

PCN #	PCN Name	Effective Date
08-012	Managerial Discretion to Vary or Interpret the Process	Feb-2009

Purpose:

While GS1 attempts to maintain an accurate and relatively comprehensive GSMP Manual, not all details in the Manual are explicitly stated for all possible scenarios. From time to time it may be necessary to provide clearer interpretations to the procedures or provide interim procedures where none exists in the GSMP to deal with particular unusual circumstances.

Variations and Interpretations are subject to the following conditions:

1. Management discretion is never to be a substitute for the will of a committee as demonstrated in an eBallot. This means that management cannot use discretion to make decisions (approval or motioning of a standard or guideline) as it relates to standards approval.
2. Variations must be approved by the Vice President of Standards (or his/her superior). Power to authorise variations may not be delegated.
3. The Vice President of Standards should only authorise variations if there are compelling reasons that have not been foreseen in the design of the process as enshrined in this manual.
4. When a variation has been made, the Vice President of Standards must report it to the chairs of the Process Group immediately and collectively to the Process Group at the earliest opportunity. The Process Group will then advise whether the formal ratification of the interim procedure/s may or may not proceed.
5. A log of the variations and the Process Group's judgements will be kept as a guide to future decision making.
6. If variations are repeated to meet recurring circumstances, the Process Group should consider making a permanent change to the process through the usual PCN mechanism.

This is now documented in the GSMP User Manual.