GS1 GSMP — Process Change Notification

GDSN and Master Data Merger PCN	Effective: 10-03-2006

Purpose:

The proposal is:

- To merge GDSN BRG and Master Data (previously Align) BRG into one Business Requirements Group (BRG)

Why the GDSN and Master Data BRGs Need to Merge Into One Team

While clear on paper, having one group approve data requirements for another group is problematic as the groups have had divergent missions: implementation decisions from one group may impact design decisions made by the other and vice versa..

The Master Data and GDSN BRGs should be merged into one for the following reasons:

- There is a GDSN, Inc. Architecture Committee comprised of GDSN, Inc. members and data pools who address design requirements, and Network choreography. These are the entities who must implement the network messaging.

- The workload has evolved. Today, new data requirements are still being requested, but the foundational work of developing a basic model has been completed.

- In the new GSMP model, all complex work efforts go to work groups with full voting rights. This means that standing BRGs will no longer review the work of their sub-teams in order to come to consensus and vote. This removes a big part of the role of the standing BRG and focuses their work on simple CRs that require less discussion.

- The peer-to-peer trade item, previously maintained by Master Data, is no longer required as the network model can be used for peer to peer messaging. Please be reminded that in June 2006, the Master Data BRG approved discontinuing the development of this divergent standard and retiring all documentation listed on the GSMP website was also unanimously endorsed.

This PCN confirms the merger of the GDSN and Master Data groups into one team following all accepted GSMP methodologies and documentation.

Scope of the merged BRG

The merged GDSN BRG scope fully encompasses requirements of the two separate groups, as defined in the GSMP manual, section 3.1.3 (version 4.5.2).   This incorporates all activities relevant to the management of master data in addition to the GDSN choreography and rules.

Merged Scope: Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) and Master Data Business Requirements Group:

The scope of the GDSN BRG and its Work Groups is to develop and maintain the GDS Network, global data synchronization processes and global foundational standards for master data. This describes the specifications and structures of each item, party and price involved in supply chain processes.

The GDSN BRG provides the following:

- A forum for processing simple change requests as defined in the GSMP User Manual (ex. Validation rules, Code List Additions, GDD Fast Track Attributes, and minor documentation enhancements).

- A forum for discussing guidelines for implementation of GDSN and Master Data related standards.

- A "gatekeeping" function for master data standards that include requirements definitions, UML models, GDD, and XML standards.

- Swift development/enhancement of the processes that support Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN)

- Tested solutions as part of the process towards creating standards, including feedback from the pilots to update/improve the draft standards

The GDSN Advisory Committee (previously the Task Group Leadership Team) liaises with the GDSN BRG to provide direction and counsel.

Impact/Next Steps

- One Membership for all simple GDSN and Master Data related change requests

- There will be one conference call starting in October of 2006 that will contain Master Data, GDSN Choreography, and Guidelines content (the GDSN BRG). To join contact Cameron.Green@GS1.org.

- There will be one eroom (working content management tool) for all Master Data and GDSN related documentation.

- GDSN Certified Data Pools will continue to vote in the GDSN BRG.

- The peer-to-peer trade item GDS model will be retired from the GSMP website.