

This bulletin intends to provide you an update regarding currently approved GDSN Development activities, 2008 – 2009 Board recommendations and anticipated timeframe for approval and next steps. GDSN, Inc. is currently working with the GDSN Board to secure approval of the 2008 – 2009 financial model which drives and supports all GDSN adoption, development and implementation activities.

### Approved - 2007/2008 Development Plan

#### Summary of Plan as Approved January 2007:

- Global Registry Development and Implementation limited to **one** Maintenance Release (MR3)
- GPC deployment schedule to occur with planned Maintenance Release(s)
- Approved projects will precede through the completion of the BMS, however, Global Registry / Kato development will not begin until funding is secured
  - o Price Synchronisation
  - o Item Futurisation
  - o Code List Update
  - o Party Synchronisation
  - o GDSN Modular Item (3.0)
  - o Metric and Imperial Measure
- Deployment dates will be determined by GDSN, Inc. with guidance from the GDSN Architecture Team

Significant progress continues with the 2007 – 2008 GDSN Development Plan which was launched in January 2007.

#### Projects Completed:

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| - Metric and Imperial Measurement | March 2007                                       |
| - Price Synchronisation           | July 2007  |
| - Maintenance Release I           | July 2007  |
| - Item Futurisation               | Standard approved August 2007                    |
| - Maintenance Release II          | January 2008                                     |
| - Synclist Audit                  | closed due to insufficient project participation |

#### Projects In progress:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| - Maintenance Release III<br>(Including GPC release) | Price BMS complete May 2008, Item BMS to complete August 2008, Anticipate Q1 2009 deployment |
| - Party Sync   | Standards Development work in progress   |
- This project is tasked with standardizing the synchronisation of parties by improving upon Price and Promotions Communication, identification of 3<sup>rd</sup> parties, define up-to-date contact

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### GDSN Development Roadmap Update

information, describe organizational relationships, and describe changes to organization (acquisitions, mergers and divestitures). Enhanced Party Sync will eliminate the need for the existing Party Dump file distribution.

- **Code List** Standards Development work in progress  
The code list workgroup was tasked with creating clear, harmonized, consistent code lists for packaging types and packaging materials to simplify and improve the usage within the Network. The group has completed a comprehensive review of the existing lists and is working on a new version of the list which includes updated definitions. As of May, the review of the 'packagingtypecode' is almost complete, with progress on the 'packagingmaterial' list underway. Next steps are to finalise the revision of the lists in early June in order to develop the roll-out strategy into the Network.
- **GDSN Modular Item** Business Requirements (BRAD) to be completed May 2008  
This project is comprised of 2 components (GDD Review and Future End State) which represents the single most important standard development project to help the GDSN Network support growth and adoption of data synchronization globally in a multi-sectoral environment.
  - o GDD Review - The migration to Mod Item has already begun with GDSN Maintenance Release(s) containing many Change Requests from the Mod Item Workgroup.
  - o Future End State – This second component is the most significant and will require care in planning and execution. GDSN is committed to working with the FMCG, the new target sectors and the data pools to agree on a reasonable implementation timeline which is not anticipated prior to 2010.

**Key points:**

- o The current design of the Item Model sync standard was based on a synchronization concept dating back more than 8 years. Its design predates any experience in trying to implement the model outside of Grocery FMCG and as such contains hard-coded rules based on how the FMCG sector works
- o Based on experiences in attempting to implement the GDSN in adjacent sectors such as DIY, consumer electronics and healthcare, we have learned that the current design makes it very difficult to implement due to the design of the current Item Model
- o On-boarding new industries such as Healthcare, High Tech and Transportation and Logistics is difficult due to these industries' practices and business rules which differ from the current FMCG based model
- o To date new extensions have been required to satisfy local or regional FMCG business practices. This requires GSMP to maintain them as new requirements come in. In some cases data pools have had to create special non-standard or out of network routines to satisfy or work around some issues.
- o In order to implement the current Item Model we will continue to have to build additional extensions, data pools will have to continue to build work-around routines and some sectors would be required to accommodate requirements of the current design which serve no purpose for them.

- Looking forward, the above mentioned challenges will contribute to an increasingly complex model which will no longer be able to accommodate implementation and usage requirements
- The proposed Modular Item design (i.e. end state) would remove these barriers and allow a more flexible design. The design would provide the mechanism to more easily adapt the GDSN to different sectors. This flexibility would allow data pools over time to decrease or remove the special work-around and out-of-network routines in place today
- Modular Item would reduce the time needed to add new attributes to the network and would reduce the need for costly all or nothing releases.
- Completing the Mod Item standard does not mean everyone would have to implement immediately. GDSN Inc. will work with the FMCG, the new target sectors and the data pools who serve to agree on a reasonable implementation timeline.
- Once implemented, it will reduce costs throughout the network by providing a flexible framework for efficiencies in on-boarding, adoption and development and implementation of new functionality.
- GDSN's focus is on ensuring the health and wellbeing of the network is in place today and also in the future for all regions and sectors.

### Pending Approval - 2008/2009 Development Plan

As part of the annual planning process, in January GDSN launched the Prioritization process for Complex CR's submitted for consideration in the 2008 / 2009 Development plan. The Development plan is part of the overall financial model which must be approved by the GDSN Board. Currently recommendations have been made to the board with anticipation of securing final approval at the next board meeting 12 June 2008. Following is an overview of 2008 / 2009 Development Plan recommendations proposed to the GDSN Board pending approval.

#### Recommendation:

- Continue 2007 / 2008 Development Plan – The current financial model assumes continuance of currently approved projects as defined above in addition to the following recommendations:
- **One** Maintenance Release (MR4)
- GPC deployment schedule to occur with planned Maintenance Release
- While projects may begin in 2008, most would not be introduced into the GDSN until 2010 / 2011.
  - ALL Deployment dates will be determined by GDSN, Inc. with guidance from the GDSN Architecture Team
- Recommend 5 Projects (of the total 8 complex cr's submitted):
  - CIC Response
  - Package Markings (EAN.UCC code/type)
  - Publication Withdrawal Notification
  - Standardize Chemical Ingredient Information

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## GDSN Development Roadmap Update

- Books, Magazines and Publications Extension
- **Recommendation assumes projects will be subsidized by user funding**
  - User Funding Model currently in development
- The following projects were not recommended:
  - Multiple Data Pool GLNs
  - Dicalis Management (withdrawn)
  - Loop Pricing Message Segment

### Timing / Next Steps

Advise GDSN Board on process and timing	14 May 2008
Secure Board approval	12 June 2008
Develop User Funding Model	12 June 2008
Launch project teams and execute approved development plan	24-26 June 2008

### Questions?

Questions regarding the above update should be directed to [GDSNInc@gs1gdsn.org](mailto:GDSNInc@gs1gdsn.org)