WR #	GSCN Name	Effective Date
20-000180	GLN Modernisation	Aug 2021

Associated Work Request (WR) Number:

20-000061

Background:

This GSNC in an output of the GLN Modernisation MSWG: Reuse & Rules sub-team that was tasked with improving GLN-related to enable industry partners to create, manage, share, and use the GLN to meet their party and location use cases needs in a scalable, standardised manner.

GS1 General Specification Change:

2 Application standards

2.4 ~~Locations~~ Parties and locations~~and parties~~

The GLN is a globally unique and unambiguous GS1 identification key that can identify of any type of party or location used in business processes. The use of Global Location Numbers (GLNs is driven by the exact role of each party and/or location within a given business process.

A GLN identifying a party answers the question of "who" is involved within the use case. This may be a legal entity or function that defines who is transacting in a business scenario.

- **~~3.~~ Legal entity~~ies~~** – Any business, government body, department, charity, individual or institution that has standing in the eyes of the law and has the capacity to enter into agreements or contracts.
- **~~4.~~ Function~~s~~** – An organisational subdivision or department based on the specific tasks being performed, as defined by the organisation.

A GLN identifying a location is used to answer the question of "where" something has been, is, or will be. A location can be either physical or digital in nature.

~~Legal entities and functions can engage as **parties** in business processes. The use of Global Location Numbers (GLNs) in these areas is driven by the exact role of each party within a given business process.~~

- ~~The Global Location Number (GLN) provides a unique and unambiguous identification of:~~
- **~~1.~~ Physical location~~s~~** ~~–~~ – A site (an area, a structure or group of structures) or an area within the site where something was, is, or will be located.
  - The identification of physical locations is an essential element for supply chain visibility. A GLN assigned to a physical location always has ~~a permanent and~~ identifiable geographical ~~address~~ location reference (e.g., address, geocoordinates) regardless of any business process roles conducted at the site. A physical location may be permanent and remain in a fixed position or mobile where the position can change over time (i.e., mobile blood donation van).
- **~~2.~~ Digital location~~s~~** ~~–~~ ~~A digital location represents a~~An electronic (non-physical) address that is used for communication between computer systems.
  - Just as the exchange of physical goods is a transaction between companies, the exchange of data is a transaction between systems, for example the delivery of an invoice ~~by~~ can be mapped to an EDI gateway identified by a GLN. ~~or email to an accounting system.~~ ~~**3. Legal entities** – Any business, government body, department, charity, individual or institution that has standing in the eyes of the law and has the capacity to enter into agreements or contracts.~~

~~**4. Functions** – An organisational subdivision or department based on the specific tasks being performed, as defined by the organisation.~~

~~Legal entities and functions can engage as **parties** in business processes. The use of Global Location Numbers (GLNs) in these areas is driven by the exact role of each party within a given business process.~~

~~2.1.1 GLN definition~~

~~The GLN enables the unique and unambiguous identification of any type of location used in business processes. Identification in this manner is a prerequisite for efficient communication between trading partners. A GLN acts as a database key which references location specific information that is repeatedly applied. Its function is to reduce input errors and increase efficiency.~~

~~Each company or organisation that is a member of a GS1 Member Organisation may use GLNs to identify locations under the terms of its membership. Contact details for all GS1 Member Organisations are available on the GS1 website, *www.gs1.org*.~~

~~In some countries, GS1 Member Organisations administer national GLN databases, known as GLN registries, provide a common list of GLNs registered within that country. However, the company issuing these GLNs is responsible for keeping business partners informed of all GLNs related to the~~

~~trading relationship. Special care is needed if company ownership or structure changes (see section 1.6).~~

~~In business operations, location numbers are of no value if they are not associated with business attributes. The attributes of the location ideally should be established as part of master data management using the GLN as the key to the information.~~

For rules on GLN allocation, see ~~section 4.6~~the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard.

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~~2.1.2 GLN in electronic data sharing standards~~

~~The GLN is widely used in the sharing of electronic data between companies, since it enables unambiguous identification of the parties, locations and systems. Therefore the GLN is a foundational key in the related GS1 standards.~~

~~**Note**: The *GS1 General Specifications* provides a high level overview of the electronic data sharing standards and applications. For further information, please consult the relevant GS1 standard.~~

~~EDI~~

~~Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) ideally uses Global Location Numbers (GLNs) to identify all trading partners and physical locations involved. Also, the EDI mailbox or network address for companies is often identified with a GLN. The EDI standards promoted by the GS1 system (EANCOM, GS1 XML) make full use of GLNs to simplify the automation of business messaging.~~

~~GLNs and associated information of trading partners are communicated at the start of the relation through the party information message (PARTIN). GLNs are then used during the trading relationship in any other business message, such as invoice, order, pay, or deliver.~~

~~GDSN~~

~~Data pools and the GS1 Global Registry that links them for the purpose of global data synchronisation mandate the use of GLNs to identify each party that provides information to any data pool or who requires information about products and locations.~~

~~**Note**: The *GS1 General Specifications* do not provide details on business messages or the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN). For further information, please consult the relevant GS1 standard.~~

~~EPCIS~~

~~Electronic Product Code Information Services (EPCIS) is a GS1 Standard that defines a common data model for visibility data and interfaces for capturing and sharing visibility data within an enterprise and across an open supply chain. GS1 EPCIS implementations use the GLN to identify Read Points and Business Locations. A Read Point indicates the specific location at which an event took place, and thereby the whereabouts of objects at the time of a given event. A Business Location indicates the specific place of objects following a given event.~~

~~2.1.3~~2.4.1 ~~Application overview~~Application overview

GLN is used in applications that ~~cover the electronic~~ share ~~ing of~~ party and location information ~~and the~~through automatic identification and data capture (AIDC). Section 2.4 ~~The following applications~~ focuses on the use of the GLN in AIDC applications. ~~Three~~ Four broad categories of use of the GLN exist:

1. Identification of a physical location, for example through a label attached to a loading dock or to a shelf location in a warehouse~~.~~
2. Specification of a ~~delivery~~ location used in transport and logistics processes, for example a ship to location on a logistic label~~.~~
3. Identification of a party, for example designating a legal entity on a document

4. Specification of a party, for example the invoicing party on a payment slip~~.~~

GLN is widely used to share data between systems and is a foundational key in the related GS1 standards. For further information, please consult the relevant GS1 standard.

1. Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) uses GLN to identify trading partners and physical locations involved in transactions. Also, the EDI mailbox or network address for companies is often identified with a GLN.
2. Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) mandate the use of GLNs to identify each party that provides information to any data pool and who requires information about products and locations.
3. Electronic Product Code Information Services (EPCIS) uses GLN to identify involved parties, read points, and business locations for capturing and sharing visibility data. For example, a mobile location identified by a GLN can be tracked using the EPCIS standard.

~~2.1.4~~2.4.2 Identification of a physical location

Application description

The following GS1 Application Identifiers enable the identification of a physical location using a data carrier present at the location itself:

- AI (414) Physical l~~L~~ocation
- AI (254) GLN extension component

AI (414) Physical location

The GLN can be used to identify a physical location represented in a data carrier on the location itself. Physical locations may, for example, be a room, a door of a warehouse, an x-ray room in a hospital, or a control point.

The element string may be used to record and confirm presence at a given location for any purpose. An equivalent field will hold this information in electronic messages.

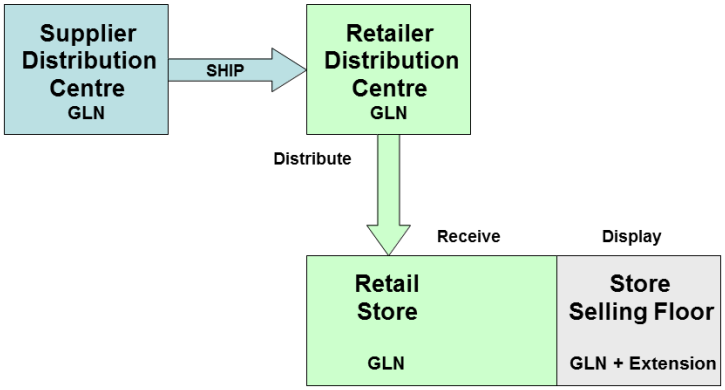
AI (254) GLN extension component

Business processes cause~~s~~ objects (e.g., products, assets, or other equipment) to move from one physical location to another. The ability to have visibility of these movements is an essential element in any supply chain. These physical locations can be a site such as a distribution centre or a specific location within the site such as a selling floor, a room in a hospital or a yard of a warehouse; it can even be as granular as a specific area on a shelf.

The GLN extension component may be used to identify internal physical locations within a location identified with a GLN, known as sub-locations ~~(e.g., stores, factories, buildings)~~. A company ~~may~~ can alternatively choose to assign a unique GLN, without an extension component, ~~as a way~~ to identify these sub-locations.

~~The following f~~Figure 2.4.4-1 ~~illustrates just one likely~~provides an example of how GLN extension component may be used. ~~; it is not the only normative solution.~~

Figure 2.4.2-1. Physical locations in a logistic process



Important:

- A GLN extension component SHALL only be used in conjunction with a GLN identifying a physical location ~~The use of GLN + GLN extension component is restricted to physical locations~~.
- ~~The GLN extension component may be communicated to trading partners, by mutual agreement.~~The GLN extension component SHALL only be used in applications where there is mutual agreement between all involved trading partners and where the standard being used supports the GLN extension component.

- If the GLN + GLN extension component are used to identify locations within the site, each sub-location identification SHALL follow the GLN Management Rules~~same allocation rules~~ defined ~~for the physical location GLN, see section 4.6~~in the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard.

GS1 key

Required

- GLN

Rules

~~All~~ GLN rules described in section *4.6*.

Attributes

Required

Not applicable

Optional

~~The extension component may be used to identify internal physical locations within a location identified with a GLN (e.g., stores, factories, buildings). The use of GLN extension component is restricted to physical locations.~~

~~The GLN extension component may be communicated to trading partners, by mutual agreement.~~

The GS1 Application Identifier (254) ~~is~~ may be used to represent the GLN extension component in conjunction with AI (414).

For more information, see section ***Error! Reference source not found.*** ~~3.2~~ for the list of GS1 Application Identifiers.

Rules

See section **Error! Reference source not found.**~~*4.14*~~ *Data relationships* for definitions of invalid pairs and mandatory associations of element strings.

Data carrier specification

Carrier choices

The GS1 data carriers that can be used to represent the GLN or GLN + GLN extension component are:

- GS1-128
- GS1 DataMatrix
- GS1 QR Code
- EPC/RFID

Note: GS1's *EPC Tag Data Standard* (TDS) defines the SGLN as a Global Location Number (GLN), with or without the optional extension (AI 254), which is used to identify physical locations. Examples of such locations include a specific building or unit of shelving within a warehouse. For more information on EPC carriers see the *EPC Tag Data Standard*

Symbol X-dimension, minimum symbol height, and minimum symbol quality

See section ***Error! Reference source not found.***~~*5.12.3.9*~~, *GS1 symbol specification table 9*.

~~**Note**: For location marking barcodes may be printed at a higher maximum X-dimension: GS1-128 at 1.016 mm (0.0400 inches), GS1 DataMatrix and GS1 QR Code at 1.520 mm (0.0600 inches).~~

Symbol placement

Not applicable

Unique application processing requirements

For a description of processing requirements, see section **Error! Reference source not found.**~~*7*~~.

~~2.1.5~~2.4.3 Physical locations in business processes

Application description

The following GS1 Application Identifiers enable the specification of a physical location on a label or document, relative to its role in a business process:

- AI (410) Ship to - Deliver to
- AI (413) Ship for - Deliver for
- AI (416) Production or service location

AI (410) Ship to - Deliver to

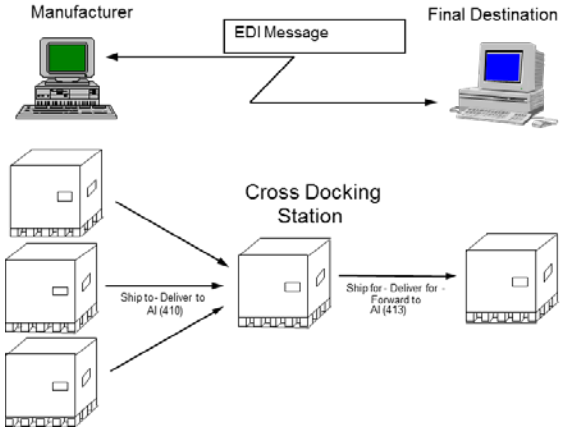
An element string with GS1 Application Identifier AI (410) represents the Global Location Number (GLN) of the recipient of a logistic unit. The GLN refers to the address where a particular transport unit identified with an SSCC is to be delivered. This element string is used in single leg transport operations. A logistic unit may include a barcode carrying the GLN of the unit's intended destination. When scanning this element string, the data transmitted may be used to retrieve the related address and/or to sort the item by destination.

AI (413) Ship for - Deliver for

An element string with GS1 Application Identifier AI (413) is used by the consignee for determining the internal or subsequent final destination of a physical unit.

Cross docking is a typical application using this element string. Here, a barcode carrying the element string AI (410) is placed on a logistic unit at the point of creation to direct the goods to the intermediate destination (e.g., a distribution centre). The element string AI (413) is also carried by the barcode to direct the goods to their final destination (e.g., a retail store served by the distribution centre).

Figure 2.4.3-1. Example of a cross docking application



AI (416) GLN of the production or service location

An element string with a GS1 Application Identifier AI (416) represents the Global Location Number (GLN) of the production or service location. It may for example be used to specify the location where a trade item or asset was produced or refurbished.

GS1 key

Required

GLN

Rules

All GLN rules described in section 4.6.

Attributes

Not applicable

Data carrier specification

If the GLN is carried in a barcode or EPC/RFID tag on a product, the rules for trade item applications apply, see section ***Error! Reference source not found.*** ~~2.1~~.

If the GLN is carried in a barcode on a GS1 Logistics Label, the rules for logistic unit applications apply, see section ***Error! Reference source not found.*** ~~2.2~~.

Unique application processing requirements

For a description of processing requirements, see section **Error! Reference source not found.** ~~7~~.

2.4.4 Identification of a party

Application description

GS1 Application Identifier (417) enables the identification of a party using a data carrier.

AI (417) Party GLN

The GLN can be used to identify a party represented in a data carrier on documents, locations, or other places where value could be added. Parties may, for example, legal entity, government body, accounting department, or other business function.

The element string may be used to record and confirm presence of a party for any purpose. An equivalent field will hold this information in electronic messages.

GS1 key

Required

- GLN

Rules

All GLN rules described in section *4.6*.

Attributes

Required

Not applicable

Optional

For more information, see section ***Error! Reference source not found.****~~3.2~~* for the list of GS1 Application Identifiers.

Rules

See section **Error! Reference source not found.***~~4.14~~ Data relationships*.

Data carrier specification

Carrier choices

The GS1 data carriers that can be used to represent the GLN are:

- GS1-128
- GS1 DataMatrix
- GS1 QR Code
- EPC/RFID

Note: GS1's *EPC Tag Data Standard* (TDS) defines the PGLN as a Global Location Number (GLN) or a party. Examples of such parties include an economic operator or cost centre. For more information on EPC carriers see the *EPC Tag Data Standard*

Symbol X-dimension, minimum symbol height, and minimum symbol quality

See section ***Error! Reference source not found.****~~5.12.3.9~~, GS1 symbol specification table 9*.

Symbol placement

Not applicable

Unique application processing requirements

For a description of processing requirements, see section **Error! Reference source not found.***~~7~~*.

~~2.1.6~~2.4.5 ~~Specification of a p~~Parties in business processes~~y~~

Application description

The following GS1 Application Identifiers enable the specification of a party on a label or document, relative to its role in a business process:

- AI (411) Bill to - Invoice to
- AI (412) Purchased From
- AI (415) Invoicing Party
- AI (703*) Approval Number of processor (with ISO country code '999')

AI (411) Bill to – Invoice to

An element string with GS1 Application Identifier AI (411) represents the Global Location Number (GLN) of the addressee of an invoice. The GLN refers to the name and address of the business partner to which an entity shall be invoiced and includes accounting-related information that may be used wherever required.

AI (412) Purchased from

In business it is sometimes important to know from where a particular item was purchased. Applied on a trade item, an element string with GS1 Application Identifier AI (412) provides the Global Location Number (GLN) of the company from which the respective trade item has been purchased.

AI (415) Invoicing party

An element string with GS1 Application Identifier AI (415) is used to indicate the Global Location Number (GLN) of the invoicing party. The GLN is mandatory information for the payment slip application (see section ***Error! Reference source not found.~~2.6.6~~***).

AI (703*) Number of processor

An element string with GS1 Application Identifier (703s) represents the ISO country code and approval number or GLN of the processor of a trade item. If '999' is entered as the ISO country code it signifies that the subsequent data is a Global Location Number (GLN), and not an 'approval number'.

As an attribute of a trade item the number of processor must be processed together with the GTIN of the trade item to which it relates. See section ***Error! Reference source not found.~~3.8.16~~*** for more information.

GS1 key

Required

GLN

Rules

All GLN ~~r~~Rules described in section *4.6*.

Attributes

Not applicable

Data carrier specification

~~If the GLN is carried in a barcode on a product, the rules for trade item applications apply, see section *2.1*.~~

If the GLN is carried in a barcode on a GS1 Logistic Label, the rules for logistic unit applications apply, see section **Error! Reference source not found.~~2.2~~**.

If the GLN is carried in a barcode on a payment slip the rules for the payment slips application apply, see section ***Error! Reference source not found.~~2.6.6~~***.

Unique application processing requirements

For a description of processing requirements, see section **Error! Reference source not found.~~7~~**.

4 Application rules and management practices

4.1 Introduction

The main purpose of Automatic Data Capture (ADC) is to replace manual entry of ~~visually captured~~ information. This implies that an ADC message ~~has to~~must provide all information required for a transaction without human intervention. GS1 system data may be used, for example, to record entities in computer files, to sort goods on conveyor belts, to check completeness of a consignment, to verify dates, and to record physical stock taking.

Element strings may be applied directly on physical goods or printed in catalogues or documents. The scanning source and the type of transaction determine the required information in a given business application. Since all ADC data is being used in ~~Electronic Data Processing (EDP)~~data sharing applications, strict validation of data to be processed is an absolute prerequisite.

For correct processing of scanned data, certain business applications may require the association of element strings representing a particular combination of identification data. The GS1 system enables users to achieve the needed level of data accuracy through the use of adequate element strings.

The logical set up of the data standard of the GS1 system enables system users to validate scanned data messages (see section **Error! Reference source not found.**~~7~~).

Validation is affected on two levels. The first is validation of the data for conformity with system rules (e.g., to provide a message that contains all information to be processed logically without human intervention). The second level is validation of the data for conformity with the requirements of a particular business application.

Sections **Error! Reference source not found.**~~4.14~~ shows the rules for the first verification level (e.g., validate data to conform with the system logic). Section ***Error! Reference source not found.***~~4.14.1~~ defines the pairs of element strings that cannot appear on the same physical entity. Section **Error! Reference source not found.**~~4.14.2~~ defines the element strings that mandate the appearance of another element string on the same physical entity. All other combinations of element strings are possible at the first level of verification, although they may not make sense at the second, the application level.

4.2 Rules for keys

The tables in the sub-sections below summarise the rules for each of the GS1 identification keys.

4.2.4 GLN rules

Rules	Section/Link
General allocation ruleAllocation general rules	4.6.1.1
Party/Locations without Global Location NumbersAssigning GLN values	2.1.1.14.6.1.2
Assigning GLN ValuesRelocations	2.1.1.14.6.1.3
Grouping of Global Location Numbers	4.6.1.4
Locations without Global Location Numbers	4.6.1.5
Lead time in reusing a Global Location Number	4.6.1.6
Lead time in reusing a Global Location NumberLead time in reusing a Global Location NumberInformation associated with a Global Location Number	4.6.34.6.2
Information associated with a Global Location NumberGLN Allocation Rules	2.1.14.6.3
GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard	https://www.gs1.org/1/glnrules

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4.6 GLN rules

4.6.1 Allocating Global Location Numbers

4.6.1.1 General allocation rules

~~Global Location Numbers (GLNs) can be used to identify any location that has meaning within a business scenario. The term location is used in a very wide sense, besides physical locations also covering IT systems, departments and legal entities.~~

A separate, unique GLN is required to be allocated whenever there is a need to distinguish one party and/or location from another. ~~The general rule is that a separate GLN is required whenever organisations need to be able to distinguish between one location and another~~ (e.g., each store ~~of a retail group~~location is required to have a separate GLN to identify the physical locations ~~to enable efficient delivery to the individual store~~).

GLNs ~~must~~ SHALL be allocated by the party that defined the party/location in support of their business operations.

The below defines which party is responsible for allocating the GLN to a legal entity, function, physical location, or digital location. If a GLN is used to identity a combination of legal entity, function, physical location, and/or digital location, all applicable rules SHALL apply.

- **Legal entity**: Allocating a GLN to a legal entity is the responsibility of the legal entity itself or another legal entity that is part of the same organisation. If multiple legal entities within an organisation have licensed GS1 Company Prefixes, the parties SHOULD coordinate GLN allocation.
- **Function**: The organisation identifying their own, internal functions to support their business operation is responsible for allocating GLN.

When representing itself as a legal entity or function in transactions, an organisation SHALL only use GLNs which the organisation has licenced. This means that an organisation SHALL NOT use another organisation's GLN to represent itself as a party.

- **Physical location**: The owner or primary user(s) of the physical location is responsible for allocating the GLN.
  - When a party allocates a GLN to a location they do not own, that party SHOULD inform the owner and/or primary users of the location.
  - Parties SHALL use a GLN allocated by their own organisation, the owner of the location, or a primary user that is a business partner directly involved in a specified transaction. A party SHALL NOT use a GLN allocated by an organisation that does not directly relate to their business relationships.
- **Digital location**: The owner or primary user(s) of the digital location is responsible for allocating the GLN.

Note: The owner is the organisation that has the legal or rightful title to the physical or digital location. A primary user is an organisation that directly transacts with a physical or digital location. There may be multiple primary users associated to a single location.

Example: An owner would be the organisation that has legal ownership of a mall. A primary user would be the organisation that is leasing a space within the mall for their retail store.

- ~~When representing itself in business transactions an organisation SHALL only use GLNs for which the organisation is licenced. For example, if a franchisee engages as buyer in business transactions with parties other than the franchising company it must use its own assigned GLN, it cannot use a GLN assigned by the franchising company.~~
- ~~A company may assign a GLN to a physical location of which it is not the owner or primary user. This can be useful in cases where the same location is used for multiple purposes (e.g., a store is also used as receiving location for a mobile clinic).~~

~~Individual companies need to determine how they assign GLNs. A company may use a single GLN for order, delivery and invoice because each process is undertaken at the company (corporate) level. However, an organisation may also assign distinct GLNs to locations and functions within its organisation.~~

When a ~~new~~llocating a GLN, an organisation SHOULD: ~~is issued, it is recommended that:~~

1. Verify that the party and/or location is not already identified by a GLN

~~4.~~2. ~~The GLN be a~~Associate~~d with the~~ master data for the identified party/location to the GLN~~.~~

~~5.~~3. ~~This master data be c~~Communicate~~d~~ the GLN and associated date to trading partners in a timely manner~~.~~

The GLN allocated to a party/location SHOULD be communicated ~~throughout the supply chain~~to partners by the organisation that allocated the GLN in advance of a transaction/delivery so that all systems can be prepared for ~~this~~ the interaction. See section 4.6.2 for additional details.

Individual companies need to determine how they allocate GLNs. An organisation may use a single GLN for order, delivery and invoice because each process is undertaken at the organisation (legal entity) level. However, an organisation may also allocate distinct GLNs to locations and functions within its organisation.

~~From time to time, the details (associated data) related to a GLN might change. The following subsections are general cases, or examples, about GLN allocation due to a change in the circumstances or business conditions in which the number was originally established.~~

See ~~section~~ the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard for ~~*4.6.3* for~~ ~~GLN allocation~~management rules and scenarios ~~regarding~~ defining when a GLN~~s should~~ SHOULD ~~remain the same or should be change~~be allocated to a new party/location or as the result of a change~~d~~. ~~These rules are based on business practices.~~

Note: These rules are intended for global use. National, federal or local regulations may take precedence. Examples include regulations affecting an organisation's registration, taxation, or fiscal obligations, as well as its industry requirements.

~~**4.6.1.2 Assigning GLN values**~~

~~It is recommended to allocate GLNs sequentially without any classifying elements.~~

~~**4.6.1.3 There is no need to coordinate GS1 identification key values across different GS1 identification keys. This is true even when the keys have an identical format. For example, there is no risk of conflict when a GTIN-13 and a GLN have the same value: GS1 Application Identifiers (barcodes), data qualifiers and XML tags (EDI) prevent misinterpretation.While companies, for their internal purposes, may collect Global Location Numbers (GLNs) into logical groupings, there are no supply chain standards to do so. GLNs are assigned at the discretion of GS1 user companies to support their business applications. The principle of non-significance (see the *GS1 Architecture Principles*[1]) is critical to supply chain use, and it therefore follows that any additions or deletions from the group do not impact individual GLN assignmentRelocations~~

~~4.6.1.4 Relocations within the same building (e.g., a department moves from the second to the seventh floor of a building), or other changes in address that have little or no impact on such things as deliveries and payments, do not require assignment of a new GLN. The changed information may be updated and communicated to trading partners.~~

~~4.6.1.5 Whenever the point of access changes, a new GLN SHOULD be assigned. Also, when a given operation is closed in one location and replaced by a similar operation at a new location, a new GLN SHOULD be assigned.~~

~~[1] *https://www.gs1.org/docs/architecture/GS1_Architecture_Principles.pdf*~~

~~4.6.1.6 **Note**: Address changes of legal entities or functions do not always require a new GLN. See section *4.6.3* for more information.~~

~~**4.6.1.7 Grouping of Global Location Numbers**~~

~~**4.6.1.8**~~**4.6.1.2 ~~While companies, for their internal purposes, may collect Global Location Numbers (GLNs) into logical groupings, there are no supply chain standards to do so. GLNs are assigned at the discretion of GS1 user companies to support their business applications. The principle of non-significance (see the GS1 Architecture Principles[1]) is critical to supply chain use, and it therefore follows that any additions or deletions from the group do not impact individual GLN assignment.~~ Party / Location~~s~~ without Global Location Number~~s~~**

When a party/location needs to be identified by a GLN, the organisation defining the party/location in support of their business operations SHALL allocate the GLN. See section 4.6.1.1 for details.~~If a GLN is required, the party responsible for that location must allocate the GLN to it. Assigning the GLN at source by the responsible trading partner ensures supply chain efficiency.~~

If the organisation~~a trading partner responsible for a particular location~~ does not have a GS1 Company Prefix, it must either ~~request~~ license a GS1 Company Prefix or an individual~~ly~~ ~~assigned~~ GLN from a GS1 Member Organisation. A GLN SHALL NOT be sold, leased, or loaned to a separate party.

Note: GS1 Member Organisations offer various alternatives by which an organisation can obtain its own GLN.

4.6.1.3 Assigning GLN values

GLNs SHOULD be allocated without any classifying elements.

There is no need to coordinate GS1 identification key values across different GS1 identification keys. This is true even when the keys have an identical format. For example, there is no risk of conflict when a GTIN-13 and a GLN have the same value: GS1 Application Identifiers, data qualifiers and XML tags (EDI) prevent misinterpretation.

While companies may place GLNs in logical groupings for internal purposes, there are no supply chain standards to do so. GLNs are assigned at the discretion of GS1 user companies to support their business applications. Any additions or deletions from the group do not impact individual GLN allocation.

4.6.2 Lead time in reusing a Global Location Number

A Global Location Number (GLN) that has been previously used and has become obsolete must not be reused for another location until at least 48 months have elapsed. A longer period may be needed in accordance with government requirements, such as invoicing and taxation, or requirements related to the nature of the location (e.g., a bonded warehouse). This period provides time for all references of the old GLN to be removed from trading partner files.

All issuers of Global Location Numbers (GLNs) must ensure that GLNs allocated for locations used in the healthcare supply chain SHALL never be reused, e.g., locations where treatment of patients takes place, etc.

Important: The standard for GLN reuse will be changed on 1 July 2022. On that date, a GLN allocated to a party and/or location SHALL NOT be reallocated to another party and/or location. It is recommended that GLN reuse cease in advance of 1 July 2022 as soon as companies can transition their practices. If reuse is not currently occurring, it SHOULD NOT be started. The only exceptions to the GLN non-reuse rules will include:

[1] *https://www.gs1.org/docs/architecture/GS1_Architecture_Principles.pdf*

- If the GLN was never published in an externally accessible manner (e.g., to a registry or directly to a trading partner), it may be reused immediately.
- Parties and/or locations that have been withdrawn and are reintroduced may use the original GLN if they are reintroduced without any modifications or changes that require a new GLN as specified by the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard.

Note: These rules are intended for global use. Exceptions may occur only when local regulatory or legal requirements mandate otherwise.

4.6.3 Information associated with a Global Location Number

GLNs are assigned to parties and locations to provide a key to access master data in a business process (e.g., order, invoice, deliver). For each ~~assigned~~ GLN, master data will be assigned to support business processes.

Master data ~~for a location~~associated to a GLN ~~should~~ SHOULD be established in a database ~~on a computer file, and~~ then the ~~Global Location Number (~~GLN~~)~~ may then be used to facilitate efficient communication of this information.

The ~~type of~~ information held for legal entities, functions physical locations, ~~legal entities and function~~and digital locations may include but is not limited to ~~the~~ name, ~~and~~ address, bank details, ~~and account number~~, ~~sales department, and company profile~~certifications, and contact details.

~~Changes to attributes of digital locations may have a large impact on trading partners. For example, if a retailer changes his Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Value Added Network (VAN) provider, the accounting department will get a new VAN address to which invoices and payments have to be remitted. In the digital world, this is as significant a change as a physical address change in the physical world.~~

Information associated with each GLN is held internally by trading partners or on central databases. If the party or location changes and the details are not updated, communications or deliveries will go to the ~~address~~ outdated information held on file. Therefore, it is essential for organisations to inform trading partners as soon as possible about new GLN assignments or changes to information associated with a GLN.

The GLN Management Rules that define what changes to a party or location require a new GLN are included in the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard. The GLN Management Rules are designed to help industry make consistent decisions about the unique identification of parties and locations and SHOULD be referenced when changes to parties, locations, and the information associated to them occur.

Local, national or regional regulations may require more frequent GLN changes. Such regulations have precedence over the rules provided within the GS1 GLN Allocation Rules Standard.

~~See section *4.6.3* for GLN allocation rules and scenarios where changes to a location or attributes relating to a GLN may require a new GLN.~~

~~4.6.4 GLN Allocation Rules~~

~~The *GLN Allocation Rules* provide specific rules on GLN assignment per business scenario.~~

~~The business scenarios address various organisational and attribute data changes that may occur in practice. For each situation, the rules indicate whether a new GLN should be assigned or whether the change can be communicated in other ways, such as an EDI message or GLN registry.~~

~~The scenarios are organised as follows:~~

- ~~General rules~~
- ~~Rules for legal entity GLNs~~
- ~~Rules for function GLNs~~
- ~~Rules for physical location GLNs~~
- ~~Rules for digital location GLNs~~

The same GLN may be used to identify several location types, for example a physical location and a legal entity. The GLN allocation rules provide guidance on the allowed combinations and the way to address change scenarios involving multi-use GLNs.

The *GLN Allocation Rules* can be found at *https://www.gs1.org/1/glnrules/en/*.

Note: These rules are intended for global use. Exceptions may occur only when local regulatory or legal requirements mandate otherwise.

8 GS1 Standards glossary of terms

8.1 GS1 glossary of terms and definitions

The glossary lists the terms and definitions that are applied in this document. Please refer to the *www.gs1.org/glossary* for the online version.

Term	Definition
GLN extension component	The GLN extension component is used to identify internal physical sub-locations within a location (such as a selling floor area, a specific area on a shelf, etc.) which is identified with a GLN (such as stores, factories, buildings, etc.).
Global Location Number (GLN)	The GS1 identification key used to identify physical locations or parties. The key comprises a GS1 Company Prefix, location reference, and check digit.
location reference	A component of a Global Location Number (GLN) -that allows the party defining the party or location to create a unique GLN.