GS1 announces new, business-driven EDI strategy that adds UBL to its EDI standard syntax portfolio

Members of the GS1 General Assembly recently approved the new GS1 EDI strategy that integrates Universal Business Language (UBL) in its EDI standard syntax portfolio, in addition to EDIFACT/EANCOM, GS1 XML and GS1 UN/CEFACT XML syntaxes.

In today’s business environments, different syntaxes are being used with new technologies to complement the traditional way of exchanging business messages, from one computer to another in batch mode. Therefore, it is critical that different EDI syntaxes are based on the same vocabulary.

To this end and a significant part of the new EDI strategy, GS1 will undertake a major harmonisation initiative to provide a single content description for transactional data. This will include all existing EDI syntaxes, new API syntaxes and future technologies used to exchange transactional data.

"The new EDI strategy adopted by the GS1 General Assembly represents a major shift from technology driven to business driven standards development. This approach will offer operational excellence gains to users of current technologies and set the grounds for adopting seamlessly new technologies such as UBL and APIs,” says Miguel Lopera, president and CEO at GS1.

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