Improving Business Processes using GS1 Standards

GS1 Global Healthcare Conference
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Ascension Health

Ascension Health is the nation's largest Catholic and nonprofit health system. Ascension Health serves patients through a network of hospitals & health facilities providing acute care services, long-term care, community health services, psychiatric, rehabilitation and residential care. Ascension employs over 106,000 associates in facilities across 20 states and the District of Columbia.
BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company)

BD is a global medical technology company focused on improving drug delivery, enhancing the diagnosis of infectious diseases and cancers, and advancing drug discovery. BD develops, manufactures and sells medical supplies, devices, laboratory instruments, antibodies, reagents and diagnostic products.
Can we implement these standards now?
“Perfect Order” is the goal

- Healthcare has much room for improvement
- Ascension and BD are both interested in Perfect Order
- Perfect Data is necessary for Perfect Orders
- Lessons learned are guiding:
  - Creation of a plan for leveraging standards
  - Understanding of minimum systems requirements
  - Process changes necessary for success

Data is not the end goal!
The Challenge

Ascension Health manages pricing and product information for 445 locations.

Seton and BD both used proprietary numbers
- BD: assigned Seton an SAP “Ship to” number
- Seton: assigned BD a “Supplier” number
- Seton: assigned proprietary product numbers for BD
  - GPO Data
  - Distributors
  - BD catalogs and price lists

These challenges are typical in healthcare today.
Synopsis

On September 15, 2008, Seton Family of Hospitals (member of Ascension Health) began purchasing BD products using GS1 Standards:

- **GS1 GLN**: Identification Hospitals locations:
- **GS1 GTIN**: Identification of BD products:
- **GLN Registry for Healthcare**: Storage of GLN
- **GDSN**: Product Data Synchronization
Steps for Transacting with GLN, GTIN, GDSN

1. Assign and synchronize GLNs
2. Identify all BD products, synchronize data
3. Identify and make MMIS changes
4. Identify and make EDI map changes
5. Transact Order
Step 1: Assign & Synchronize GLNs

- Assign GLNs to all Seton Family of Hospitals ship-to locations
- Place all sites in GLN Registry for Healthcare
- Synchronize location names and addresses with MMIS customer account information
- Share with BD
- Reconcile
Step 2: Identify all BD Products, Synchronize Data

- Create list of products that need to be synchronized
- Review item master extract with BD to ensure there are no discontinued or duplicate products
- Obtain GTINs and GDSN Data from BD
- Synchronize item master with BD GDSN data (Eliminate Discrepancies)
Step 3: Identify & Make MMIS Changes

- Replace Lawson system supplier catalog number with GTIN for each BD product
- Replace Lawson system customer account number with GLN for each Ship-to at Seton
- Synchronize GLN/Ship-to’s between Seton’s Lawson System and BD’s SAP system

Need to get data into our ERP systems…
Step 4: Identify & Make EDI Map Changes

- Seton altered outgoing **850** (PO) EDI Transaction map to use UL (GLN) and UK (GTIN) parameters.

- BD utilized the UL (GLN) and UK (GTIN) data received in the **850**.

- BD carried GLNs and GTINs through to the **855** (PO response) and **810** (Invoice).
Step 5 : Transact Order

Tested process by walking a paper 850 (PO) through system to ensure order could be processed manually

Released an 850 EDI order using modified EDI maps in both Lawson and SAP using UL (GLN) and UK (GTIN) parameters
Benefits

- No Unit of Measure EDI Errors
- No Confusion or Errors on Ship-to Locations
- Perfect Alignment on Contract Eligibility
- No Synchronization “Work Around” Processes
- One Source for Product Data
- Clarity on Manufacturer ID
- Provides accurate descriptions (expiry, clinical attributes…)
Lessons Learned (related to GS1)

1) Systems and process changes are essential

2) GTINs need to be perfect: need orderable unit

3) Most GDSN fields cannot be stored or used by providers today

4) Must “lock down” data attributes (focus)

5) Interim need for alternate method to share GDSN data

6) Each participant needs to generate/maintain their own GLNs

7) No substitution for experience – get started
Next Steps

- Ascension intends to begin using a GDSN Data Pool in a production environment
- Ascension interested in going to production with GS1 standards across system
- BD interested in using GS1 data standards globally

Seton/BD using GS1 standards for all EDI Transactions