GS1 General Specifications Continuous Improvements

WR22-276 Remove the **individual section** Table of Contents

ID SMG

Ratified Oct 2022

Examples of the section Table of Contents (ToCs) in the GS1 General Specifications today

GS1 General Specifications

1 Basics and principles of the GS1 system

2 Application standards

3 GS1 Application Identifier definitions

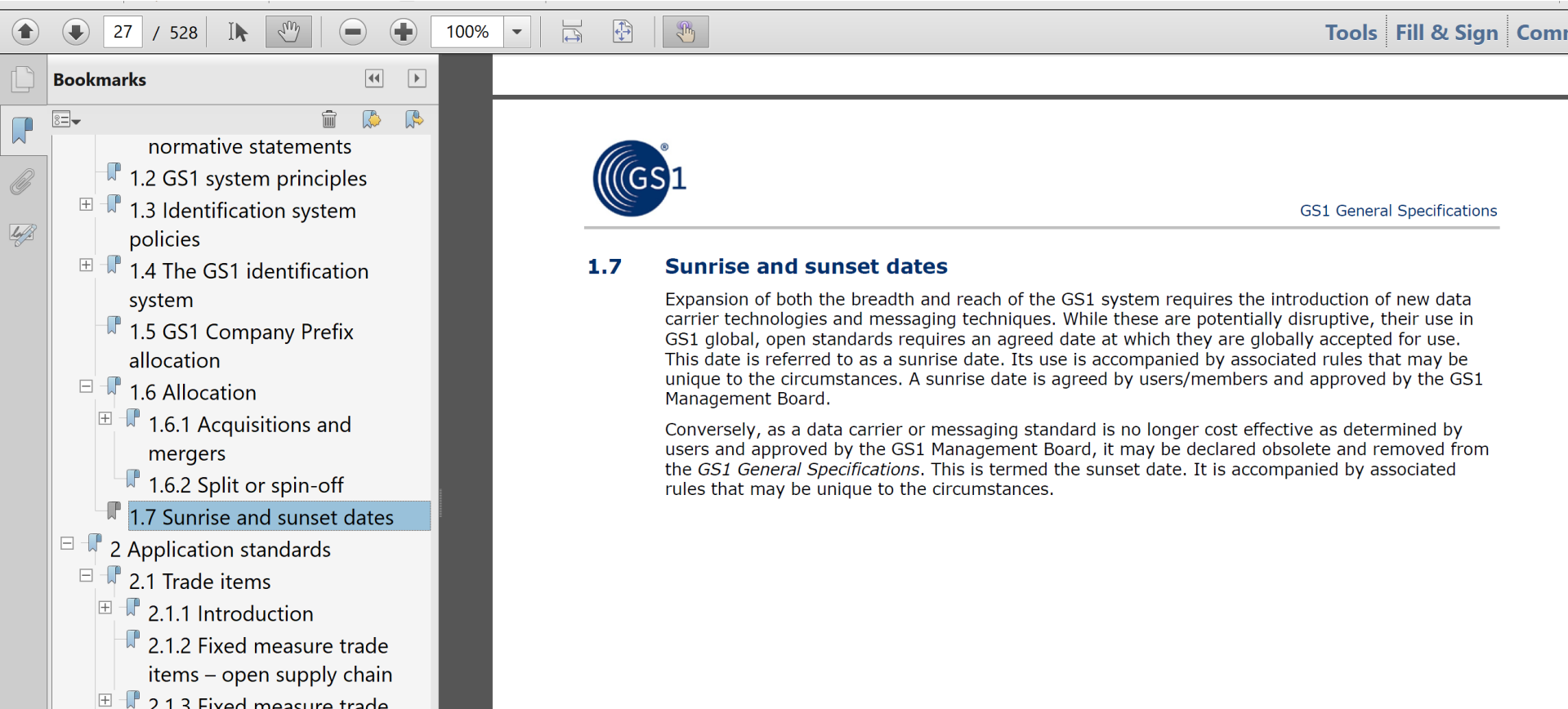# Recommendation from Word expert review

"Bookmarks are fragile and can easily be ruined/changed ..."

Recommendation:

"... it is not just a matter of "fixing" the TOCs. Based on what I see in the documents, my suggestion is getting rid of the section-wise TOCs. Even if I fix them now, they will be too easy to break by users who are not sufficiently aware of the relation between bookmarks and TOCs.

When the documents are used in PDF format, you can make it easy for users to have the headings listed as a kind of TOC besides the pages."

No loss of functionality: PDF Navigation Pane provides functionality

100% Tools Fill & Sign Comm

Bookmarks

GS1 General Specifications

1.7 Sunrise and sunset dates

Expansion of both the breadth and reach of the GS1 system requires the introduction of new data carrier technologies and messaging techniques. While these are potentially disruptive, their use in GS1 global, open standards requires an agreed date at which they are globally accepted for use. This date is referred to as a sunrise date. Its use is accompanied by associated rules that may be unique to the circumstances. A sunrise date is agreed by users/members and approved by the GS1 Management Board.

Conversely, as a data carrier or messaging standard is no longer cost effective as determined by users and approved by the GS1 Management Board, it may be declared obsolete and removed from the *GS1 General Specifications*. This is termed the sunset date. It is accompanied by associated rules that may be unique to the circumstances.

Comment from Amber – also remove section 4.2

Rational to remove Section 4.2:

- It doesn't add value

- Only contains links to other sections of the GenSpecs & www.gs1.org

- Is NOT linked from anywhere else in the GenSpecs (apart from the main Table of Content)

- Creates an extra click when navigating from the main Table of Content

- Contains lots of 'fields' which we know is an issue for the Word document

History: Section 4.2 GenSpecs is there since Jan 2008 (it appears to have been added by either GSCN 08-161 and/or GSCN 08-162. Both GSCN's aimed to improve navigation)

NOTES:

No change to main Table of Contents at the start of the document →

GenSpecs editors (Dan, Neil, Steven, …) have experienced slow response time when updating Word document to create GSCNs. Removing the section ToC (and the fields) will help.

Continue to look for ways to improve GenSpecs Word document. Key issues are:

- ~20-years old & uses features that are no longer part of latest version of MS Word

- Contains many fields (cross references)

Table of Contents

Next steps

- No action/work for the ID SMG – but please be aware
- 2023 release of GS1 General Specifications will NOT include the section Table of Contents
- David will continue to work with the translation teams (German, Spanish, Japanese, ..)