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Press release

GS1, FIX Protocol, CNRI, and TahoeBlue Launch Web Portal Service for Pre-Legal Entity Identifier Initiative

New Portal p-lei.org Consolidates Pre-Legal Entity Identifier Data

BRUSSELS, Belgium, 28 June, 2013 – GS1, FIX Protocol, CNRI and TahoeBlue announced a new web portal service to collect and consolidate pre-legal entity identifier data. The consolidated files are based on publicly available reference data for ISO 17442 legal entity identifiers (LEI) issued by any of the organizations sponsored by financial regulators as pre-Local Operating Units (pre-LOUs) of the Global LEI System.

The goal of the new data consolidation service is to facilitate the availability of pre-LOU data in a single format for the public and any other end-users who wish to access the full set of pre-LEI registrations conveniently. There is no cost involved to access the information on <u>P-lei.org</u> and download a file – it exists for the public good.

"We wanted to participate in this initiative as part of the larger collective public/private sector effort around the world to provide greater visibility into the entire global financial system," said Jim Northey, FIX Protocol Americas Regional Committee Co-Chair. "This service from P-lei.org, which leverages already publicly available reference data, inches us all a little closer to providing greater transparency for all users in the public and private sectors within financial services."

"The only way businesses big or small can move forward is to work together. This requires a common language and also an extraordinary degree of industry collaboration," said Miguel Lopera, GS1 President & CEO. "We support the LEI initiative as a means of identifying, capturing, and sharing information automatically and accurately in fulfillment of the G-20's vision. The beauty of global standards is they cross language, cultural, geographic, technology and industry boundaries enabling businesses to communicate and work together. The p-lei portal will help to identify issues that will eventually be addressed in global standards developed by the Global LEI System"

The portal uses an XML structure that includes common data elements that either correspond to ISO 17442 specifications or are operational data elements needed in order to support the common ISO 17442 requirements, based on discussions taking place in the Private Sector Preparatory Group that was originally established by the G20 Financial Stability Board and that continues its supporting role under the supervision of the GLEIS Regulatory Oversight Committee.

<u>P-lei.org</u> is a project with joint support from <u>GS1</u>, <u>FIX Protocol</u>, <u>Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI)</u> and <u>TahoeBlue</u>

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About GS1

GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit, international organisation that develops global identification standards to improve efficiency and visibility across 25 industries. It engages a global community of trading partners, industry organisations and technology providers to understand their business needs and develops global standards in response to those needs. GS1 is driven by close to two million user companies, which execute more than six billion transactions daily in 150 countries using GS1 standards. GS1 has local Member Organisations in over 110 countries. More information at www.gs1.org

About FIX Protocol

FIX Protocol Limited (FPL) is the non-profit industry association responsible for defining, managing and promoting increased usage of FIX as an enabler for electronic trading. This benefits the industry by facilitating greater transparency, straight-through-processing and cost savings. FIX is the defacto messaging standard for the electronic communication of equity, listed derivative and foreign exchange trades and is developing momentum within the fixed income markets. Technical and business professionals from FPL member firms coordinate their activities and organize their work through a series of committees, subcommittees, and working groups, all overseen by a Global Steering Committee. FPL's groups aim to ensure consistency of protocol application as it is extended into new markets, asset classes, and phases of the trade lifecycle. In addition to the rigorous engineering and technical efforts undertaken to ensure the ongoing applicability of the protocol to financial-market systems, the FIX Protocol benefits from an energetic educational and marketing effort that seeks to keep the specification viable, relevant, and responsive to the needs of market participants.

About CNRI

Corporation for National Research Initiatives[®] (CNRI) is a not-for-profit organization formed to undertake, foster, and promote research in the public interest. Activities center around strategic development of network-based information technologies, providing leadership and funding for information infrastructure research and development.

CNRI engages in system and technology demonstration projects in order to further the design and implementation of selected infrastructure components for new computing- and communications-based applications. Current projects include the Handle System for assigning, managing, and resolving persistent identifiers for digital objects and other Internet resources, research in digital libraries and networked information technologies, and a general purpose data registration system being developed under a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan foundation that will be used to improve and harmonize the data from pre-LOUs for purposes of identifying potential duplicates and aiding in analysis.

About TahoeBlue

Tahoe Blue is a private company dedicated to improving the health, efficiency and transparency of the financial system. Its partners have extensive and successful track records in providing guidance on the implementation of risk management solutions for the financial industry. Tahoe Blue advises both regulators and financial institutions, and assists in developing risk

management initiatives for the good of the system and the health and productivity of the private sector. Tahoe Blue professionals are adept at planning and developing large projects that require financial subject matter expertise, the ability to communicate with stakeholders, and deep technical knowledge of analytics, data management, and information systems. Its principals have participated actively and continuously in the G20 LEI Private Sector Preparatory Group (PSPG) *pro bono* since its inception.