



## General Specifications Change Notification (GSCN)

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WR #	GSCN Name	Ratification Date
22-316	Clarification in section 4.3.3, regarding non-reuse of a GTIN	Nov 2022

3 **Associated Work Request (WR) Number:**

22-150

4 **Background:**

The GTIN Modernisation MSWG recognized that using the word “use” when describing a restriction on the allocation of a GTIN that has already been assigned was not accurate. This work item is clarify this bullet point in section 4.3.3 that was added as part of WR22-150. **NOTE: The text in this GSCN is based on the approved changes that were made during WR21-423 work (bundles) abd WR22-150 (non-branded). Therefore, the starting text does not match text in the *General Specifications, v22*.**

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### 9 4.3.3 Responsibility for allocating the Global Trade Item Number

10 The established terminology of the GS1 system may not be familiar to all industries that use the  
11 GS1 system. As of v23 of the *GS1 General Specifications*, a broader terminology framework is used  
12 to enable industry to consistently and accurately identify the party that has the responsibility to  
13 allocate/assign the GTIN.

14  **Note:** The term GTIN allocator is used to broadly and consistently refer to the party responsible  
15 for allocation of GTINs to trade items (defined in [4.3.3.1](#)). This term is harmonised with the  
16 historical use of the term brand owner below.

17 There are foundational rules for the assignment of GTINs to trade items that apply in all scenarios:

- 18 ■ A trade item SHALL be assigned a GTIN before there is an offer made for sale of the trade item.
- 19 ■ GTIN is to be assigned at the earliest point in any trade item's lifecycle after which a GTIN  
20 allocator has been established.
- 21 ■ No downstream party (e.g., distributor, wholesaler, importer, merchant) may assign a different  
22 GTIN to a trade item that already has a GTIN, provided that the trade item is not changed in a  
23 way that would require a new GTIN as per GS1 standards (see [GTIN Management standard](#)).
- 24 ■ When a GTIN is assigned to a trade item by a downstream party, the same GTIN may not be  
25 assigned to any trade item by any other party.
- 26 ■ No party may use a GTIN assigned to a trade item by another party.

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