

**eCom Business Requirements Group and EANCOM
Technical Development Team Merger PCN**

**Effective: January 23, 2007
Revised: November 5, 2007**

Purpose:

To merge eCom Business Requirements Group (BRG) and EANCOM Technical Development Team (TDT) into one Business Requirements Group (BRG)

Background:

In the GSMP today, the eCom BRG processes XML messages for similar transactions that are processed in EANCOM by the EANCOM team. This leads to unnecessary divergences between these two standards and fails to consolidate the user and MO expertise in these areas.

Proposal:

Consolidate the eCom BRG and the EANCOM TDT into one development body which will process changes for both standards varieties **for all transactional messages. Exception Note: eCom BRG will assess all PRICAT change requests for impact on GDD and will submit change requests as needed to the GDSN BRG for new master data functionality. In addition, eCom will receive notice of GDSN Maintenance Releases and ensure that PRICAT is maintained to reflect new business requirements from GDSN.**

The merged team will be focused on Business Requirements rather than the technical solution, which is constructed by the GSMP Development staff comprised of EANCOM, XML, and Modelers. The BRG does; however, eballot the final result. This will result in a standard set of business requirements that can then be expressed in either a GS1 XML or EANCOM solution, depending on justifiable business needs. Business problems will be addressed in a syntax neutral fashion that is not explicitly tied to the technical solution.

Benefits of a merged eCom BRG:

A merged team will provide one location for users to go for documenting all transactional Business Needs / Requirements that can be expressed as either a GS1 XML or EANCOM Business Message Standards. By drawing together a pool of experts that are removed from the type of solution, we will develop a higher quality standard that utilizes the experience of two formerly separate groups that were previously working independently to solve similar problems. The merging of these two groups will also allow for greater global representation by leveraging the Member Organization's network of affiliated trading partners and the user base of the eCom BRG.

With GS1 XML emerging and its opportunities especially in new sectors and applications, when development in new functional or sector areas is requested, it should be done in complete coherence of EANCOM and GS1 XML. In order to ensure the coherence of GS1 eCom standards an alignment of this standard is necessary, based on the new GS1 eCOM strategy and, as a result, a close cooperation with UN/CEFACT.

Scope of the Merged BRG:

The merged eCom BRG and EANCOM TDT scope will fully encompass the requirements of the two separate groups, as defined in the GSMP User Manual, (Version 4.5.2, August 2006). This incorporates all activities relevant to the maintenance of the business process standards associated to the transactional messages defined as order to cash.

The merged eCom BRG provides the following:

- A forum for processing simple change requests as defined in the GSMP User Manual.
- Cross fertilization of EANCOM / XML knowledge.
- A forum for discussing guidelines for implementation of transactional related standards.
- A “gate keeping” function for transactional standards that include requirements definitions, UML models, GDD, and XML and EANCOM standards.
- Rapid development / enhancement of the processes that support GSMP.
- Taking in account and implementing the new GS1 eCom strategy and, as a result, a close cooperation with UN/CEFACT.

Impact/Next Steps:

- Gain official approval from EANCOM TDT, eCom BRG, and Process Group to merge the eCom BRG and EANCOM TDT into one single BRG.
- One Group for all simple eCom and EANCOM related change requests
- Change the voting criteria, as EANCOM TDT is comprised mostly of GS1 MO representing their local organisations.
- Propose a working structure for business requirements and the technical solution in EANCOM and GS1 XML.