# GS1 GSMP — Process Change Notification

| PCN # | PCN Name | Effective Date |
|---|---|---|
| 12-001 | **Assigning AI Numbers** | **09-Nov-2012** |

## Purpose:

To improve process efficiency and remove lengthy and time consuming steps currently required for assigning Application Identifier (AI) numbers to standards *near the end of standards development* **after approval** by eBallot. This process change will move the assignment of the AI numbers forward in the due process with the following benefits:

- Integrity of the General Specification will be preserved and not degraded
- Control and assignment of numbers is both maintained and enhanced within GS1
- Checks and balances by SMG members continues via Community eBallot

## Rationale:

Lessons learned from assigning AI numbers to two recently approved standards has shown that the current process that occurs *after* the standard is approved by eBallot can be improved upon. The change will present a GSCN for Community eBallot that *includes* the assigned AI number and move the standard to ratification at least 30 days sooner than with current process.

CURRNET PROCESS:

Today when the standard is presented for community review and eBallot, the AI number has to be represented as "NNNN". After approval the numbers are currently assigned as follows:

1. The GS1 SME staff must recommend the AI numbers
2. The SMG manager must articulate the AI numbers to the ID SMG
3. The ID SMG must assign the numbers to the document
4. The standard must now be updated to include the AI numbers

These steps were introduced into the GSMP process several years ago for the purpose of:

- Shifting the assignment of the AI numbers from work group participants to parties with greater expertise with the GS1 General Specification
- Preserving the integrity of the AI numbering system by avoiding potential duplication of AI numbers (e.g. two different work group assigning the same numbers)

PROPOSED PROCESS CHANGE:

Value of modifying process, moving AI numbering assignment to the GS1 GO AIDC Team and assigning AI numbers near the end of the standards development process [GSCN construct]:

- Maintains the very rationale for the process that is in place:
  - The assignment of the AI number is made by parties with expertise in both the GS1 General Specification and the GS1 system architecture
  - Maintains preservation of the integrity of the numbering system and duplication of numbers will be avoided because all will be assigned by the GS1 GO AIDC Leader.
- All members of the ID SMG along with end users can evaluate any negative impact that the number assignment might create at the time of community review of the standard.
  - Comments then can be resolved prior to eBallot as opposed to after the eBallot as with the current process.

- *Solution will go to Community eBallot with the AI number in the GSCN = complete GSCN*

- Oversight through AG Liaison is now part in the GSMP process and further ensures proper AI number assignment

- Standard will be available for ratification at least 30 days sooner than it is today

- Document editing after approval will no long be necessary and opportunities for transcription error will be eliminated.

## Change:

**Change** 6.2.2 Work Orders that affect GS1 Application Identifier (AI) Requests, second bullet point

**From:** "The GSMP Identification SMG shall assign GS1 Application Identifier digits - based upon GS1 SME staff recommendations and articulated by SMG Manager - following a successful eBallot"

**To:** "The GS1 GO AIDC Leader shall assign GS1 Application Identifier digits to an MWSG/SMG during solution development", ensuring that the AI number will be included in the GSCN for Community Review and Community eBallot.

## Proposed Manual Content:

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### 6.2.2. Work Orders that affect GS1 Application Identifier (AI) Requests

Any individual or group putting forward a GSMP Work Request for a new or modified GS1 Application Identifier should be aware of the following rules and recommendations around GS1 Application Identifier assignment:

- Submitted WRs shall not include a request for the exact AI digits to be used (e.g., 888). However, the WR may state whether a 2, 3 or 4 digit AI is requested with justification. If the WR includes the actual values, it will be rejected and the submitter will be asked to resubmit without the values.

- The GS1 GO AIDC Leader ~~The GSMP Identification SM~~G shall assign GS1 Application Identifier digits to an MSWG/SMG during solution development, ensuring the AI number will be included in the GSCN for Community Review and eBallot. ~~– based upon GS1 SME staff recommendations and articulated by SMG Manager – following a successful eBallot (Complete eBallot & Close WR) by the SMG itself or an associated MSWG.~~

- Technical Solution Design & Pilot (Note: these steps are optional and are work order dependent). Any pilot