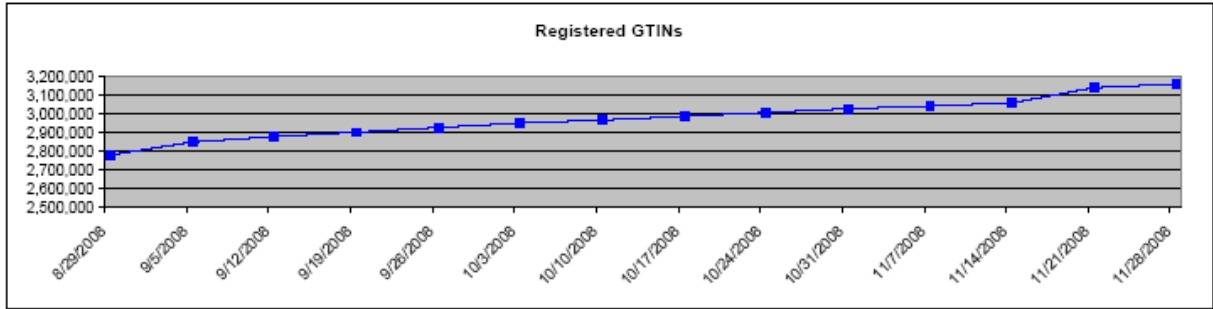
Today there are 159 global retailers and 17,579 global suppliers actively engaged in sending and receiving item specific data across the GDSN.

GS1 Global Registry Statistics
Detailed Report as of November 28, 2008

GS1 GDSN

	TOTALS	1SYNC[1]	SA2 Worldsync (Agentrics)2 (Sinfos)3	GXS	GS1 UK	GS1 Columbia (CABASnet)[4]	Big Hammer	Commport
Active Data Pools	17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Trading Partner GLNs	17,756	6,823	1,394	12	85	4,984	659	99
Retailers	159	102	19	2	1	17	1	1
Suppliers	17,597	6,721	1,375	10	84	4,967	658	98
Subscriptions Sent	605,480	535,337	1,770	4,295	13	970	62,349	108
Subscriptions Matched	532,538	426,845	537	96	49	308	103,255	145
Subscriptions Matched by Item	5,758,530	5,072,091	121,682	226	984	246,300	160,640	27,767
Recipient DP Subscription Matches	5,758,530	2,978,787	924,925	669,743	532	90,137	54,365	66,758
Registered Items (GTINs)	3,160,484	2,546,729	64,114	113	652	163,928	148,258	19,261
GTINs Coded with GPC	2,144,561							

[1] 1SYNC Includes activity for: Transora, GS1 Netherlands (GS1 DAS), Canada

2,3 SA2 Worldsync includes activity for US, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Russia, and Poland

[4] Cabasnet includes activity for: Peru, Columbia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Guatamala

For more information, visit www.gs1.org/gdsn

	TOTALS	GS1 France (Parangon)	GS1 Hong Kong	GS1 Taiwan	GS1 Slovakia (E-Katalog)	GS1 Spain (AECOC)	GS1 Malta (MEMA)[5]	GS1 Australia (GS1net Australiasia)[6]
Active Data Pools	17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Trading Partner GLNs	17,756	38	8	2	50	282	3	1,573
Retailers	159	5	1	0	0	4	0	5
Suppliers	17,597	33	7	2	50	278	3	1,568
Subscriptions Sent	605,480	65	1	0	0	282	0	275
Subscriptions Matched	532,538	16	66	224	12	233	1	319
Subscriptions Matched by Item	5,758,530	380	68	903	26	32,504	9	48,906
Recipient DP Subscription Matches	5,758,530	26,943	1	0	0	307,193	0	327,786
Registered Items (GTINs)	3,160,484	193	85	453	101	37,442	9	109,653
GTINs Coded with GPC	2,144,561							

[5] MEMA includes activity for: Malta, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Morocco

[6] GS1net Australiasia includes activity for: Australia and New Zealand

LEVEL OF INDUSTRY SUPPORT FOR THE CATALOG:

How many supporting members does the catalog sponsor organization have?

GS1 is a fully integrated global organization, with 108 Member Organizations serving over one million companies doing business across 150 countries. GS1 US *[formerly the Uniform Code Council (UCC)]* is the Member Organization of GS1 that serves users in the United States of America. As such, it is the national implementation organization of the GS1 System in the United States. GS1 US currently serves over 260,000 U.S. member companies.

The GS1 System is the most widely used supply chain standards system in the world. Utilized in over thirty sectors and industries including healthcare, fast moving consumer goods (FMCG), transport, defense, and many others, http://www.gs1.org/productssolutions/barcodes/overview/the GS1 System has provided benefits to companies and consumers around the world for over thirty years.

The principles of GS1 Identification Number allocation ensure non-significant, secure and globally unique numbers that can be used by all trading partners, independent of industry sector or location. In order to do that, GS1 Member Organizations assign GS1 *Company Prefix* to each user company in their region. The GS1 *Company Prefix* provides the foundation for generating all of the GS1 Identification Numbers. GS1 Member Organizations also support users with

rules, guidelines, best practices, etc. for assigning individual numbers pursuant to the GS1 allocation rules and standards.

Each GS1 user assigns/generates their own Identification Numbers based on their GS1 *Company Prefix* and the GS1 standards and allocation rules. Users can generate identification numbers manually, or use number generator software. (*Numerous vendors both in and outside the USA provide software for generating GS1 Identification Numbers for end users pursuant to GS1 standards and allocation rules.*)

Typically what companies and industry sectors are the catalog's leaders and subject matter experts drawn from?
Subject matter expertise is drawn from user companies in those sectors which are implementing the GDSN, such as CPG, retail, grocery, hardlines, and general merchandise by companies such as: Ahold, Best Buy, Carrefour, Wal-Mart, Target, J&J, P&G, Unilever, L'Oreal. Implementors may be from sectors such as food & beverage, or they may be from sectors preparing for implementation, such as Healthcare.

What improvements or expansions are planned?
There are currently expansion plans underway in several key business segments, the foremost of which is healthcare, then also in Foodservice, Wine and Spirits, Maintenance Repair and Operations, Mechanical Supply. Digital Asset Management has completed its proof of concept and is beginning implementation.

What is the business plan to sustain the organization's goals?
Meet the needs of our members and continue to move commerce forward. GS1 is developing support for selling and marketing attributes that will support B2C more effectively

CHANGE REQUEST PROCESS:

Describe the Change Request (CR) Process?

The standards development process of the GSMP begins with a request for a new solution or a request to change an existing standard. The process consists of six steps followed from Change Request Submission to Publication of the Standard through GSMP:
1. Statement of Business Need
2. Requirements Gathering & Analysis
3. Business Solution Design (BSD)
4. Technical Solution Design (TSD)
5. Pilot

6. Posting
Organizationally, the GSMP has Oversight Bodies, BCS Groups, Business Requirements Groups (BRGs), Work Groups (WG), and a Technology Centre. Oversight Bodies are involved in governance of the GSMP and consist of the following committees:
- GS1 Management Board: responsible for determining the global strategy for GS1, and
- ratifying changes to new or existing GS1 System standards).
- GS1 Board Committee for Standards (BCS): provides strategic guidance to GSMP; assesses progress of Initiatives and ratifies Process Group Work Orders (WO), and PCN recommendations.
- Data Accuracy – Develops and maintains GDSN Package Measurement Rules & Tolerance related Change Requests

BRG related Work Groups are teams of participants formed for the purpose of working on Complex Change Requests or GSMP Initiatives included in the GS1 Business Plan and specified in a Business Case Document (BCD) and detailed in a Project Description Document (PDD). The relationship with the BRG is specific to the standards areas being developed. BRGs facilitate work groups by populating them with members who then liaise between these working bodies. The Technology Centre is the umbrella group of the technology experts responsible for coordination across the different development activities and is composed of the following groups:
- eCom Technology Group (eTG)
- BarCodes & Identification Technology Group (BTG)
- Technical Development Teams (TDT)
- Modelling & GDD
- eCom

What are the eligibility requirements to vote on CRs?
(From Section 3.3.3 of the GSMP Manual)
Voting privileges within all GSMP groups are reserved to members that are employed by a member company in good standing of a GS1 Member Organization (MO), GS1 Global Office, or a GS1 Member Organization. GDSN Inc. certified Data Pools are eligible to vote within the GDSN BRG and its Work Groups. Solution providers are not eligible to vote within any GSMP group.

How many CRs were submitted and processed in the past 12 months?
Over 200

What are the eligibility requirements to submit a CR? May government entities submit CRs?
Anyone including governments can submit a CR

What are the eligibility requirements to vote on CRs?

Membership & Voting

The Global Standards Management Process is open and transparent. Users can become involved in the GSMP as a member (with voting rights) or as a participant (without voting rights). Anyone can submit a request to modify an existing standard or to create a new one and then may take an active role in the development of a solution, or act as an observer as the GMSP does the work. There are six primary design objectives for BRG/WG membership and voting inside GSMP:

1. Facilitate BRG/Work Group decision making process
2. Adequately represent Specific Supply Chain Expertise (Retailer, Supplier, etc.)
3. Ensure adequate implementation commitment to approve a standard
4. Ensure continuity to protect legacy implementations built on existing standards
5. Provide transparency and simplicity in voting
6. Ensure minimum participation thresholds are met

3.3.1. Membership Rules

■ Anyone can participate in a BRG/WG by filling out an online membership application form through the GS1 Community Room and selecting the specific BRG/Work Group desired. BRG/WG members must have process expertise specific to the scope of work.

■ There will be a 30-day enrolment period to apply to be a BRG/WG member as specified on the GSMP Call-to-Action.

The number of BRG/WG members is unlimited and there are no regional composition requirements.

■ Membership applications are submitted via the **GS1 Community Room** website. The application must include support from the company that employs them and one GS1 Member Organization (MO). Upon receipt by the BRG/WG Process Manager, membership changes will be noted in the minutes of the next BRG/WG session (call or meeting) and maintained in the GS1 Community Room Roster.

How many vote on a typical CR?

Voting numbers can vary dramatically from one CR to another. However, there is a minimum requirement (from Section 3.3.3 of the GSMP Manual): A minimum of twelve parties committed to support the development and implementation of a standard is required for an eBallot to be legitimate. Of the twelve, a minimum threshold of two parties from either side of the trading partner relationship along with two MOs is necessary. In the case of GDSN standards, a GDSN Certified Data Pool is considered as an MO.

LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

What agreements must an organization sign to use the catalog?
An organization must sign a membership agreement to have access to the GDSN. Membership agreements run yearly and fees are based off of a rate card that matrixes an organization total traded product revenue value with a price/fee.

What limitations exist on the use of the content?
GDSN is a permission based network, trading partners jointly agree to the transmittal and usage of the data as applicable to their relationship.

Is the catalog sponsor organization a not-for-profit corporation?
GS1 US™ is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the adoption and implementation of standards-based, global supply chain solutions. Under its auspices, GS1 US operates three wholly owned subsidiaries, 1SYNC™, EPCglobal US™, and RosettaNet. GS1 US also manages the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC®) for the United Nations Development Program. EPCglobal Inc™ is a joint venture of the GS1 US and GS1. GS1 US-based solutions, including business processes, XML standards, EDI transaction sets, and the bar code identification standards of the GS1 System are currently used by more than one million member companies worldwide.

BARRIERS TO INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION:

What barriers might limit mid- or small-size companies from using the catalog to publish their product descriptions?
There are no barriers restricting companies use by size. Data entry tools are available, and have been developed by 1SYNC to allow companies of any size to publish their product data. Today product information can be manually loaded through the 1SYNC product Data Driver, can be loaded through a flat file conversion, or can be loaded machine to machine for more sophisticated users. There are a large number of small to mid-size companies around the world using the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN).

ELECTRONIC ACCESS:

What electronic methods exist for accessing catalog content (e.g., transfer of data files, web service real-time inquiries, etc.)?
A web browser service can be accessed from the GS1 global website. The browser provides User support in 5 languages and enables companies to search the entire product hierarchy. A download facility enables Users to copy product hierarchy information into their local computers via XML file transfer, or a flat

file download. Trade Item Application Program Interface (API) will be available in 2009.

Could a synchronization process or web services be used to maintain current product characterization information for all products with a Global Trade Item Number?
Yes, all of our customers are using a synchronization process to receive new items, as well as changes to existing items.

What data format can the catalog content be provided in (e.g., XML, Excel spreadsheet, delimited file)?
The download facility supports XML, Excel, and flat file formats.

If there is no real-time query support, how frequently could updates on products be obtained?
On Demand - Real time query support is provided through the user interface.

What services do you provide to supply chain companies to support the integration of published catalog information into their information systems?
Data synchronization success requires experienced support for both suppliers and retailers. 1SYNC has a variety of services based on our implementations of thousands of items for thousands of suppliers and retailers. These services include:

Customer Support
1SYNC provides 24-hour customer support for our community.

Education and Training
Our education and training program includes overviews of industry concepts, best practices, and hands-on training utilizing our solutions.

Implementation Support
1SYNC utilizes a methodology for supplier enablement developed through implementing more items, in more geographies, than any other Data Pool.

Supplier Enablement
The Supplier Enablement program supports supplier adoption through a combination marketing, education, and training program for companies of all sizes.

Standards Expertise
1SYNC has full-time experts devoted to understanding, guiding, and advocating customers in the creation and implementation of GSMP standards.

What security controls are used to safeguard data integrity and to protect against unauthorized electronic access?
There are 3 levels of security for the 1SYNC applications. An outer layer of security manages whether the user will be passed to web server security, and

from there it gets routed to application server security. 1SYNC also takes part in 3rd party security audits.

What ISO standards (e.g., ISO 22745) for data formatting and data exchange do you currently comply with or plan to comply with?
GS1 plays an active role in a number of ISO groups with ISO/IEC/JTC1/SC31 being the most important. ISO/IEC JTC1/SC31 is focused on Automatic Identification and Data Capture (AIDC). The secretariat for ISO/IEC JTC1/SC31 is provided by GS1 US (through the American National Standard Institute) and many GS1 Member Organizations take part in this process at all levels

COST OF RECURRING ACCESS AND DATA TRANSFER:

What fees are charged to industry members to enter, update, or retrieve product information from the catalog? Please describe these fully and especially in terms of:
-Start up or "initializing" fees;
-Connectivity, system interface, or testing fees;
-Fees that are assessed by file size or have volume boundaries;
-Fees assessed by number of requests or access frequency;
-Monthly overhead or minimum usage fees; and
-Any other fee or charge categories and their basis of operation.
As a neutral, Not For Profit organization committed to enhancing the collaborative processes through which companies trade, and dedicated to improving and streamlining the supply chain, participating companies become members and are subject to membership fees that are based on that company's annual overall traded revenue.

Annual Sales (In Millions of U.S.$)	1SYNC Fees
<= 1	$ 600
>1 to 5	$ 1,175
>5 to 10	$ 1,675
>10 to 15	$ 2,150
>15 to 20	$ 2,575
>20 to 25	$ 3,250
>25 to 50	$ 4,375
>50 to 75	$ 7,250
>75 to 100	$ 10,125
>100 to 500	$ 13,875

Note: Dated 12/30/2008 and subject to change

DATA QUALITY:

What web site support tools, training, or other assistance is available to catalog users?

- Training – Customized training on industry standards for product identification, product measurement, additional product attribute definition and bar-code printing. Training is available both in-person and over the internet.
- Data Quality Starter Kit Workshop – Two day on-site training and consulting workshop covering data error root cause analysis, master data management processes, industry product data standards, building a business case for product data quality and the industry data quality framework.
- Documentation – Documents which are available on the web site include: Package Measurement Standards, Package Measurement Standards Implementation Guide, Item Identification Standards (GTIN Allocation Rules), Item Identification "Rules of Thumb", Product Attribute Dictionary, Industry Data Quality Framework (data quality management system), Supplier Data Quality Case Studies
- UConnect Conference / Supply Chain 101 – Largest annual conference dedicated to advancing the field of product data information exchange. Supply Chain 101 is a full day of basic instruction for suppliers and retailers

Other Assistance

- Product data audit services – Our trained professionals capture accurate product information including product dimensions, weight and label information. Accurate data is provided to the user electronically.
- Supplier Certification – Suppliers' product data is audited and validated against physical product samples (to be launched 1H 2009).
- Integration to third-party data cleansing services – Suppliers can publish data to cleansing services such as GXS Product Data Quality services (formerly known as UDEX).
- Technology: data quality is assured through multiple technology features in 1SYNC and GDSN, including automated data validations, broadcast and synchronization capability to instantly communicate error corrections to multiple recipients, and control of product data by brand owners through the use of a tool called Brand Identity.

How can industry users be certain they are properly applying catalog data product information values when describing their products?

Suppliers receive validation errors automatically during data loading and maintenance on an ongoing basis.   Additionally suppliers and/or retailers can request periodic data audits to ensure they are providing accurate data. In 2009 supplier certification will be available help suppliers ensure they are providing accurate data as well as ensure data recipients that the data is of high quality.

SUMMARY: Over the past several years the GDSN has effectively facilitated the continuous exchange of standardized product information between trading partners across the globe. Developed based on the universally accepted GS1 System of standards the GDSN has demonstrated that it is both scalable and flexible and works successfully across geographical borders and industry sectors. The GDSN provides a faster and more cost-effective flow of information. The operational benefits include: an efficient and sustainable supply chain that contributes to maximizing product availability with the electronic flow of information.

What are the strengths of this catalog?
The strengths of this catalog are centered on the high level of global usage and the fact that it is based on the most widely accepted and used system of supply chain standards in the world. Other strengths include:
- The combined product categorization and nomenclature system
- All GS1 standards are developed through the direct involvement of users; a highly disciplined and robust open-governance process ensures data integrity
- The GPC standard is aligned with UNSPSC
- The dictionary is currently capable of supporting 36 industry verticals
- The dictionary is used in conjunction with GS1 global identification keys (Global Trade Item Number and Global Location Number)
- Global reach through a network of 108 GS1 Member Organizations
- Have leading position within identification standards / solutions market
- Credibility especially within retail sector, support from major businesses
- Positioned to provide the 'bridge' between trading partners

What are the weaknesses?
As a standards organization based on collaborative efforts put forth by and for the members, there can be instances where new activity efforts can become time consuming while the members work to reach consensus and achieve the best possible outcome for all involved companies. It is felt, however, that this investment in time up front results in a standard that is more likely to be adopted than would be otherwise.

Current coverage in bulk materials and industrial machinery is limited today, but can be accomplished in the same way coverage for many other industries has been added.

General Remarks or Comments:

GS1 administers a Global Standards Maintenance Process (GSMP) across a broad range of standards. GS1 prides itself as a user-driven process organization supporting:

- GS1 Identification Keys, (for example used to support 5 Billion Barcode Transcations per day around the world across 22 sectors)
- GS1 ECOM / EDI Transaction Standards (working with X12 , Edifact)
- GS1 GDSN Standards (GDD, GR, GPC) for Global Data synchronization
- Electronic Product Code (EPC), Radio Frequency Tags, EPCglobal Network
- Standards to Support Global Real Time Tracking and Traceability
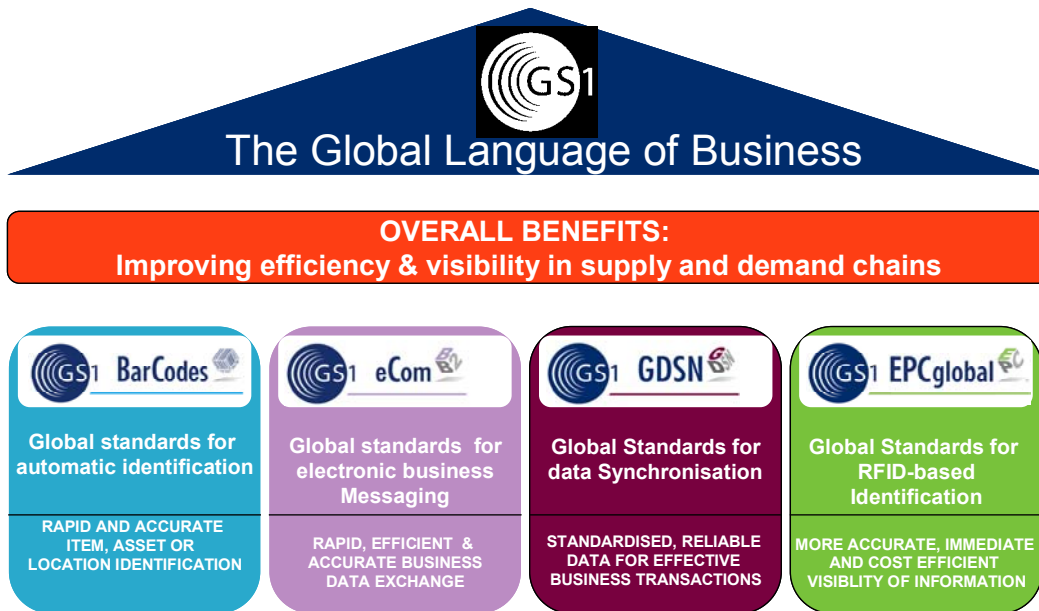
GS1, GPC, and GDD together represent a global categorization system and product description dictionary of information that can be shared by trading partners through the GDSN. Additionally, 1SYNC GDSN supports several other widely used catalogs as described earlier, and can support additional descriptive information as required.

In order to optimize information across the supply chain, all levels of packaging from individual unit to case should be marked, regardless of whether it is sold commercially. Experience has shown that identifying and marking all levels of packaging provides a much greater level of information, especially useful for recalls and tracking.   To that end, the GS1 System provides Identification Numbers for logistics units (i.e., pallets; containers; etc.), packaging levels (i.e., boxes; cases; etc.), and individual items (i.e., unit of dose).

1SYNC's Data Pool solutions provide advanced functionality and the ability for trading partners to synchronize product and company data globally. The 1SYNC Data Pool is Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN)-certified and adheres to the GS1 system standards.

With increased requests from retailers to synchronize higher value information — suppliers need a Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN)-compliant Source Data Pool that meets all of their needs. Only 1SYNC has advanced solutions enabling the synchronization of higher value information — maximizing the Return on Investment (ROI) for suppliers. 1SYNC's Source Data Pool solution has four modules:

Item Management
1SYNC's Item Management module is a GS1 standards-compliant global master repository for item information that is current with the Global Standards Management Process (GSMP) global data synchronization standards and certification requirements.

Price & Promotion Management
Price & Promotion Management is the master repository for price and promotion data and also includes authorization and party (Global Location Number/GLN) relationship-specific functionality.

1SYNC Brand Identity
The 1SYNC Brand Identity solution enables the protection, validation, and ongoing monitoring of brand owner-specific attributes throughout a company's data synchronization network.

New Item Introduction Management
This module is integrated with our Item Management module, so most of the attributes are auto-populated — improving data accuracy and speeding items to the store shelf

Retail Specific Solution
This module enables 1SYNC customers to store and synchronize attributes that are specific to an end user.

The GS1 System supports six global Identification Numbers. Each GS1 Identification Number supports a distinct type of supply chain item (i.e., trade item, service, location, logistic unit, returnable container, etc.) and provides a link between the item and information pertaining to it.

GS1 Identification Number	Title	Type of Supply Chain Information
GTIN	Global Trade Item Number	*trade items (products and services)*
GLN	Global Location Number	*locations & trading partners*
SSCC	Serial Shipping Container Code	*logistics units*
GIAI	Global Individual Asset Identifier	*individual assets*
GRAI	Global Returnable Asset Identifier	*returnable assets*
GSRN	Global Service Relation Number	*service relationships*

GS1: Product Identification through the Supply Chain
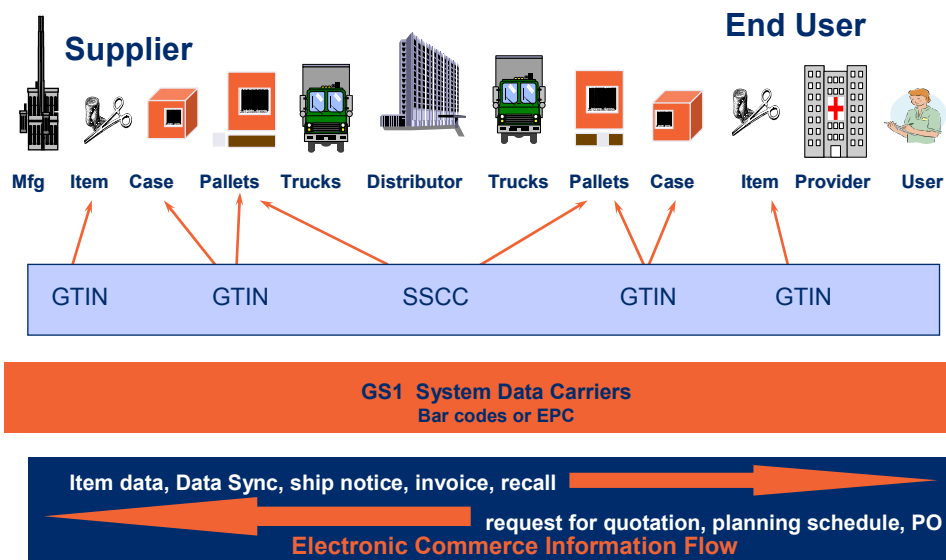
ATTACHMENTS

GSMP –

TRADING PARTNER COMPANY LIST –

HTS SECTION	PRODUCT SET	COVERAGE ("S"=Strong; "M"=Moderate; "L" = Limited "–" = No Coverage)
Section 1	**Live Animals; Animal Products**	-
Section 2	**Vegetable Products**	S
Section 3	**Animal or Vegetable Fats, Oils, and Waxes**	S
Section 4	**Prepared Foodstuffs; Beverages, Spirits, Vinegar, And Tobacco**	S
Section 5	**Mineral Products**	-
Section 6	**Chemical or Pharmaceutical Products**	M
Section 7	**Plastic and Rubber Products**	M
Section 8	**Leather, Fur, Travel Goods, and Handbag Products**	S
Section 9	**Wood, Cork, and Straw Products**	M
Section 10	**Wood Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Products**	M
Section 11	**Textile Products**	S
Section 12	**Footwear, Headgear, and Umbrella Products**	S
Section 13	**Stone, Plaster, Cement, Asbestos, Mica Ceramic, and Glass Products**	M
Section 14	**Pearl, Precious or Semiprecious Stones, Precious metals, Imitation Jewelry, and Coin**	M

Section 15	**Base Metals and Base Metal Products**	-
Section 16	**Machinery, Mechanical Appliances, Electrical Equipment, Sound Recorder and Television Products**	S
Section 17	**Vehicles, Aircraft, Vessels and Transport Equipment**	S
Section 18	**Optical, Photographic, Cinematographic, Measuring, Checking, Precision, Medical Or Surgical Instruments; Clocks And Watches; and Musical Instruments**	M
Section 19	**Arms and Ammunition**	M
Section 20	**Furniture, Bedding, Lamps, Toys, Games, and Sports Products**	S
Section 21	**Works of Art, Antiques, and Collector's Pieces**	M