

Item 2.1 Certification

GDSN, Inc. is pleased to announce the launch of the third GDSN data pool certification event. The release of Item 2.1 into the Global Data Synchronisation Network offers enhancements that improve network functionality and performance.

In addition to providing critical network improvement, Item 2.1 provides the foundation for the implementation of Price Synchronization and Item Authorization standards.

Key Enhancements Include:

- Updates to the design of the Trade Item standard to ease technical implementation
- Updated GDSN Process Standard to clarify the initial synchronisation of an item within a trading relationship for items already in trade
- Enhanced the Catalogue Item Confirmation Message to allow for the passing of error codes and requested actions in the case that the status is either "Review" or "Rejected"
- Enhanced the process of calculating GTIN reuse date for Apparel, Footwear and Personal Accessories to meet industry needs

The following released features are Extensions available for use in the GDSN, but are not part of the certification event.

- Added the ability to communicate regulatory information for the Trade Item
- The ability to pass promotional item information in the network enabling retailers to properly merchandise promotional Trade Items and to calculate the impact and benefits of the promotional offer
- Increased ability to pass information related to US hazardous goods regulations

While these changes carry minimal trading partner development impact, the data pools will undergo a rigorous pilot process followed by the certification test. The pilot ensures the standard complies with the business requirements. The certification test ensures that the data pools are compliant with the standard and that they have successfully demonstrated interoperability with each other in the GDSN.

Key Milestones:

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| • Certification Pilot | 6 September – 3 November 2006 |
| • Certification Test | 6 November – 30 November 2006 |
| • Release into Network (Beta) | 20 December 2006 |
| • Release to Network (Production) | 6 Jan 2007 |

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