Implementation Guideline
Applying the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for DSCSA Verification of Returned Product Identifiers

Release 1.0, July 29, 2019
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About GS1
GS1® is a neutral, not-for-profit, global organization that develops and maintains the most widely-used supply chain standards system in the world. GS1 Standards improve the efficiency, safety, and visibility of supply chains across multiple sectors. With local Member Organizations in over 110 countries, GS1 engages with communities of trading partners, industry organizations, governments, and technology providers to understand and respond to their business needs through the adoption and implementation of global standards. GS1 is driven by over a million user companies, which execute more than six billion transactions daily in 150 countries using GS1 Standards.

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About GS1 Healthcare US
GS1 Healthcare US® is an industry group that focuses on driving the adoption and implementation of GS1 Standards in the healthcare industry in the United States to help improve patient safety and supply chain efficiency. GS1 Healthcare US brings together members from all segments of the healthcare industry to address the supply chain issues that most impact healthcare in the United States. Facilitated by GS1 US, GS1 Healthcare US is one of over 30 local GS1 Healthcare user groups around the world that supports the adoption and implementation of global standards developed by GS1.
1 Introduction

Commencing November 27, 2019, the U.S. Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA) requires wholesale distributors to verify the product identifier of returned products before these products can be placed into inventory for resale.\(^1\) The DSCSA defines verification as the process of "determining whether the product identifier affixed to, or imprinted upon on a package, or homogeneous case corresponds to the product identifier assigned to the product by the manufacturer or the repacker."\(^2\) A manufacturer who receives a verification request from a repacker, wholesale distributor, or dispenser must respond to that request within 24 hours.\(^3\)

In preparation, pharmaceutical supply chain stakeholders collaborated with GS1® and GS1 US® to develop a verification messaging standard to enable system interoperability and prevent the proliferation of multiple messaging formats. In addition, the GS1 Messaging Standard Workgroup collaborated with the Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA) Verification Routing Services (VRS) Taskforce. These efforts produced the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for Verification of Product Identifiers.

The GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard was designed to support requests and responses for verification of product identifiers for serialized pharmaceutical products. It is intended to provide a simple, standardized lightweight messaging framework for asking verification questions and receiving actionable information. Designed to support Verification Routing Services (VRS) systems for DSCSA verification, the messaging standard defines a verification request message and a corresponding response message.

This guideline defines how to implement that messaging standard for DSCSA verification of returned product identifiers.

⚠️ Important: As with all GS1 Standards and solutions, this guideline is voluntary, not mandatory. It should be noted that use of the words "must" and "require" throughout this document relate exclusively to technical recommendations for the proper application of the standards to support the integrity of your implementation.

1.1 Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to assist the U.S. pharmaceutical industry in implementing the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard to support DSCSA product identifier verification for returned products. It provides essential technical information including localization query parameters and settings, the open API schema, configuration and set-up, verification requests, and verification responses. It does not provide any guidance or advice regarding regulatory compliance.

⚠️ Important: Each company is individually responsible for meeting all statutory and/or regulatory requirements for their company and their products. Consult with your company's legal counsel or compliance team (regulatory or quality) for more specific information about current statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to your company and products.

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1.2 **Scope**

DSCSA requires wholesale distributors to verify the product identifier of returned products before these products can be placed into inventory for resale.\(^4\) The response message and this guideline were designed to respond to that need.

The DSCSA defines verify as "determining whether the product identifier affixed to, or imprinted upon a package, or homogeneous case corresponds to the product identifier assigned to the product by the manufacturer or the repackager."\(^5\) Following that definition, the "Verified" field in the response message is used to indicate whether a product identifier submitted in the request message matches a product identifier affixed or imprinted by the manufacturer (i.e., true) or not (i.e., false).

⚠️ **Important:** The "verified" field in the response message does not and should not be interpreted as indicating whether a returned product can or should be placed into inventory for resale.

The ultimate decision as to whether a returned product can be placed back in inventory for resale may be subject to and/or dependent on additional regulatory/statutory requirements and/or business considerations. These requirements and considerations are beyond the scope of the response message and this guideline.

Although the response message includes fields for "Reason for Failure" and "Additional Info" to enable manufacturers to communicate more information in the message than just whether the product identifier matches if they so desire, it is assumed trading partners will continue to use whatever communication approaches they deem appropriate for those other regulatory, statutory, or business needs.

1.3 **Normative References**

This Implementation Guideline is based on GS1 Standards. The specific standards referenced in this Guideline are listed below, and the relevant provisions of these standards/specifications are to be considered provisions of this Guideline:

- **GS1 General Specifications**
- **GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for Verification of Product Identifiers**
- **GS1 Digital Link**

1.4 **Non-Normative References**

Material in this Implementation Guideline is based on a number of non-normative guidelines and references available from GS1 and GS1 US. The specific guidelines and documents referenced in this Guideline are listed below.

- **GS1 US Implementation Guideline: Applying GS1 Standards for DSCSA and Traceability**
- **GS1 AIDC Healthcare Implementation Guideline**

1.5 **Contributors**

This Implementation Guideline was prepared by GS1 US and the GS1 Healthcare US® Rx Secure Supply Chain Workgroup and was developed using information obtained from a wide variety of members of the U.S. pharmaceutical supply chain from manufacturers to providers.

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### Implementation Guideline:

Applying the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for DSCSA Verification of Returned Product Identifiers

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2 GS1 Standards for DSCSA Product Identifier Data Elements

DSCSA defines the term “product identifier” as, “a standardized graphic that includes, in both human-readable form and on a machine-readable data carrier that conforms to the standards developed by a widely recognized international standards development organization, the standardized numerical identifier (SNI), lot number, and expiration date of the product.”⁶ Per this definition, a DSCSA product identifier comprises the following four data elements:

- National Drug Code (NDC)
- Serial Number
- Batch or Lot Number
- Expiration Date

[When using GS1 Standards for DSCSA implementation, the NDC is represented by a Global Trade Item Number® (GTIN®)]

These data elements can be encoded in a GS1 barcode using the following GS1 Application Identifiers (AIs):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DSCSA Product Identifier Data Element</th>
<th>GS1 Application Identifier (AI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GTIN</td>
<td>AI (01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serial Number</td>
<td>AI (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batch or Lot Number</td>
<td>AI (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiration Date</td>
<td>AI (17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The concatenated AI element string for encoding those four data elements appears as follows:

\[
(01){gtin}(17){exp}(10){lot}(21){ser}
\]

where \{gtin\}, \{exp\}, \{lot\} and \{ser\} are placeholders for the actual values.

These data elements can also be expressed within a single Web URI using the GS1 Digital Link syntax. The GS1 Digital Link structure (or URI template) for expressing the four data elements in the DSCSA product identifier appears as follows:

\[
https://other.example.com/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}?exp={exp}
\]

where \{gtin\}, \{exp\}, \{lot\} and \{ser\} are placeholders for the actual values.

---

EXAMPLE - Consider a product instance with the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DSCSA Product Identifier Data Element</th>
<th>Sample Value</th>
<th>ENCODED AS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GTIN</td>
<td>00361414567894</td>
<td>AI (01) 00361414567894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serial Number</td>
<td>400806</td>
<td>AI (21) 400806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batch or Lot Number</td>
<td>1908642E</td>
<td>AI (10) 1908642E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiration Date</td>
<td>July 28, 2019</td>
<td>AI (17) 190728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Those four data elements would be encoded in a barcode using the following concatenated AI element string:

(01)00361414567894(17)190728(10)1908642E(21)400806

And they can be expressed in a Web URI format using the following GS1 Digital Link syntax:

https://other.example.com/gtin/00361414567894/lot/1908642E/ser/400806?exp=190728

**Important:** This example illustrates how expiration date is encoded in GS1 barcodes and represented in the GS1 Digital Link syntax using YYMMDD per GS1 Standards. It is not illustrating how to express expiration date in human-readable presentations on drug packages and/or within systems, which often use YYYYMMDD.

Together, these standardized formats enable users to encode the four DSCSA data elements in a GS1 barcode, express them in a single Web URI, and translate between the two. As such, they provide the foundation for automating the verification of product identifiers using barcoded data and the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard, as described throughout the remainder of this document.

**Note about “00” in the day portion of expiration date**

- It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that the barcode contain an expiration date that includes a year, month, and non-zero day, encoded in YYMMDD format according to the [GS1 General Specifications](#).

- With respect to verification of saleable returns, the data encoded from returned serialized products may be scanned with “00” day in the day portion of expiration date. In keeping with United States Pharmacopeia (USP) guidance which specifies that an expiration date on a label lacking a day, should be understood to refer to the last day of the month, verification services and Responders are expected to appropriately handle this scenario as outlined in Section 6.1.1.1.4 of the [GS1 US Implementation Guideline, R1.2](#).
3 GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for Verification of Product Identifiers

The GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for Verification of Product Identifiers is designed to support Requests and Responses for verification of product identifiers for serialized pharmaceutical products. This standard has been developed and designed to support VRS systems for U.S. DSCSA verification of product identifiers on returned products, the standard defines a verification Request message and a corresponding Response message. It is intended to provide a simple, standardized lightweight messaging framework for asking verification questions and receiving information based on a check of the DSCSA Product Identifier and associated data.

This standard is the first GS1 technical standard to make use of the new GS1 Digital Link syntax. It enables a basic automated check of a serialized product identifier and the associated expiration date and batch number via a lightweight web-based Request/Response message pair, initiated by a simple HTTP/HTTPS GET Request and returning a lightweight machine-readable Response message formatted in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON).

**Note:** Additional information about the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard may be accessed through the following link: https://www.gs1.org/verification-messaging

**Figure 3-1** Methods by which a client may interact directly with a known VRS system, using either the checkConnectivity method (1a) or the verify method (2a)

In situations where the Requestor does not know in advance which VRS to use for a specific GTIN, they may make use of the resolver or look-up directory infrastructure as shown in Figure 3-2. A look-up directory has its own internal database of redirection, which it uses to match against the GTIN within the GS1 Digital Link Web URI, to provide a redirection pointer to the appropriate verification service, depending on information configured by the respective brand owner of that GTIN.

To indicate that the client wants to interact with a verification service, the client specifies within the URI query string a `linkType` value equal to 'verificationService'.

A look-up directory will redirect the Request to the appropriate verification service for that GTIN, and the server for the Responder will respond.
The role of the Lookup Directory (LD) is to provide redirection so that instead of the client maintaining its own lookup table mapping every GTIN to a specific URL of a verification service, a resolver or LD provides up-to-date redirection information.

To distinguish between the two methods (`checkConnectivity` and `verify`) defined for the standardized interface, the client either appends `&checkConnectivity=true` to the GS1 Digital Link URI or does not.
Figure 3-2 A client may use a Lookup Directory infrastructure for GS1 Digital Links to be redirected to the appropriate verification service for a specific GTIN, as specified by the respective brand owner.

3.1 Relationship to GS1 Digital Link

This standard is the first GS1 technical standard to make use of the new GS1 Digital Link syntax. A GS1 Digital Link resolver is already operational at id.gs1.org and can be configured with several typed redirection links by each licensee of a GS1 identification key. One of these typed links can point to the relevant service for verification of product identifiers, as nominated by the respective brand owner.

The team developing the GS1 Digital Link resolver prototype at id.gs1.org are carefully examining HDA requirements and draft specifications for Lookup Directories to assure that equivalent functional capabilities can be supported by the GS1 Digital Link resolver at id.gs1.org, including the ability to handle redirection to multiple verification services for the same GTIN concurrently to deal with specific merger and acquisition issues (i.e., when mergers and acquisitions of companies and brands require concurrent operations over a period of time during the changeover period while products with the same GTIN from the previous brand owner and new brand owner coexist within the supply chain).

3.2 Relationship to EPCIS

This standard is independent of GS1 Electronic Product Code Information Services (EPCIS) and does not require the use of EPCIS, although users are encouraged to implement EPCIS to capture their supply chain events and to leverage the EPCIS query interface to retrieve data to support their response to a Request for product verification. Although EPCIS event data can record the commissioning or decommissioning of products, as well as current disposition (such as ‘recalled’) and instance/lot master
data (such as 'expiration date'), it does not provide a sufficiently convenient interface to perform a simple verification check of product identifiers at batch or serial level.

### 3.3 Security considerations

The request includes a Requestor GLN. It is expected that prior to honoring any requests, a verification service or company building their own requesting or responding services will take steps to ensure that the Requestor is an authorized trading partner who has a justification for using the service.
4 Localization Parameters and Settings

The *GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard for Verification of Product Identifiers* is structured to promote re-use and extension to other industry sectors in all geographic regions. The combination of `linkType` and `context` parameter values in the GS1 Digital Link (Web URI) query string for a verification request provide localization parameters that can tailor the scope of the business rules.

4.1 Definition of `linkType`

`linkType` is a required query parameter included within a URI query string to specify a preferred type of information or service requested by the client. A resolver or lookup directory service can then use the value specified by `linkType` to select which link(s) to return to the client.

**Usage of `linkType`**

*For U.S. DSCSA verification of returned product identifiers, `linkType` is a required query parameter in the URI query string. To specify the information service for U.S. DSCSA verification of returned product identifiers, `linkType` must be set to 'verificationService'.*

4.2 Definition of `context`

`context` is a required query parameter included within a URI query string to provide supporting context information for the scope of the information service indicated by `linkType`.

The `context` query parameter is used in conjunction with the `linkType` query parameter. It has meaning within that `linkType`. Within a `linkType` value of ‘verificationService’, it provides a verification service with `context` about the request, indicating a particular profile, which may indicate whether the verification should be performed in accordance with the rules and semantics of a specific jurisdiction or regulatory scheme (as is the case for `context = dcsaSaleableReturn`).

**Usage of `context`**

⚠️ *Important: For U.S. DSCSA verification of returned product identifiers, `context` is a required query parameter in the URI query string. In this specification, set the value of `linkType` to ‘verificationService’ and then set the value of `context` to ‘dcsaSaleableReturn’ to assure that the verification service that receives the request understands that it should use the configuration, rules and interpretation for U.S. DSCSA verification of product identifiers for returned pharmaceutical products.*
5 Overview of OpenAPI Schema (including JSON) for Verification Request & Response

The GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard is a machine-readable specification of the verification message REST interface, using the OpenAPI Specification™ (OAS™). It includes JSON Schema components for validating the structure of the request and response messages in an automated manner to support conformance testing.

This chapter provides high-level information about the schema. To that end, this chapter highlights key structures of the OpenAPI Specification and how they are applied within the GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard to bring attention to important definitions that should be adhered to by verification service implementations.

For additional information about the GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard, see:
- Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard v1.0.2 (Jan 2019)
- Lightweight Verification Messaging OpenAPI (Jan 2019)

For additional information about the OpenAPI Specification, visit:
- OpenAPI Initiative
- OpenAPI Specification

5.1 Available endpoints

In OpenAPI Specification terms, paths are endpoints or resources that the API exposes.

There are 2 available paths in GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard:

- /checkConnectivity
- /verify

The /checkConnectivity path of a verification service enables a check of system connectivity with the verification service and returns appropriate HTTP status codes.

The /verify path of a verification service implements the verification of the product identifiers subject to the rules defined by the context query parameter such as ‘dscaSaleableReturn’.

---

7 OpenAPI Specification and OAS and their respective logos, are trademarks of The Linux Foundation®. Linux is a registered trademark of Linus Torvalds.
**Figure 5-1** Two API paths defined in the global paths section of the API specification

```json
{
  "openapi": "3.0.0",
  "info": {
    "version": "1.0.0",
    "title": "GS1 Verification Messaging Standard",
    "contact": {
      "name": "GS1",
      "url": "https://www.gs1.org",
      "email": "gsmp@gs1.org"
    },
    "description": "This the API specification for peer-to-peer communication between Verification Router Services or VRS"
  },
  "servers": [{
    "url": "https://vrs.example.com/gateway/placeholder"
  }],
  "paths": {
    "/checkConnectivity": {
      "/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}": {
      
    }
  }
}
```

### 5.2 Operations

In OpenAPI Specification terms, operations are HTTP methods used to access and manipulate the paths. For each path, one or more operations such as GET, POST, or DELETE can be defined, but only one instance of an operation (HTTP method) can be defined for a path.

Both the `checkConnectivity` and `verify` paths of a verification service are defined to have a single operation: GET.
5.3 Parameters

In OpenAPI Specification, parameters are defined in the parameters section of an operation or path. A parameter description includes the following:

- **Parameter name**
- Location of where the parameter appears (i.e., whether it’s included in the path (in: path) or the query string (in: query)
- Data type of the parameter as defined by either schema or content
- Other parameter attributes (such as parameter description) and whether the parameter is required or optional.

Path and query are two types of parameters defined in the OpenAPI Specification:

- Path parameters form the variable part of a URI path and they partition the resource of the path. The location of path parameters are denoted by in: path in the parameter section of the OpenAPI Specification.
**Figure 5-3** The three path parameters that partition the resources of the /verify path to a specific gtin, lot and ser

```
"/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}": {
  "get": {
    "tags": [
    ],
    "description": "Verify a saleable return",
    "parameters": [
      {
        "name": "gtin",
        "in": "path",
        "description": "Global Trade Item Number",
        "required": true,
        "schema": {
          "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gtin"
        }
      },
      {
        "name": "lot",
        "in": "path",
        "description": "Lot/Batch Number",
        "required": true,
        "schema": {
          "$ref": "#/components/schemas/lotNum"
        }
      },
      {
        "name": "ser",
        "in": "path",
        "description": "Serial Number",
        "required": true,
        "schema": {
          "$ref": "#/components/schemas/serialNumber"
        }
      }
    ],
    "queryParameters": {
      "exp": "exp",
      "linkType": "verificationService",
      "context": "dscsaSaleableReturn",
      "reqGLN": "reqGLN",
      "corrUUID": "corrUUID"
    }
  }
}
```

Query parameters appear at the end of the request URL after a question mark (?) followed by name value pair (name=value) separated by ampersands (&). The location of query parameters are denoted by the in: query in the parameter section of the OpenAPI Specification.

Here is an example taken from Figure 1-5 of the [GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard](https://www.gs1.org) illustrating a /verify path with query parameters exp, linkType, context, reqGLN, and corrUUID:

```
GET https://verificationService.example.com/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}
?exp={exp}&linkType=verificationService&context=dscsaSaleableReturn
&reqGLN={reqGLN}&corrUUID={correlationUUID}
```
Figure 5-4 How the `query` parameters are defined for `/verify` in the GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard:

```
"/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}": {
  "get": {
    "tags": ["example"],
    "description": "Verify a saleable return",
    "parameters": [{
      "name": "gtin",
      "in": "path",
      "description": "Global Trade Item Number",
      "required": true,
      "schema": {} }]
  },
  {
  },
  {
   },
  {
    "name": "exp",
    "in": "query",
    "description": "Expiry",
    "required": true,
    "schema": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/expiryDate"
    }
  },
  {
    "name": "linkType",
    "in": "query",
    "description": "Typed Link",
    "required": true,
    "schema": {}
  }
},
```

Parameter definitions include schema objects to describe the structure and syntax of the parameters. Schema definitions facilitate robust validation and implementations of the API. Implementations of the verification messaging service for product identifiers will be validated against the schemas defined in the GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard.

Figure 5-5 shows the gln schema definition which specifies data type, minimum length, maximum length, regular expression template for the string value and provides an example. This gln schema definition is one of many schema definitions included in the components section of the GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard.

**Figure 5-5** GLN schema definition

```
"schemas": {
  "gln": {
    "type": "string",
    "minLength": 13,
    "maxLength": 13,
    "example": "9071404000002",
    "pattern": "^\d{13}$"
  }
}
```
5.4 Components and Schema Data

Schema definitions shared by multiple parameters and response properties are defined in the components section of the OpenAPI Specification and referenced in the schema parameter definition using $ref. This consolidates the shared and reusable definitions in one section of the OpenAPI Specification.

Figure 5-6 GLN schema being referenced in the parameter definition of reqGLN for /verify
Figure 5-7 GLN schema being referenced by the responderGLN properties in the ConnectivityCheckResponse

```
"ConnectivityCheckResponse": {
  "required": [
    "responderGLN"
  ],
  "properties": {
    "responderGLN": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
    }
  }
}
```

Figure 5-8 GLN schema being referenced by the responderGLN properties in the PositiveVerificationResponse

```
"PositiveVerificationResponse": {
  "required": [],
  "properties": {
    "verificationTimestamp": [],
    "correlationUUID": [],
    "responderGLN": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
    },
    "data": {}
  }
}
```
Figure 5-9 GLN schema being referenced by the responderGLN properties in the NegativeVerificationResponse

```
"NegativeVerificationResponse": {
  "required": [],
  "properties": {
    "verificationTimestamp": {},
    "correlationUUID": {},
    "responderGLN": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
    },
    "data": {}
  }
}
```

**Figure 5-10** Common schema and response structures shared by multiple API operations

```
"components": {
  "schemas": {
    "gln": {},
    "gtln": {},
    "lotNum": {},
    "serialNumber": {},
    "expiryDate": {},
    "uuid": {},
    "timestamp": {},
    "linkType": {},
    "context": {},
    "positiveVerificationStatus": {},
    "negativeVerificationStatus": {},
    "verificationFailureReason": {},
    "additionalInformation": {}
  }
}
```
5.5 Responses

An API specification defines the structure of the response for each of the operations in the API. The response includes the HTTP status code(s) and the content of the data returned in the response body. The GS1 Lightweight Verification Messaging Standard defines a ConnectivityCheckResponse to a successful response to the /checkConnectivity GET operation.

Figure 5-11 Response definition for /checkConnectivity GET operation

```json
"paths": {
  "/checkConnectivity": {
    "get": {
      "tags": [
        "Test"
      ],
      "description": "Test connection to endpoints",
      "parameters": [],
      "responses": {
        "200": {
          "description": "A response code of 200 means the request was successful and details about the response can be found in the body of the response. Only a 200 response will issue a JSON payload.",
          "content": {
            "application/json": {
              "schema": {
                "$ref": "#/components/schemas/ConnectivityCheckResponse"
              }
            }
          }
        },
        "400": {},
        "401": {},
        "403": {},
        "404": {},
        "405": {},
        "408": {},
        "500": {},
        "502": {}
      }
    }
  }
}
```
For the `/verify` GET operation, a successful response can either be based on `PositiveVerificationResponse` or a `NegativeVerificationResponse`.

**Figure 5-12** Response definition for the `/verify` GET operation

```json
"/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}": {
  "get": {
    "tags": [],
    "description": "Verify a saleable return",
    "parameters": [],
    "responses": {
      "200": {
        "description": "A response code of 200 means the request was successful and details about the response can be found in the body of the response. Only a 200 response will issue a JSON payload.",
        "content": {
          "application/json": {
            "schema": {
              "oneOf": [{
                "$ref": "#/components/schemas /PositiveVerificationResponse"
              },
              {
                "$ref": "#/components/schemas /NegativeVerificationResponse"
              }]
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```
6 Configuration and Set-up for Connectivity Testing

6.1 Making a Connectivity Request

Prior to performing a verification request, users can perform a connectivity check to confirm that a web connection to the corresponding verification service exists, and that the verification service is online and responding. Connectivity check is purely a system function that can be performed occasionally to assure web connections are still valid and active.

The checkConnectivity operation of a verification service enables a check for connectivity with the verification service that returns appropriate HTTP status codes. If the Requestor GLN (reqGLN) was not recognized, the verification service can respond with an HTTP 401 'Unauthorized' response, provided that it receives the request. If the Requestor GLN (reqGLN) is not permitted to make requests, the verification service can respond with an HTTP 403 'Forbidden' response.

Since the verification service provider for a GTIN may change due to changes in product ownership such as product divestiture or company merger and acquisition (M&A), or due to solution change in serial number repository or VRS provider, the look-up directory may contain multiple verification service links for the same GTIN. The look-up directory entries for the same GTIN are differentiated in the look-up directory by non-overlapping startExpDate and endExpDate. For the purpose of checking system availability of verification service for a GTIN, a connectivity request can be made to each verification service link matching a GTIN.

The checkConnectivity operation of a verification service is a simple HTTPS GET request wherein the URI path information ends with /checkConnectivity and the following four required query parameters are specified in the URI query string:

- GTIN (for routing purposes)
- Requestor GLN (to uniquely identify the Requestor)
- Link Type (indicates specific type of information or service)
- Context (indicates the specific scope of service within the verification service)

6.2 Example of a JSON connectivity test

The example below illustrates a sample JSON connectivity test with a known verification service with the context of verification of dscsaSaleableReturn. The HTTP header Accept: with value application/json is used to indicate to the verification service that the client would like to receive a response to the connectivity check in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format.

GET https://verificationService.example.com/checkConnectivity?gtin=01234567890128&reqGLN=0321012345676&linkType=verificationService&context=dscsaSaleableReturn
Accept: application/json

6.3 Example of a successful JSON connectivity response

The response to such a connectivity check request is an HTTP response containing a JSON body payload formatted as follows:

```json
{  "responderGLN":"{responderGLN}"}
```

If the responder GLN were 012341234567, the following JSON body would be expected in the response if the connection is successful and returns an HTTP 200 status code:
{  
"responderGLN":"012341234567"  
}

### 6.4 Example of a successful JSON connectivity response with HTTP status code 200

HTTP 1.1 200 OK  
Cache-Control: private, no-cache  
Content-Type: application/json  
{
"responderGLN":"012341234567"
}

### 6.5 Example of a failed JSON connectivity response with an HTTP status code of 503

If no successful connection can be established, appropriate HTTP status codes and helpful descriptions will be returned, as appropriate.

HTTP 1.1 503 Service Unavailable. System is undergoing maintenance or is otherwise temporarily unavailable for API queries.  
Cache-Control: private, no-cache  
Content-Type: application/json
7 Configuration and Set-up for a DSCSA Verification Request

7.1 Making a DSCSA Verification Request

Using the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard, an HTTPS GET request can be made to request verification of a DSCSA product identifier on a given product by specifying linkType=verificationService and by specifying the verification context=dscsaSaleableReturn, as well as the following details of the request supplied via the URI query string:

- Requestor GLN (to uniquely identify the Requestor)
- Correlation UUID (universally unique identifier, uniquely generated by the Requestor)

Although a Web request typically returns a synchronous response, both the request and corresponding response may also be archived for audit purposes. It is for this reason that both share the same Correlation UUID, in order that each request may be matched with the corresponding response even when archived.

The Requestor GLN may be used by a verification service as an input to an access control decision, where access may only be granted to recognized values of Requestor GLN, and requests with unrecognized values of Requestor GLN may be redirected to a registration page (via an HTTP 403 'Forbidden' response) through which the Requestor can register for access by providing appropriate credentials and justification.

The full GS1 Digital Link Web URI template for a verification request for a DSCSA product identifier on a returned product is therefore generated by adding the following additional query parameters to the URI query string:

```
&linkType=verificationService
&context=dscsaSaleableReturn
&reqGLN={Requestor GLN}
&corrUUID={Correlation UUID}
```

This results in the following URI template:

```
https://other.example.com/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}?exp={exp}&linkType=verificationService&context=dscsaSaleableReturn&reqGLN={Requestor_GLN}&corrUUID={Correlation_UUID}
```

A resolver for GS1 Digital Link URI could be configured to redirect a GS1 Digital Link URI with these additional parameters in the query string (and the absence of the checkConnectivity=true parameter) to the verify method/operation of the appropriate verification service specified by the respective brand owner and licensee of that GTIN.

**Note:** Both RequestorGLN and Correlation UUID are explicitly required for the dscsaSaleableReturn context but may not be relevant to other uses of the GS1 Lightweight Messaging Standard in other sectors or regulatory jurisdictions.

7.2 Example of a JSON verification request

The examples below use the following values for GTIN, Batch or Lot Number, Serial Number and Expiration Date, Requestor GLN, Correlation UUID and context:

- **GTIN:** 00361414567894
Batch or Lot Number: 1908642E
Serial Number: 400806
Expiration Date: 190728
linkType: verificationService
context: dscsaSaleableReturn
Requestor GLN: 0321012345676
Correlation UUID: 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D

Inputting these values into the full GS1 Digital Link Web URI template shown above produces the following URI:

https://other.example.com/gtin/00361414567894/lot/1908642E/ser/400806?exp=190728&linkType=verificationService&context=dscsaSaleableReturn&reqGLN=032101234567&corrUUID=21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D

By making a simple HTTPS GET request for such Web URIs, the Requestor would be redirected to the respective brand owner's verification service (provided this is known to a resolver for GS1 Digital Link Web URIs), which could then use the translation functions to extract the data, convert it to a searchable format, and then process the verification request by searching their systems and issuing an appropriate response.

The example below illustrates a sample JSON verification request with the context of dscsaSaleableReturn when communicating with a known verification service. The HTTP header Accept: with value application/json is used to indicate to the verification service that the client would like to receive a response to the verification request in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format.

GET
https://verificationService.example.com/verify/gtin/01234567890128/lot/1908642E/ser/400806?exp=190728&linkType=verificationService&context=dscsaSaleableReturn&reqGLN=032101234567&corrUUID=21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D
Accept: application/json

...
8 Verification Responses

8.1 Interpretation of the ‘verified’ field

DSCSA requires wholesale distributors to verify the product identifier of returned products before these products can be placed into inventory for resale. The response message and this guideline were designed to respond to that specific need.

The DSCSA defines verify as “determining whether the product identifier affixed to, or imprinted upon a package, or homogeneous case corresponds to the product identifier assigned to the product by the manufacturer or the repackager.” Following that definition, the “verified” field in the response message is used to indicate whether a product identifier submitted in the request matches a product identifier affixed or imprinted by the manufacturer (i.e., true) or not (i.e., false).

⚠️ Important: The “verified” field in the response message does not and should not be interpreted as indicating whether a returned product can or should be placed into inventory for resale.

The ultimate decision as to whether a returned product can be placed back in inventory for resale may be subject to and/or dependent on additional regulatory/statutory requirements and/or business considerations. These requirements and considerations are beyond the scope of the response message and this guideline. Although the response message includes fields for "Reason for Failure" and "Additional Info" to enable manufacturers to communicate more information in the message than just whether the product identifier matches if they so desire, it is assumed trading partners will continue to use whatever communication approaches they deem appropriate for those other regulatory, statutory, or business needs.

8.2 Syntax of Verification Response

- JSON syntax will be used to respond to all verification requests.
- Verification Responses SHALL, at a minimum, indicate:
  - Responder GLN
  - Correlation UUID indicated by the Requestor in the original Verification Request
  - Whether the product identifier was verified (true) or not verified (false)
  - Where NOT verified, indication of the reason for non-verification via the value of the verificationFailureReason parameter using one of the following code values:

---


## Code value for verificationFailureReason

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code value</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;No_match_GTIN_Serial&quot;</td>
<td>No match between GTIN and Serial Number (For a serialized product, if GTIN and Serial Number do not match, there is no need to check whether Lot or Expiration Date match)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot_Expiry&quot;</td>
<td>No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Lot Number and Expiration Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot&quot;</td>
<td>No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Lot Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expiry&quot;</td>
<td>No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Expiration Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;No_reason_provided&quot;</td>
<td>No reason provided</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- To enhance auditability, a verification timestamp is included in the verification response to record the date and time the manufacturer responded to the verification request.
- **OPTIONAL** additional information may be provided via the `additionalInfo` parameter.
  - The value of the `additionalInfo` parameter is not a free text description, but rather a code value from the following table:

## Code value for additionalInfo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code value</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Recalled&quot;</td>
<td>The product has been recalled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Suspect&quot;</td>
<td>The product’s authenticity or integrity is considered suspect by the Responder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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8.3 Examples of verification responses based on U.S. supply chain business scenarios

Each example business scenario presented in this chapter starts with the wholesale distributor (herein referred to as “Requestor”) entering the DSCSA product identifier marked on a returned serialized product (e.g., scan the barcode; key in; interface; etc.), and then requesting verification of the product identifier. VRS then routes the request to the appropriate manufacturer (herein referred to as “Responder”) for verification of the product identifier against their repository.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario Number</th>
<th>Scenario Description</th>
<th>verified</th>
<th>verificationFailure Reason</th>
<th>additionalInfo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 1</td>
<td>Product Identifier matches, AND Manufacturer has no additional info to share</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>&lt;not provided&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 2</td>
<td>Product identifier matches but Manufacturer has Recall info to share.</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 3</td>
<td>Product Identifier matches but Manufacturer has reason to believe product is suspect.</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Suspect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 4</td>
<td>Product Identifier does NOT match, and Manufacturer provides no reason for verification failure</td>
<td>false</td>
<td>No_reason_provided</td>
<td>&lt;not provided&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 5</td>
<td>Product identifier does NOT match, and Manufacturer provides a reason for verification failure</td>
<td>false</td>
<td>One of the following can be provided: No_match_GTIN_Serial No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot_Expiry No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expiry</td>
<td>&lt;not provided&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.4 Scenario 1: Product Match Yes, No Addition Information

In Scenario 1, the product identifier matches a value in the Responder’s repository and no additional information is provided back to the Requestor.

The example below illustrates a sample JSON response to a request for verification of a returned product identifier following positive verification, with no additional information. In this example, the Correlation UUID is 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D, and the GLN of the manufacturer responding to the verification request is 0312231245676.

HTTP 1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, no-cache
Content-Type: application/json
{ 
  "verificationTimestamp": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
  "responderGLN": "0312231245676",
  "data": { 
    "verified": true 
  },
  "corrUUID": "21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D"
}
8.5 **Scenario 2: Product identifier matches but product is known to the manufacturer to be recalled**

In Scenario 2, the product identifier matches a value in the Responder’s repository and the Responder has determined that this product has been recalled. The Responder returns a positive verification response and provides a status of 'Recalled' as additional information.

The example below illustrates a sample JSON response to a request for verification of a returned product identifier following positive verification, and optionally including product status of Recalled as additional information. In this example, the Correlation UUID is 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D, and the GLN of the manufacturer responding to the verification request is 0312231245676.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, no-cache
Content-Type: application/json

{"verificationTimestamp": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
"responderGLN": "0312231245676",
"data": {}}
```
"verified": true,
"additionalInfo": "Recalled"
},
"corrUUID": "21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D"
### 8.6 Scenario 3: Product identifier matches but product is known by the manufacturer to be suspect

In Scenario 3, the product identifier matches a value in the Responder’s repository and the Responder has reason to believe that the product is suspect. The Responder returns a positive verification response and provides a status of ‘Suspect’ as additional information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requestor</th>
<th>VRS (Requestor/Responder)</th>
<th>Responder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td></td>
<td>Return Positive Verification with suspect as additional information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned serialized product is received at the Requestor’s warehouse</td>
<td>Resolve the verification request URL and invoke the designated verification service</td>
<td>Is Suspect Product?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requestor scans barcode or enters product identifier to initiate verification request</td>
<td>Does product identifier from verification request match a product identifier affixed or imprinted by the manufacturer?</td>
<td>Y See Scenario 4 &amp; 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolved</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N See Scenario 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide additional information?</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The example below illustrates a sample JSON response to a request for verification of a returned product identifier following positive verification, and optionally including product status of Suspect as additional information. In this example, the Correlation UUID is 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D, and the GLN of the manufacturer responding to the verification request is 0312231245676.

HTTP 1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, no-cache
Content-Type: application/json

```json
{
}
```
"verificationTimestamp": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
"responderGLN": "0312231245676",
"data": {
  "verified": true,
  "additionalInfo": "Suspect"
},
"corrUUID": "21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D"
8.7 Scenario 4: Product Match No, with No reason provided

In Scenario 4, the product identifier does not match a value in the Responder’s repository. The Responder returns a negative verification response and does not provide a reason for the verification failure.

The example below illustrates a sample JSON response to a request for verification of a returned product identifier following failure of verification, with “No_reason_provided” as reason for failure. In this example, the Correlation UUID is 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D, and the GLN of the manufacturer responding to the verification request is 0312231245676.

HTTP 1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, no-cache
Content-Type: application/json
{


"verificationTimestamp": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
"responderGLN": "0312231245676",
"data": {
  "verified": false,
  "verificationFailureReason": "No_reason_provided"
},
"corrUUID": "21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D"}
8.8 Scenario 5: Product Match No, Specific Reason for Failure

In Scenario 5, the product identifier does not match a value in the Responder’s repository. The Responder returns a negative verification response and provides a reason for the verification failure.

The example below illustrates a sample JSON response to a request for verification of a returned product identifier following failure of verification, providing “No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expiry” as reason for failure. In this example, the Correlation UUID is 21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D, and the GLN of the manufacturer responding to the verification request is 0312231245676.

HTTP 1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, no-cache
Content-Type: application/json
{  
"verificationTimestamp": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
"responderGLN": "0312231245676",
"data": {  
"verified": false,
"verificationFailureReason": "No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expire"
},
"corrUUID": "21EC2020-3AEA-4069-A2DD-08002B30309D"
}

9 Exception Handling

9.1 Potential list of HTTP status code responses returned when processing connectivity or verification requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>A response code of 200 means the request was successful and details about the response can be found in the body of the response. Only a 200 response will issue a JSON payload.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Bad Request. The request was not formatted properly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>Unauthorized. The request was not allowed because the request did not pass authentication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Forbidden. The request was valid, but the server is refusing to provide a response because the Requestor lacks permission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404</td>
<td>Not found. GTIN may be missing in Look-up Directory/Resolver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>405</td>
<td>Method Not Allowed. The request method is not supported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>408</td>
<td>Request Timeout. The server timed out waiting for the request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Internal Server Error. System failed to process the request because of an error inside the system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>502</td>
<td>Bad Gateway. The server was acting as a gateway or proxy and received an invalid response from the upstream server. Indicates that one server tried to use another VRS system and that system was down.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503</td>
<td>Service Unavailable. System is undergoing maintenance or is otherwise temporarily unavailable for API queries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>504</td>
<td>Gateway Timeout. The server, while acting as a gateway or proxy, performed multiple retries but did not receive a timely response from the upstream server specified by the URI (e.g. HTTP, FTP, LDAP) or some other auxiliary server (e.g. DNS) it needed to access in attempting to complete the request.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9.2 Potential resolution paths for HTTP status code responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HTTP Status Code</th>
<th>Suggested Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Check that the request conforms to the specification, and re-issue the request in the correct format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>Check and obtain necessary authentication credentials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Check and obtain necessary permission and credentials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404</td>
<td>Check URI format and correct resource paths and names. Contact Mfg. to confirm the GTIN exists. Contact verification service provider to ensure look-up directory is synchronized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>405</td>
<td>Check and correct method names and parameters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>408</td>
<td>Re-try sending the request to the server. If timeout continues, check connectivity request to server and contact verification service provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Contact Verification Service Provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>502</td>
<td>Re-try sending the request to the server. If timeout continues, check connectivity request to server and contact verification service provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503</td>
<td>Re-try sending the request to the server. If timeout continues, check connectivity request to server and contact verification service provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>504</td>
<td>Re-try sending the request to the server. If timeout continues, check connectivity request to server and contact verification service provider.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.3 Exception handling example for GTIN not found

While it is expected for GTINs to be registered in a Look-up Directory (LD), it is possible, though unlikely, for the GTIN information to be missing from an LD. In the figure 9-1 below, we are describing an example of an exception handling process when the GTIN is not found in the LD. Although the GS1 Digital Link URI is syntactically valid, the LD has no information about the GTIN contained in the URI. Since there is no GTIN record in the LD, the verification request cannot be routed to any verification service. The verification request never makes it past the LD. Consequently, the response returned can neither be a positive, nor negative verification response. Hence, the LD returns an HTTP status code of 404: Not Found. GTIN may be missing in Look-up Directory/Resolver.
Figure 9-1 an example of an exception handling process when the GTIN is not found in the Look-up Directory.

As shown in section 9.2, suggested resolution steps for a 404 HTTP status code response include:

- Checking URI format and correcting resource path and names
- Contacting manufacturer to confirm the GTIN exists
- Contacting your verification service provider to ensure the LD is synchronized
# Abbreviations and Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>context</td>
<td>Parameter within each verification request which serves as a reference to a bundle of input parameters for the product identifier and selected master data attributes, as well as an interpretation (or reference to an interpretation) of the true/false response; for example, &quot;dcsaSaleableReturn&quot; indicates a verification application within the US DSCSA’s provision for Verification of Saleable Returns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSCSA</td>
<td>Drug Supply Chain Security Act, comprising Title II of the DQSA, outlines steps to build an electronic, interoperable system to identify and trace certain prescription drugs as they are distributed in the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPCIS</td>
<td>Electronic Product Code Information Services, a GS1 and ISO 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDA</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration, a federal agency of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLN</td>
<td>Global Location Number, a GS1 identification key used to identify physical locations or parties. The key comprises a GS1 Company Prefix, location reference, and check digit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTIN</td>
<td>Global Trade Item Number, a GS1 identification key used to identify trade items. The key comprises a GS1 Company Prefix, an item reference and check digit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDA</td>
<td>Healthcare Distribution Alliance, the US national organization representing primary pharmaceutical distributors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTTP</td>
<td>Hypertext Transfer Protocol, an application protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTTPS</td>
<td>Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure, an extension of the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) for secure communication over a computer network, widely used on the Internet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSON</td>
<td>JavaScript Object Notation, an open-standard file format that uses human-readable text to transmit data objects consisting of attribute-value pairs and array data types.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSON-LD</td>
<td>JavaScript Object Notation for Linked Data, a method of encoding Linked Data using JSON.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linkType</td>
<td>Specification of the nature of the information being linked to, to request a specific type of information or service; for example, &quot;verificationService&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requestor</td>
<td>Party that submits a verification request; for example, in the context of &quot;dcsaSaleableReturn&quot;, a pharmaceutical wholesale distributor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responder</td>
<td>Party that responds to a verification request; for example, in the context of &quot;dcsaSaleableReturn&quot;, a pharmaceutical manufacturer or repackager.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REST</td>
<td>Representational State Transfer, an architectural style that defines a set of constraints to be used for creating web services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNI</td>
<td>Standardized Numerical Identifier, defined by the DSCSA as “a set of numbers or characters used to uniquely identify each package or homogenous case that is composed of the National Drug Code that corresponds to the specific product (including the particular package configuration) combined with a unique alphanumeric serial number of up to 20 characters.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URI</td>
<td>Uniform Resource Identifier, a string of characters that unambiguously identifies a particular resource.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UUID</td>
<td>Universally Unique Identifier, a practically unique, 128-bit number used to identify information in computer systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VRS</td>
<td>Verification Router Service, potential method to meet the 2019 Saleable Returns DSCSA Requirements, designed to reference a returned pharmaceutical product’s GTIN or associated GCP to automatically query the appropriate manufacturer’s database and return a response in real-time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11 Appendix

11.1 OpenAPI Schema (including JSON) for U.S. Verification Request & Response Requirements

```json
{
  "openapi": "3.0.0",
  "info": {
    "version": "1.0.0",
    "title": "GS1 Verification Messaging Standard",
    "contact": {
      "name": "GS1",
      "url": "https://www.gs1.org",
      "email": "gsmp@gs1.org"
    },
    "description": "This the API specification for peer-to-peer communication between Verification Router Services or VRS"
  },
  "servers": [
    {
      "url": "https://vrs.example.com/gateway/placeholder"
    }
  ],
  "paths": {
    "/checkConnectivity": {
      "get": {
        "tags": [
          "Test"
        ],
        "description": "Test connection to endpoints",
        "parameters": [
          {
            "name": "gtin",
            "in": "query",
            "description": "Global Trade Item Number",
            "required": true,
            "schema": {
              "$ref": "/components/schemas/gtin"
            }
          },
          {
            "name": "reqGLN",
            "in": "query",
            "description": "Requestor GLN",
            "required": true,
            "schema": {
              "$ref": "/components/schemas/gln"
            }
          },
          {
            "name": "linkType",
            "in": "query",
            "description": "Link Type",
            "required": true,
            "schema": {
              "$ref": "/components/schemas/linkType"
            }
          }
        ]
      }
    }
  }
}
```
"$ref": "/components/schemas/linkType"
}
]
"responses": {
  "200": {
    "description": "A response code of 200 means the request was successful and details about the response can be found in the body of the response. Only a 200 response will issue a JSON payload."
  },
  "application/json": {
    "schema": {
      "$ref": "/components/schemas/ConnectivityCheckResponse"
    }
  }
}
],
"400": {
  "description": "Bad Request. The request was not formatted properly. Please verify the request conforms to the specification, and re-issue the request in the correct format."
},
"401": {
  "description": "Unauthorized. The request was not allowed because the request did not pass authentication."
},
"403": {
  "description": "Forbidden. The request was valid, but the server is refusing to provide a response because the requestor lacks permission."
},
"404": {
  "description": "Not found. GTIN may be missing in Look-up Directory/Resolver."
},
"405": {
  "description": "Method Not Allowed. The request method is not supported."
},
"408": {
  "description": "Request Timeout. The server timed out waiting for the request."
},
"500": {
  "description": "Internal Server Error. System failed to process the request because of an error inside the system."
},
"502": {
  "description": "Bad Gateway. The server was acting as a gateway or proxy and received an invalid response from the upstream server. Indicates that one server tried to use another VRS system and that system was down."
}
"503": {
    "description": "Service Unavailable. System is undergoing maintenance or is otherwise temporarily unavailable for API queries."
},
"504": {
    "description": "Gateway Timeout. The server, while acting as a gateway or proxy, performed multiple retries but did not receive a timely response from the upstream server specified by the URI (e.g. HTTP, FTP, LDAP) or some other auxiliary server (e.g. DNS) it needed to access in attempting to complete the request."
}
"/verify/gtin/{gtin}/lot/{lot}/ser/{ser}": {
    "get": {
        "tags": [
            "Verification"
        ],
        "description": "Verify a saleable return",
        "parameters": [
            {
                "name": "gtin",
                "in": "path",
                "description": "Global Trade Item Number",
                "required": true,
                "schema": {
                    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gtin"
                }
            },
            {
                "name": "lot",
                "in": "path",
                "description": "Lot/Batch Number",
                "required": true,
                "schema": {
                    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/lotNum"
                }
            },
            {
                "name": "ser",
                "in": "path",
                "description": "Serial Number",
                "required": true,
                "schema": {
                    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/serialNumber"
                }
            },
            {
                "name": "exp",
                "in": "query",
                "description": "Expiry",
                "required": true,
                "schema": {
                    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/expiryDate"
                }
            },
            {
                "name": "linkType",
                "in": "query",
            }
        ]
    }
}
"description": "Link Type",
"required": true,
"schema": {
  "$ref": "#/components/schemas/linkType"
}
],

"name": "context",
"in": "query",
"description": "Verification Context",
"required": true,
"schema": {
  "$ref": "#/components/schemas/context"
}
],

"name": "reqGLN",
"in": "query",
"description": "Requestor GLN",
"required": true,
"schema": {
  "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
}
],

"name": "corrUUID",
"in": "query",
"description": "Correlation UUID",
"required": true,
"schema": {
  "$ref": "#/components/schemas/uuid"
}
]
",

"responses": {
  "200": {
    "description": "A response code of 200 means the request was successful and details about the response can be found in the body of the response. Only a 200 response will issue a JSON payload.",
    "content": {
      "application/json": {
        "schema": {
          "oneOf": [
            {
              "$ref": "#/components/schemas/PositiveVerificationResponse"
            },
            {
              "$ref": "#/components/schemas/NegativeVerificationResponse"
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
"schemas": {
  "gln": {
    "type": "string",
    "minLength": 13,
    "maxLength": 13,
    "example": "9071404000002",
    "pattern": "\d{13}\$"
  },
  "gtin": {
    "type": "string",
    "minLength": 8,
    "maxLength": 14,
    "example": "175304202",
    "pattern": "\d{12,14}|\d{8}\$"
  },
  "lotNum": {
    "type": "string",
    "description": "Lot number for the asset to be verified",
    "example": "LZ109B15"
  },
  "serialNumber": {
    "type": "string",
    "description": "Serial number for the asset to be verified",
    "example": "XYZ12345AB"
  },
  "expiryDate": {
    "type": "string",
    "description": "Date of expiry for the item to be looked up in format YYMMDD",
    "minLength": 6,
    "maxLength": 6,
    "example": "170728",
    "pattern": "\d{6}\$"
  },
  "uuid": {
    "type": "string",
    "description": "Universally Unique Identifier (UUID)",
    "example": "59bc5c88-15f7-49a7-9687-73b05d2c50a4",
    "pattern": "^[\da-fA-F]{8}[-][\da-fA-F]{4}[-][\da-fA-F]{4}[-][\da-fA-F]{3}[-][89abAB][\da-fA-F]{12}\$"
  },
  "timestamp": {
    "type": "string",
    "description": "A timestamp to millisecond precision, with an explicit timezone indicator (+/-hh:mm) relative to UTC",
    "example": "2018-08-14T23:29:00.000-08:00",
    "pattern": "^[0-9]{4}[-][0-9]{2}[-][0-9]{2}T\([0-9]{2}[:][0-9]{2}\)+[0-9]{2}[:][0-9]{2}\(\[0-9]{2}[:][0-9]{2}[:][0-9]{2}\)\]$"
  },
  "linkType": {
    "type": "string",
    "enum": [
      "verificationService"
    ],
    "example": "verificationService"
  }
}
"context": {  "type": "string",  "enum": [    "dscsaSaleableReturn"  ],  "example": "dscsaSaleableReturn"},  
"positiveVerificationStatus": {  "type": "boolean",  "description": "Please refer to the rules defined for the context for further details of what constitutes successful verification. If verification succeeds, use true.",  "example": true,  "enum": [    true  ]},  
"negativeVerificationStatus": {  "type": "boolean",  "description": "Please refer to the rules defined for the context for further details of what constitutes unsuccessful verification. If verification fails, use false and select a value for 'verificationFailureReason'.",  "example": false,  "enum": [    false  ]},  
"verificationFailureReason": {  "type": "string",  "description": "Mandatory if verification failed. Used to indicate which PI element(s) did not match, or to indicate that no reason has been provided (at the discretion of the responder. Values: 'No_match_GTIN_Serial': 'No match between GTIN and Serial Number', 'No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot': 'No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Lot Number', 'No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expire': 'No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Expiry Date', 'No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot_Expire': 'No match between (GTIN and Serial Number) and Lot Number and Expiry Date', 'No_reason_provided': 'No reason provided',  "enum": [    "No_match_GTIN_Serial", "No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot", "No_match_GTIN_Serial_Expire", "No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot_Expire", "No_reason_provided"  ],  "example": "No_match_GTIN_Serial_Lot"},  
"additionalInformation": {  "type": "string",  "description": "Optional. May be used to provide additional information of the state of the SGTIN, for example, recalled. Instead of including an empty string or null, do NOT include this field unless is populated with a descriptive, standardised text value. Values: "Recalled" – Product has been recalled and should not be sold; "Suspect" - The product's authenticity or integrity is considered suspect by the responder. THIS IS NOT A FREE TEXT DESCRIPTION. Additional values will be standardized in the future. NOTE THAT EPCIS IS THE PREFERRED MECHANISM FOR INDICATING CHANGES IN PRODUCT DISPOSITION (e.g., recalled, stolen, decommissioned).",  "enum": [    "Recalled", "Suspect"  ]},  
"ConnectivityCheckResponse": {  "required": [}
"responderGLN"
},
"properties": {
  "responderGLN": {
    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
  }
}
},
"PositiveVerificationResponse": {
  "required": [
    "verificationTimestamp", "corrUUID", "responderGLN", "data"
  ],
  "properties": {
    "verificationTimestamp": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/timestamp"
    },
    "corrUUID": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/uuid"
    },
    "responderGLN": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
    },
    "data": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "verified": {
          "$ref": "#/components/schemas/positiveVerificationStatus"
        },
        "additionalInfo": {
          "$ref": "#/components/schemas/additionalInformation"
        }
      },
      "required": [
        "verified"
      ]
    }
  }
},
"NegativeVerificationResponse": {
  "required": [
    "verificationTimestamp", "corrUUID", "responderGLN", "data"
  ],
  "properties": {
    "verificationTimestamp": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/timestamp"
    },
    "corrUUID": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/uuid"
    },
    "responderGLN": {
      "$ref": "#/components/schemas/gln"
    },
    "data": {
      "type": "object",
"properties": {
  "verified": {
    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/negativeVerificationStatus"
  },
  "verificationFailureReason": {
    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/verificationFailureReason"
  },
  "additionalInfo": {
    "$ref": "#/components/schemas/additionalInformation"
  }
},
"required": [
  "verified", "verificationFailureReason"
]}}
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