



ECCnet Manufacturers

ECCnet Registry: Value for Pharmacy Manufacturers

In 2002, GS1 Canada was approached by the Canadian pharmacy industry to develop a national product registry to automate the product listing process and to drive product data errors out of the supply chain. ECCnet Registry is the industry-wide solution that ensures the pharmacy trading partners share accurate product data across the supply chain.

Managed by GS1 Canada, ECCnet Registry is the most comprehensive registry of continually validated product data of its kind in Canada. This single point of access between trading partners enables vendors to load and maintain accurate product information in one central registry, and allows retail trading partners and stakeholders a central access point to up-to-date product information.

Pharmacy trade associations that helped spearhead ECCnet Registry's development include:

- **CACDS** - Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores
- **CAPDM** - Canadian Association for Pharmacy Distribution Management
- **CCTFA** - Canadian Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association
- **CGPA** - Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association
- **CPhA** - Canadian Pharmacists Association
- **FCPC** - Food and Consumer Products of Canada
- **CHPC** - Consumer Health Products Canada (formerly NDMAC)
- **Rx&D** - Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies

Organizations across Canada's pharmacy supply chain have also demonstrated their commitment to ECCnet Registry, with a growing number of manufacturers, retailers, distributors and wholesalers in Canada undertaking implementation – making ECCnet Registry and other GS1 Canada services part of their standard terms and conditions of trade.

ECCnet Registry in Retail Pharmacy

Manufacturer Benefits

- **Streamline** new item listing and product change processes by loading all of your product information one time into a central database for easy sharing with all of your retailer and distributor trading partners and stakeholders.
- **Reduce** data errors, associated administrative costs and time spent resolving errors by eliminating manual product data listing processes and limiting human intervention.
- **Enhance** patient safety through the improved data accuracy in the pharmacy supply chain and capability to track and trace products.
- **Centralize** all internal product data – including Regulatory Affairs and Marketing – in a single location.
- **Align** with domestic and global pharmaceutical and healthcare standards initiatives.

Retailer & Distributor Support

The following retailers and distributors encourage their vendors to load data to ECCnet Registry.

[Learn more.](#)





Pharmacy Sector Board Supports ECCnet Registry

Pharmacy manufacturers, distributors and retailers are driving industry to ensure that ECCnet Registry contains complete product information. To support this effort, the GS1 Canada Healthcare Pharmacy Sector Board has called for pharmaceutical (Rx) and over-the-counter (OTC) manufacturers to complete entering product data into the most recent set of ECCnet Registry data fields by the following dates:

April 1, 2010	Manufacturers with less than 50 applicable Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs) to complete loading product data.
September 1, 2010	Manufacturers with more than 50 applicable GTINs to complete loading product data.

[Learn more.](#)

Global Standards in Pharmacy & Healthcare

The Canadian and U.S. healthcare sectors are transitioning to the use of GS1 Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs) by the sunrise date of December 31, 2012. The current use of non-standardized product information in the healthcare supply chain results in costly errors, wasteful inefficiencies, and has implications for patient safety. That's why the healthcare industry committed to implementing a common business language for product identification: the GS1 GTIN, part of the GS1 System of standards.

The GTIN is the product identification number that is found at the bottom of a bar code. ECCnet Registry relies upon the use of a product's GTIN as the key to look up information related to that product. The following national initiatives for pharmaceuticals and vaccines support the use of global standards, namely GTINs and GS1 bar codes.

National Initiatives

Canadian GPOs Endorse GS1 Standards

To help to achieve interoperability across the healthcare supply chain, reducing costs, saving time and enhancing patient safety, HealthPRO and Medbuy, two of Canada's most prominent group purchasing organizations (GPOs), affirmed their commitment to driving the adoption of GS1 global standards with their members. [Learn more.](#)

Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project

The Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project is an industry effort to increase patient safety by implementing standardized bar codes on all pharmaceutical labeling. The project is headed jointly by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada) and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI). These organizations endorsed the adoption of the GS1 global standard for automated identification (e.g., bar coding) of pharmaceutical products in Canada. [Learn more.](#)

Automated Identification of Vaccine Projects

The Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) Automated Identification of Vaccine Projects (AIVP) initiative was established in 2002 to improve the safe use of vaccines, as well as accurate, complete immunization record keeping by incorporating standardized bar codes onto vaccine product labeling. In 2009, PHAC's AIVP Advisory Task Group reached consensus on the use of GS1 standards for the identification of vaccine products in Canada. [Learn more.](#)

For more information on how ECCnet Registry and GS1 standards add value to your company, contact GS1 Canada at 1.800.567.7084 ext. 3 or info@gs1ca.org.



About GS1 Canada

GS1 Canada is a member of GS1, the world's leading supply chain standards organization. As a neutral, not-for-profit organization, GS1 Canada enables its more than 20,000 subscribers – organizations of all sizes from over 20 sectors across Canada – to enhance their efficiency and cost effectiveness by adopting electronic supply chain best practices.