



Douglas Bailey, Chair  
November 2008



# **ITDS-ACE PRODUCT INFORMATION COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT**



# Objectives

- To advise the ITDS Board of Directors on a method to obtain more precise product characterization for imported and exported goods
- To support the efficient and effective review, release, and statistical analysis of products entering and leaving the US




# Principles

- Meet Participating Government Agency (PGA) product information needs by leveraging existing or emerging commercial supply chain capabilities
- Best solutions will be compatible with existing or planned international solutions or those likely to be supported by the World Customs Organization and/or the United Nations.




# Participants

- Members are interested PGAs
  - Trade associations and supply chain companies have been invited to share commercial perspectives
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# Terminology

Critical to effective communication:


- **Product Identification** (e.g., GTIN, SKU)
  - **Product characterization** (e.g., minimally processed beef without additions)
  - **Product description** (e.g., package dimensions)
  - **Dictionary** (a collection of entries that define distinguishing features of products)
  - **Catalog** (a collection of information about specific products)
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# High Level Project Plan

- PGAs define characterization needs for product sets
- Committee reviews capabilities of dictionary maintenance organizations (DMOs) and catalog providers
- PGAs designate best characterization source(s)
- Data interconnection and information flow designed between source(s) and ACE
- Present recommendations to ITDS Board (Winter/Spring 2009)



# Progress to Date

- Charter approved by ITDS Board - July 17
  - Confirmed committee objectives – August
  - Reviewed terminology, project plan, briefing on global dictionaries, and applicable ISO standards – September
  - Drafted Capabilities Profile for DMOs and Catalogs and reviewed first drafts of PGA product characterizations – October
  - Interviewed UNSPSC Dictionary Representatives – November 5
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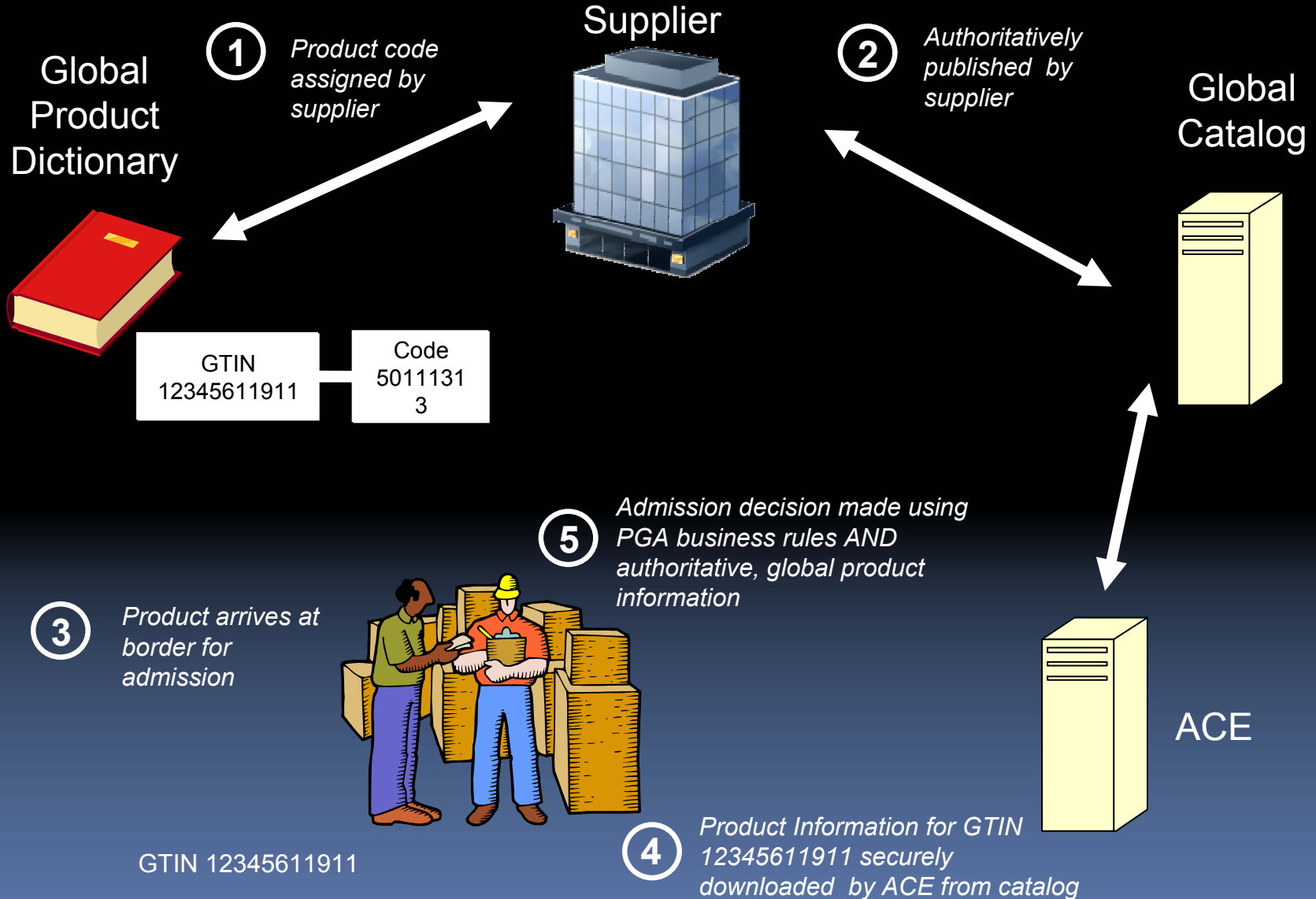


# Next Steps

- Interview GS1 GPC Dictionary Representatives – November 17
- Interview eCl@ss Dictionary Representatives – December 3
- PGAs deliver critical characterizations by product set – December 1
- Evaluate capabilities of DMOs to meet PGA needs
- Interview Catalog providers (GS1 GDSN, GSX)
- Evaluate catalog sources and Interconnection functionality
- Confirm feasibility of design
- Document recommended solution to Board



# Operational Concept





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