



### Enhancing and Improving Standards

GDSN is pleased to announce the Production deployment of Maintenance Release 3 (MR3) into the network on 28 March 2009. This release contains changes to the Trade Item and Price Synchronisation messages.

Over the years GDSN has evolved the deployment and implementation of standards from major releases which may be several years apart, to annual maintenance releases. GDSN recognized the need to implement simple changes and enhancements more frequently into the network outside of a major release. Working with the Global Standards Management Process (GSMP), a process was developed to ensure that simple change requests could be deployed on an annual basis and not have to wait until a major release.

### What is in the Standard

The Trade Item and related standard contains over 20 change requests to improve existing functionality. Among changes the GDSN community can take advantage of are cardinality modifications, new validations, and code lists updates.

The Price Synchronisation standard contains over a dozen change requests which support the stakeholders' desire to improve the standard incrementally such as instituting new validations and modifying the change by refresh functionality.

To access the current standard and prior MR3 Bulletin:

[http://www.gs1.org/services/gsmg/kc/ecom/xml/gdsn\\_grid.html](http://www.gs1.org/services/gsmg/kc/ecom/xml/gdsn_grid.html)

[http://www.gs1.org/docs/gdsn/GDSN\\_Business\\_Bulletin\\_MR3\\_Planning\\_25\\_August\\_2008.pdf](http://www.gs1.org/docs/gdsn/GDSN_Business_Bulletin_MR3_Planning_25_August_2008.pdf)

### Maintenance Release Process

New business requirements are submitted as Simple Change Requests (CRs) and routed to the GSMP GDSN Business Requirements Group (BRG). The business requirement is added to a list of eligible changes to go into the next maintenance release. The requirement is defined including dependencies with other requirements and solution design, and given a level of impact on implementers. Only backwards compatible changes that affect mandatory functionality will be considered for a maintenance release. Requirements that affect optional functionality would be considered on a case by case basis.



Once the annual cut off date has been reached, a Complex Work Order will be entered for the formation of a maintenance release work group. GSMP will send out a call to action to all GSMP members. This work group is tasked to build the solution for that release.

The GDSN Maintenance Release (MR) Work Group defines the scope of maintenance releases, builds Business Message Standards (BMS) for approved business requirements from the GDSN Business Requirements Group (BRG), and delivers the solutions to the various MR's that update the GDSN with enhancements. Membership comprises GDSN users, GS1 Member Organisations (MO's), and GDSN-certified Data Pools.

Once the standard is complete, the GDSN Architecture Team proposes the deployment dates. This team serves as an advisory body to the GDSN User Group, GDSN Inc. and GSMP on technical design and implementation, timelines and operations associated with business requirements submitted by the GDSN User Group and operations of the existing network. Membership is primarily comprised of GS1 MO's and GDSN-certified Data Pools.

The GDSN MR Work Group and the Architecture Team are open to all GDSN users.

### **Learn more**

The GDSN is built around the GS1 Global Registry, GDSN-certified data pools, the GS1 Data Quality Framework and GS1 Global Product Classification, which when combined provide a powerful environment for secure and continuous synchronisation of accurate data. Learn more at <http://www.gs1.org/gdsn> or contact us at [gdsninc@gs1gdsn.org](mailto:gdsninc@gs1gdsn.org).