
The Movement to GS1 Standards Adoption in Canada's Healthcare System

Statement of Direction for Manufacturers, Distributors, and Technology Solution Providers

September 2016

For the Canadian healthcare sector to fully realize the benefits of global standards that can enhance patient safety, improved health system quality and overall system efficiencies, the healthcare community must collaborate to integrate and use global GS1 supply chain standards within their respective business processes, solutions and services.

Leading Canadian healthcare organizations and their trading partners are already working with GS1 Canada to integrate GS1 standards within their organizations. This effort is in accordance with the sectors' agreement to adopt Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs), as well as Global Location Numbers (GLNs) for Canada's healthcare system.

These objectives support the GS1 Canada Carenet Healthcare Sector Board's decision to implement a common business language across the Canadian healthcare sector for standardized identification of products and locations enabling automated processes.

To ensure Canada's healthcare system has the ability to operate in a standards-based, e-supply chain environment, the Healthcare Provider Deployment Committee requests technology solution providers, manufacturers and distributors to collaborate with its trading partner community to ensure standards implementation alignment, with an immediate focus in the following areas:

- The use of Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs) for product identification.
- The use of Global Location Numbers (GLNs) and the national GLN Registry for location identification.
- The use of variable data contained in bar codes (e.g. lot number, expiry date, and serial number) to support Unique Device Identification (UDI).
- The use of the Globally-standardized product attribute fields.
- The use of UNSPSC for product classification.
- The use of the most current standard for e-commerce in Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) version 6020 for the following transactions:
 - Invoice (810)
 - Price/Catalogue (832)
 - Purchase Order (PO) (850)
 - Purchase Order Acknowledgement (POA) (855)
 - Advance Ship Notice (ASN) (856)
 - Functional Acknowledgement (997)
 - Payment Order Remittance Advice (820)
 - Product Activity Data (852)
 - Product Transfer Resale Report (867)

The roadmap to GS1 standards adoption is a journey that must be taken in partnership with all stakeholders in Canada's healthcare system. We will continue to work with all healthcare stakeholders on defining specific timelines that meets everyone's requirements.

What Do Technology Solution Providers Need to Do?

Confirm that your systems accommodate the standards, and set an internal strategy to ensure your systems evolve with the on-going development of sector-adopted standards. For example:

- The ability to store, send, receive and report:
 - Global Trade Item Number (14 – Digit GTIN) along with variable data.
 - Global Location Number (GLN).
 - Globally-standardized product attribute fields.
 - UNSPSC product classification information.
- The ability to generate and receive the latest EDI V6020, and provide processing requirements for the standardized transactions within this version.

What Do Manufacturers and Distributors Need to Do?

Develop and implement a strategy to ensure your processes and systems evolve with the development of sector-adopted standards. For example:

- The use of Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) for product identification.
- The use of Global Location Number (GLN) for location identification.
- Apply GS1 bar code symbologies with GTINs and variable data to your products.
- Develop capability to generate and receive the latest EDI V6020 and process standardized transactions within this version.
- The use of globally-standardized product attribute fields to describe and define your products.
- The use of UNSPSC to classify your products and share this information with your trading partners.

How Can You Remain Informed About the Movement to Global Standards?

- Become a subscriber of GS1 Canada.
- Join the GS1 Canada Community Groups and provide input around standards implementation requirements.
- Contact GS1 Canada to support your organizations implementation efforts.

About the Healthcare Provider Deployment Committee

Reporting to GS1 Canada's Carenet Healthcare Sector Board, the GS1 Canada Healthcare Provider Deployment Committee is representative of executive-level healthcare administrators (hospitals, shared services organizations (SSOs) and group purchasing organizations (GPOs) who will advance the roadmap and deployment strategy for the

integration of GS1 standards and data integrity protocols; advancing a pan-Canadian initiative to achieve enhanced patient safety, improved health system quality and overall system efficiencies in the Canadian healthcare sector.

The Healthcare Provider Deployment Committee is represented by leading Canadian healthcare organizations from across Canada.

Organizations Involved
3sHealth
Alberta Health Services
BC Clinical Support Services
Central Ontario Healthcare Procurement Alliance
Eastern Health Region
Headwaters Health Care Centre
Healthcare Materials Management Services
HealthPRO Procurement Services Inc.
Mohawk Medbuy Corporation
Montfort Hospital
Nova Scotia Health Authority
Plexxus
Service New Brunswick
SigmaSanté
University Health Network
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

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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 helps Canadian business succeed by enabling its more than 20,000 subscribers – trading partners of all sizes from over 20

sectors across Canada – to enhance their efficiency and cost effectiveness by adopting electronic supply chain best practices.

For more information, contact GS1 Canada at 1.800.567.7084 or visit www.gs1ca.org