

ECCnet Registry Implementation Guidelines

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Introduction

About This Document

This document describes implementation guidelines for suppliers, manufacturers and distributors (data providers) who want to publish GS1 Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs) to GDSN data recipients.

Executive Summary

Launched in 2001, ECCnet Registry is the result of collaboration between GS1 Canada and the grocery, pharmacy, and foodservice sectors. The goal was to create a central source through which trading partners could share and manage product data accurately and efficiently. The result was the creation of a centralized repository of product data designed to meet the business process needs of an increasingly wide number of sectors. Fully based on global standards, ECCnet Registry accepts data published by Canadian suppliers who want to trade with US partners. Once the data is in the registry, trading partners access this data for a variety of business processes.

In addition, GS1 Canada also helps organizations maintain their competitive advantage at home and abroad through its GS1 Canada GDSN service. As a GS1-certified GDSN Data Pool, GS1 Canada GDSN enables you to electronically share product data with your trading partners anywhere in the world. This data pool service ensures that all trading partners always have the same product information in their systems, and any changes made to the data in one company's system is automatically sent to all companies who do business with them.

About GS1®

GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the design and implementation of global standards and services to improve the efficiency and visibility of supply chains. GS1 is driven by more than a million companies, who execute more than six billion transactions a day with the GS1 System of standards. GS1 is truly global with local Member Organizations in 110 countries and GS1 System of Standards being used in 150 countries, with the Global Office in Brussels, Belgium. Learn more at www.gs1.org.

GS1 Standards

The GS1 System of standards is an integrated suite of global supply chain standards that allows accurate identification and communication of information regarding products, assets, services and locations. Using GS1 Identifiers, organizations around the world are able to uniquely identify physical things like trade items, assets,

logistic units and physical locations, as well as logical things like corporations or a service relationship between the provider and the retailer.

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.

ECCnet Registry and ECCnet Value-Added Services are product information management services operated by GS1 Canada in support of Canadian industry.

Learn more at www.gs1ca.org.

Global Location Number (GLN)

The Global Location Number (GLN) is the globally-unique GS1 identifier for locations and supply chain partners. The GLN can be used to identify a legal entity (like a regional health authority or shared services organization), a function within a legal entity (like a hospital pharmacy or accounting department) or a physical entity (like a warehouse or hospital wing or even a nursing station). The attributes defined for each GLN (for example, name, address, location type) help users to ensure that each GLN is specific to one unique location within the world.

Global Trade Item Number (GTIN)

The Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) is the globally unique GS1 identifier for trade items (for example, products and services that may be priced, ordered or invoiced at any point in the supply chain). GTINs are assigned by the brand owner of the product, and are used to identify products as they move through the global supply chain to the retail outlet or the end user. The GTIN uniquely identifies a product at each packaging level (for example, a blister of two aspirin tablets; a bottle of 100 aspirin tablets; etc.).

ECCnet Registry

ECCnet Registry is the most comprehensive, perpetually updated and continually validated registry of product data of its kind in Canada. GS1 Canada members have been using ECCnet Registry since 2002 for synchronized product data exchange. Product listing through ECCnet Registry is already a standard term and condition of trade in the Canadian grocery, pharmacy and foodservice sectors.

ECCnet Registry is based on global GS1 supply chain standards and has been built according to GS1 Canada's proven model for driving data accuracy. ECCnet Registry ensures that only validated users gain access to this secure, auditable system.

In Summer 2013, ECCnet Registry, Canada's national product registry, launched service in the General Merchandise and Hardlines sectors. Canadian General Merchandise and Hardlines industry representatives contributed their expertise to roll out ECCnet Registry to the General Merchandise and Hardlines sectors to drive cost savings and improve supply chain efficiencies across the Canadian General Merchandise and Hardlines system.

About Data Synchronization

GS1 Canada enables organizations to exchange standardized product information through a process known as data synchronization. Through data synchronization, any changes that an organization makes to its product information stored in the data pool or centralized registry, are automatically sent to all of this organization's trading partners. This automated approach to data management ensures that supply chain information is consistent across trading partners' data management systems.

Data Synchronization Process Readiness

Before initiating the process of data synchronization, data providers are required to ensure that GTINs are assigned to each packaging level of the product. Only a product with a GTIN can be synchronized with data recipients in GDSN (Global Data Synchronization Network). To synchronize product information, the data provider must complete these steps:

1. Contact GS1 Canada to acquire an understanding of the data synchronization process and the available options. More details on these options are provided below.
2. Contact your data recipient to establish your trading partner relationship and inform them of your intention to synchronize product data with them.
3. Acquire an understanding of your recipient's data retrieving method and system.
4. Evaluate, select and inform GS1 Canada of your data loading method.
5. Review data requirements for the data recipients.
6. Prepare product data for loading by ensuring that the data complies with requirements.

Maintaining Data Integrity

After you have established data synchronization with your trading partners, you can work with them to maintain the integrity of your data.

In some cases you will have to work out an agreement with your service provider around who should review the GTIN status values and how you should take action around them.

Inclusion of Tax Information

In order to receive ECCnet Registry Certification, you are required to load your product and party data in your product catalogue in ECCnet Registry, including point-of-sale product information. Point-of-sale tax information encompasses the following taxes:

- Provincial Sales Tax (PST)
- Federal Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- Quebec Sales Tax (QST)
- Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)

Your point-of-sale tax information must be listed by product and applicable jurisdiction. Product listing is a standard term and condition of trade for an increasing number of vendors, retailers and distributors in the Canadian Grocery, Foodservice, and Pharmacy markets.

Basis of Inclusion

Note: In the following paragraphs, the terms «retailers» and «vendors» refer to organizations that participate as trading partners in ECCnet Registry.

Retailers and vendors recognize that:

- The applicability of point-of-sale taxes can be determined only by the applicable taxing authority and not by individual vendors or retailers.
- Each taxing authority reserves the right to change legislation, regulations, guidelines and the interpretation of existing law, without necessarily communicating such change to all taxpayers and collectors.
- Such tax information is currently held in various vendor and retailer databases, depending on whether the retailers or vendors in question are responsible for the collection and remittance of the tax.
- It is crucial to work cooperatively with GS1 Canada to store and exchange point-of-sale tax information using ECCnet Registry.

It is understood that while vendors have the responsibility to load their product data into ECCnet Registry, retailers are responsible for:

- Determining whether the products they sell to end-users or consumers are subject to point-of-sale taxes.
- Collecting the necessary point-of-sale taxes from consumers or end users.
- Remitting point-of-sale tax proceeds to taxation authorities.

If you have any questions regarding the taxes that apply to your product, please consult your taxation lawyer or your retailer trading partners.

If you need additional information regarding loading your product's taxation information, contact ECCnetsupport@gs1ca.org or call 1.800.567.7084.

Loading and Synchronizing Your Product Data

After data is loaded, data synchronization is enabled based on a publication-subscription model. For data synchronization to occur the data provider publishes data to a data recipient on a GDSN certified data pool and the data recipient subscribes to the provider's data. After the subscription is completed, any updates that the data provider applies to their data are received by all subscribed data recipients.

There are two methods of loading and synchronizing product data:

- 1 Data Synchronization Through ProSYNC
- 2 Data Synchronization Through GS1 Canada GDSN

1 Data Synchronization Through ProSYNC

ProSYNC® loading options are unique to GS1 Canada and assist vendors with loading product data to ECCnet or to GDSN data recipients (or both) within target market Canada and United States.

Other methods of loading data to ProSYNC include:

- EDI/DIY – Electronic data interchange and “do-it-yourself” process using a market-segment-specific Microsoft Excel® spreadsheet
- ProSYNC File Upload – For more information, see the [ProSYNC File Upload Guide](#).

To synchronize data using ProSYNC:

1. Contact GS1 Canada for information on data synchronization terms and conditions. (ECCnetsupport@gs1ca.org or 1.800.567.7084)
2. Sign the appropriate agreements with GS1 Canada.
3. Prepare and load data to ProSYNC.

Data acceptance is subject to automatic data validations.

4. Register GTINs to GS1 Global Registry.
5. Publish data to the data recipient via ProSYNC.

By publishing data to a GDSN data recipient, you are granting them access to your product information.

6. The data recipient will “subscribe” to the supplier's data in order to receive their suppliers' product data.

After the information is received by the data recipient, you will receive the Catalogue Item Confirmation (CIC) message from the data recipient with one of the following messages:

- CIC Synchronize – Data is integrated, in synch and added to the synchronization list.
- CIC Accept – Data is added to the synchronization list and will be in synchronization.
- CIC Review – A request has been made to the data source to review their data because the data recipient has discovered a data discrepancy and cannot synchronize.
- CIC Reject – Data will no longer be synchronized or updates will no longer be provided.

For more information on attributes requirements, contact ECCnetSupport@gs1ca.org or call 1.800.567.7084.

For more information on publishing data using ProSYNC interface, see the [ProSYNC user guide](#) or contact ECCnetSupport@gs1ca.org.

Making Changes to Product Data

As a data provider only you can update or correct product data. All changes are automatically sent to the all of your subscribed data recipients. After you have published data for a product to a trading partner, you do not have to re-publish the data every time the product information changes. For more information about product updates, see the [ProSYNC User Guide](#).

Discontinuing or Cancelling Products

If the product has been discontinued or cancelled, then the discontinued date or cancel date can be added to the product data.

If a product is no longer available for any reason, or if you decide to stop sharing product data, you can stop synchronization by withdrawing publication for the product.

2 Data Synchronization Through GS1 Canada GDSN

GS1 Canada GDSN is a GDSN certified data pool that allows the synchronization of GDSN compliant data with GDSN data recipients.

To synchronize data with GDSN data recipients:

1. Contact GS1 Canada for information on data synchronization terms and conditions. (ECCnetsupport@gs1ca.org or 1.800.567.7084)

2. Review GS1 Canada terms and conditions and service requirements for successful data synchronization.

GS1 Canada enables the connection necessary for data synchronization between the data provider in GS1 Canada GDSN and the intended data recipient in Global Data Synchronization Network.

3. Sign the appropriate agreements with GS1 Canada.
4. Enter or load data to GS1 Canada GDSN Data Pool.

For help with loading data into GS1 Canada GDSN, contact ECCnet-support@gs1ca.org or call 1.800.567.7084.

5. Register GTINs to GS1 Global Registry.
6. Publish data to the appropriate data recipients.

The data recipient will subscribe to the supplier's data in order to receive the supplier's data.

After the information is received by the data recipient, you will receive the Catalogue Item Confirmation (CIC) message from the data recipient with one of the following messages:

- CIC Synchronize – Data is integrated, in synch and added to the synchronization list.
- CIC Accept – Data is added to the synchronization list and will be in synchronization.
- CIC Review – A request has been made to the data source to review their data because the data recipient has discovered a data discrepancy and cannot synchronize.
- CIC Reject – Data will no longer be synchronized or updates will no longer be provided.

For more information on attributes requirements, contact: ECCnetsupport@gs1ca.org or call 1.800.567.7084.

Making Changes to Product Data in GS1 Canada GDSN

When you update or correct product data in GS1 Canada GDSN data pool, the updated information is automatically sent to the all of your data recipients. After you have published data for a product to a trading partner, you do not have to re-publish the data every time the product information changes.

Discontinuing or Cancelling Products in GS1 Canada GDSN

If the product has been discontinued or cancelled, then the discontinued date or cancel date can be added to the product data.

If a product is no longer available for any reason, or if you decide to stop sharing product data, you can stop synchronization by withdrawing publication for the product.