

### “GS1 System - Bridging Industries” The GSMP Spring Event in Budapest, Hungary

by Eileen Hardcastle



Thanks to our warm host **GS1 Hungary** who found an ideal venue in the beautiful historic city of Budapest; and to all the attendees for making the event a great success.

To summarize the event result survey:

- 90% said that the event met their primary objectives
- 94% said that the event was relevant to their work/practice
- 98% confirmed they will attend the future events!

Please visit the post-event website at [gs1.org/budapest2007](http://gs1.org/budapest2007) to download presentations or view photos from the event.

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego, (USA) for our Fall Event. The event registration website is available at: [gs1.org/services/events/2007/sandiego/](http://gs1.org/services/events/2007/sandiego/).

### GDSN Package Measurement Rules - New Issue Released!

by Justin Childs



The Data Accuracy BRG has released issue 1.6 of the **GDSN Package Measurement Rules**.

Changes to this document include the addition of the following new package measurement rules:

- Personal, Decorative, and Sporting Goods Variable Measure Products
- Building Materials and Nursery Stock

Finally, the global community has a solution to a problem that has affected data accuracy for years; the large variety of pallet shapes that exist in the marketplace.

The **GDSN Package Measurement Rules** is located on the GS1 website at:

[gs1.org/services/gsmc/kc/gdsn](http://gs1.org/services/gsmc/kc/gdsn)

For more information or to join this BRG, please contact Justin Childs at [Justin.Childs@gs1.org](mailto:Justin.Childs@gs1.org).

### GDSN Trade Item Implementation Guide - New Issue Released!

by Michael Mowad



The Trade Item Implementation Guide Work Group has released issue 4 of the **GDSN Trade Item Implementation Guide** - the definitive source on how to implement GDSN data.

This new issue now supports the following implementation guidelines:

- Variable Measure Products (Non-Food) - **New!**
- Metric and Imperial Measurements - **New!**
- Net Weight - **New!**
- Country of Origin - **New!**
- Populating Net Content
- Trade Item Unit Descriptors (Building Trade Item Hierarchy)
- Populating TI/HI
- Discontinued Trade Items

It also includes industry-specific implementation procedures for the Food and Beverage industry.

The **GDSN Trade Item Implementation Guide** is located on the GS1 website at:

[gs1.org/services/gsmc/kc/gdsn/index.html](http://gs1.org/services/gsmc/kc/gdsn/index.html).

It can also be accessed through the **GMA/FPA** website at [gmabrands.com](http://gmabrands.com). GMA represents the world's leading branded food, beverage and consumer products companies. GMA member companies employ more than 2.5 million workers in all 50 states and account for more than \$680 billion in annual sales.

For more information or to join this Work Group, please contact Michael Mowad at [Michael.Mowad@gs1.org](mailto:Michael.Mowad@gs1.org).

## A Retrospect: Price Sync Completion Validates the New GSMP Process

by Tom Heist



Looking back, after more than a year and a half of hard work and long hours, the Price Synchronization Work Group was ready to have their standard pilot tested. The standard was "motioned to progress" to pilot testing. The one message price synchronization concept was about to be put into practice. And, an improved GSMP Process was now being put in place. It was July 2006.

The refinements to the GSMP Process created two paths leading from pilot testing towards final approval of the standard:

- Path 1: The pilot test fully confirms the accuracy and completeness of the standard and it may be posted for final eBallot as-is.
- Path 2: The pilot test provides feedback indicators pointing to where specific changes are required and simple change requests will be submitted to manage the changes.

*(Writer's note: At that point, the unanimous agreement of the work group was that path 1 would never be an option for price sync. This was an outstanding group of talented people. Not only did they build an excellent standard they were also correct about the path it would take.)*

Our pilot test results identified the need for one additional validation rule to assure a specific condition was met, and the need for minor revisions to two business requirements to assure clear and unambiguous understanding of the requirements. The technical solution (XML) tested satisfactorily and did not require any change.

**"As pilot test manager, it was an outstanding team effort by the Price Synchronization Work Group to develop, test, and refine a global pricing standard and complete the pilot and certification event successfully on schedule."**

**Marc Yarbrough, Cadbury Schweppes**

Following the new process, immediately upon completion of the pilot test, two change requests were submitted: one for the validation rule and a second for the business requirement improvements. The design and review teams were standing-by and the changes were made within days, posted public review followed by a formal eBallot. The standards were approved within a month and in time for the scheduled data pool certification tests.

Good planning, teamwork, dedication and the new GSMP process delivered a most timely standard for this mission critical endeavor.

### Good People + Good Process = Good Standard

For more information on this project, please contact Tom Heist at [Tom.Heist@gs1.org](mailto:Tom.Heist@gs1.org).

## Government Standards Based on GSMP Model - Under Development in Colombia

by Giovanni Biffi



*Agenda de Conectividad*, the official organization in charge of developing eGovernment initiatives in Colombia, is currently building XML messages to be used by all Colombian government agencies.

The project, entitled GEL-XML (translates to *On Line Government XML* from Spanish), is based on the GS1 GSMP methodology. Some of the key deliverables will be:

- Implementation of the GSMP 6-Step Process
- Change Request (CR) based approach and assessment methodologies
- Unified Modeling Language (UML), XML modeling techniques, and best practices
- Governance model
- User group structure
- Global Data Dictionary

Thanks to a joint effort with GS1 Colombia, *Agenda de Conectividad* was able to develop a complete framework to allow all Colombian government organizations to standardize data structures and communication methods - within both governmental and external entities such as suppliers, banks, and citizens.

The long term project is expected to start in Q4 of this year. The first stage of the project will include the development of 1000 core components to build a set of 4 "transactional chains" which will support governmental processes such as citizen registration, driver's license request, and tax payment process.

The Colombian government is aware of the value of the knowledge developed by the GS1 organization through the continuous work of GSMP and trust in the developed model to direct the fate of the standardization efforts in the country in the medium and long term.

This joint effort will assure maximum standards alignment between the Colombian government and GS1.

For more information on this project, please contact Giovanni Biffi at [Giovanni.Biffi@gs1.org](mailto:Giovanni.Biffi@gs1.org).

## Compass Points Foodservice in GS1 XML Direction

by Rob Heather (Reprinted with permission from GS1 UK)



Foodservice group Compass is continuing its widespread adoption of GS1 standards with the introduction of a pilot for a strategic eProcurement system based on a new version of GS1 XML (eXtensible Markup Language).

Compass Group, the world's leading foodservice organisation, with a turnover of £11.8 billion and serving nearly three million meals a day in 8,500 UK locations, began using XML in 2003. The strategic decision was to move away from a world dominated by a high volume of manually based procurement processes.

Slow Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) transaction processing speeds and costly IT solutions meant that using traditional EDI was not a realistic option for smaller Tier Two and Three suppliers.

Therefore, Compass began using Extensible Markup Language (XML) in 2003 to develop the Optimum Foodservice Supplier Chain Initiative (OFSCI).

Comprising operators, distributors, manufacturers, and GS1 UK staff, Compass was able to actively participate in setting standards that meet industry needs, in which a strong relationship with GS1 UK was fundamental to successful delivery.

Compass was then able to put a solution in place to target and engage its 250 manual Tier Two suppliers, ultimately processing 35,000 documents a week with 200 suppliers.

The project was a major success, and was eventually extended to cover not just the food and drink element of foodservice, but also disposables – knives, forks etc – agency labour, equipment rental, machine servicing and uniforms. It was also suitable for all sizes of supplier, from the largest, processing 5,000 documents a month, to the smallest, managing just 35 documents per month.

The successful project also gave Compass more control over the segmentation of and compliance with its offerings, ensuring that the right supplies are made available, ordered, and sent to the most appropriate foodservice outlets.

Subsequently, phases two and three enabled Compass to take:

- 20 existing EDI suppliers using invoice and credit covering 75,000 documents a week, and migrate them from using Value Added Networks (Vans) to AS2 and from a standard Tradacoms message to GS1 XML
- Introduce new order and confirmation documents in a tactical pilot for five core suppliers

In moving to new implementations, Compass has learned to handle resistance to change from some of

its suppliers, especially the larger ones, where an “if it's not broken don't fix it” mentality can apply.

Now, Compass is starting to invest in a Strategic eProcurement Solution, delivering an ‘end-to-end purchase to pay process’ which the organisation hopes will be in place by the end of 2007.

The organisation has already selected the technical solutions and put change management processes in place. It is now evaluating a move to Version 2.2 of GS1 XML

For more information, please contact Rob Heather at [Rob.Heather@gs1uk.org](mailto:Rob.Heather@gs1uk.org).



*“By the end of the year, when we hope to have completed Phase Four, we will have transformed our order management and invoice processing from an original EDI solution to a complete end-to-end purchase to pay process.*

*In a fast moving industry like foodservice, that is better for us, better for our customers, and also for our suppliers. We have had excellent support from our partners in all phases of the project. We agree that it has been more of a challenge for traditional EDI processors to get them to move to GS1 XML, because it is much more of a change management challenge.*

*However, we've found that from Phase One, if we could find the key decision makers within organisations, the benefits sold themselves.”*

**Chris Emmet, Compass Group**

*“As a supplier organisation we fully support the adoption of GS1 across our customers' entire end-to-end procurement processes as a means to deliver considerable benefits for all parties. With the efforts and support of key stakeholders such as GS1 UK and Compass, we hope to work together to transform the foodservice industry offering to further adopt and develop the standards and to continue to focus on improving services, increasing the efficiency of processes, reducing costs and ultimately promoting a more efficient supply chain.”*

**Tracy J Costello, Brakes**

## EPCglobal and GSMP Collaboration

by Gay Whitney



As reported in the last EPCglobal and GSMP newsletters, the standards teams continue to work towards alignment that will ensure that the EPCglobal standards are clear and consistent with the GS1 systems. To achieve that we have identified two objectives to ensure that effective alignment is achieved:

objectives to ensure that effective alignment is achieved:

1. Create an effective and expeditious process to ensure alignment of any new EPCglobal standards through evaluation by the GS1 Architecture Group
2. Conduct an analysis to verify if the existing 11 EPCglobal ratified standards are consistent with and not divergent from the GS1 system

We have outlined and shared the process outlined in the first objective in the last newsletter and at the GSMP meeting in Budapest and the Joint Action Group meeting in Paris. We are ready to kick off the second objective which will entail a review of the existing EPCglobal standards. Below is an outline and timeline for the process:

### July – Aug 2007

- Subject matter experts and any members within the GS1 community will identify any issues with EPCglobal current versions of 11 standards
- Issues will be documented and include focused impact statement of the issue/conflict – includes outline of confusion or difficulty that end-user may experience from implementation of the standard

### Sept – Oct 2007 (After review period)

- GS1 Architecture Group and any required experts will review any issues over the next 60 day period
- Determine what action is needed for each issue to ensure synchronization of the standard in question with the GS1 system
- Define the work effort needed to address that action.

### Oct 2007

- The GS1 Architecture Group will prepare a report that outlines:
  - *Disposition* – A decision as to whether change is required to the EPCglobal Standard to resolve the issue or no action is necessary
  - *Resolution* – A detailed resolution statement for the issue/conflict submitted
  - *Action Required* – Specific actions and work effort required to resolve the issue/conflict
- The findings from this effort will be shared with the entire GS1 community.

A call for submissions to the process will be forthcoming.

## GSMP Membership Update

The new GSMP membership model continues to flourish.

- 38 new members joined GSMP
- 63% joined 2 or more groups
- 10% total GSMP group participation increase

Please join us in welcoming this quarter's new members to the GSMP:

First Name	Last Name	Company Affiliation
Ben	Albence	Conair Corporation
Blake	Ashby	mpXML
Marc	Benhaim	GS1 France
Mike	Blank	3663 First for Foodservice
Ralph	Black	Food Partners
Christine	Brabbs	Publix Super Markets
Randy	Burd	MultiAd Kwikkee
Michele	Clark	Valassis Ltd
Brian	Esmay	Schwan's Consumer
Harry	Geelen	The Greenery
Debbie	Garcia	Woodgrain Millwork
Len	Harris	Kellogg Company
Don	King	P&G
Priya	Kunthasami	GS1 New Zealand
John	Lane	GS1 Australia
Remy	Marchand	AFNET
Markus	Mathar	SINFOS
John	Meier	Giant Food Stores, Inc.
Greg	Menz	The Kroger Co
Svend Erik	Moelgaard	PLATON A/S
John	Mooney	Tesco Stores Ltd.
Steven	Pereira	GS1 Australia
Shane	Phelan	Johnson & Johnson
Sathish	Reddy	GXS
Steve	Rowland	GS1 New Zealand
Victor	Salandanan	Lowe's Companies, Inc.
Mercedes	Schulze	GS1 Germany
Matthew	Smith	Bunnings Group Limited
Mike	Sonsthagen	Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Sonja	Swartsenburg	Ahold
Ute	Trelle	SINFOS
Alan	Williams	Ahold (USA)
Kathleen	Van Maele	SCA
Betty Lou	Vontsolos	Inmar Inc.
Fred	Wee	SUPERVALU
Christopher	Williams	Reckitt Benckiser
John	Wilson	NCR Corporation
Laura	Yarashus	NCH Marketing Services

## GSMP World Wide Fall Event - San Diego, California (USA) 2007!



The next GSMP World Wide Fall Event will take place 1 - 5 October 2007 in San Diego, California (USA) at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina.

The registration website is available at: [gs1.org/services/events/2007/sandiego/](http://gs1.org/services/events/2007/sandiego/).

We hope to see all of you!



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