GSMP:
General Specifications Change Notification (GCSN)

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

WR 16-154

**Background:**

Statement in General Specifications about SSCC on outer cases is not clear – we need to provide clear standards.

**GS1 General Specification Change:**

The recommended changes are highlighted in the attached excerpt from the GS1 General Specifications, v16.

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Note: The FNC1 is not shown in human readable interpretation.

5.10.2.3 Other considerations when using concatenation

Concatenation is an effective means for presenting multiple element strings in a single barcode and is used to conserve label space and optimise scanning operations when permitted by the application standard (e.g., concatenation SHALL not be used with the GS1-128 barcode containing the SSCC on cartons or outer cases). SSCC concatenation may be used on pallets providing the label size used permits printing of the barcode with the correct specifications at or above the target X-dimension in GS1 system symbol specification table 5.

When concatenating a mixture of pre-defined and other element strings, the pre-defined element strings SHOULD appear before the variable length element strings.

The FNC1 separator character appears in the decoded data string as <GS> (ASCII character 29, 7-bit character set ISO/IEC 646). A FNC1 is not required at the end of the last element string represented in a GS1 symbologies using GS1 Application Identifiers. The processing routine allows for a FNC1 entered by error after an element string contained in Figure 5.10.1-2.

Figure 5.10.2.3-1. Example of GS1 DataBar Expanded Stacked barcode that uses concatenation

Concatenation may not be desirable in all circumstances (e.g., GS1 Logistics Labels are often constructed using multiple rows of barcode), in such cases the barcode containing the additional attribute data encoded using GS1 Application Identifiers SHOULD be printed in close proximity to the barcode containing the GS1 identification key.