



The Global Language of Business

Retail Grocery

GS1 US Retail Grocery Initiative Workgroups

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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.

About GS1 US

GS1 US®, a member of GS1 global, is a not-for-profit information standards organization that facilitates industry collaboration to improve supply chain visibility and efficiency through the use of GS1 Standards, the most widely-used supply chain standards system in the world. Nearly 300,000 businesses in 25 industries rely on GS1 US for trading-partner collaboration that optimizes their supply chains, drives cost performance and revenue growth while also enabling regulatory compliance. They achieve these benefits through solutions based on GS1 global unique numbering and identification systems, barcodes, Electronic Product Code-based RFID, data synchronization, and electronic information exchange. GS1 US also manages the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code® (UNSPSC®).

1 Introduction

Workgroups provide the technical and functional expertise necessary to assist the GS1 US Retail Grocery Initiative team with the development and creation of educational and implementation materials required to support initiative and industry objectives.

Table 1-1 GS1 US Retail Grocery Initiative Workgroups

Workgroup	Meeting Frequency / Start Time	
Supply Chain Visibility	Monthly, Thursdays	2:00 PM ET
Joint Foodservice & Retail Grocery Product Information & Images Governance	Monthly, Wednesdays	2:00 PM ET
Cross-Industry Blockchain Discussion Group	Monthly, Wednesdays	1:00 PM ET
Joint Foodservice & Retail Grocery Data Quality	Currently Dormant	

2 Supply Chain Visibility Workgroup

The Supply Chain Visibility Workgroup develops and deploys industry-specific guidance and best practices for managing supply chain visibility and the key business processes, including inventory management, on-shelf availability, recall readiness, and other processes that depend on enhanced visibility.

2.1 Scope

The Supply Chain Visibility Workgroup identifies and defines common industry business process needs that could be improved by enhanced supply chain visibility. This group works to address the challenges of ensuring the accurate identification of products, as well as the delivery and tracking of safe foods and other products in the supply chain.

2.2 Methodology

At a minimum, the Supply Chain Visibility Workgroup:

- Identifies key business processes where improved visibility is needed to solve a specific industry business problem or requirement/regulation (e.g., on-shelf availability; inventory tracking; recalls; etc.)
- Understands and analyze possible solutions to improve the visibility needed to solve the business problem or meet regulatory requirements (e.g., Electronic Data Interchange (EDI); Electronic Product Code Information Services (EPCIS); Critical Tracking Events (CTEs); Key Data Elements (KDEs); etc.)
- Aligns a common approach based on prioritization of business problems and appropriate industry solutions

2.3 Deliverables

- Develop necessary requirements to support the objectives of supply chain visibility
- Identify and develop key industry resources, including implementation guide(s) and best practice documents to support the adoption and implementation of GS1 Standards
- Develop an industry outreach, education and implementation plan

3 Joint Foodservice & Retail Grocery Product Information and Images Governance Workgroup

The Joint Product Information & Image Governance Workgroup provides guidance as to how product data and images for items sold in retail grocery and foodservice can be best used and shared between trading partners and transmitted through the Global Data Synchronization Network™ (GDSN®).

3.1 Scope

The Joint Product Information and Image Governance Workgroup increases the quality of shared data within the Retail Grocery and Foodservice Communities through aligned, complete, and accurate GDSN attributes and product images across all channels (physical or digital), and global approach (when desired).

3.2 Methodology

At a minimum, the Joint Product Information and Image Governance Workgroup:

- Seeks to understand the ever-changing state of product information and image requirements in foodservice and retail grocery industries, including what is defined (industry or specific organization requirements), how it is classified, and where the challenges lie
- Drives the workgroup to further develop an industry approach to defining and sharing this information
- Expands level of adoption of GDSN and validate GDSN as the means for exchange of new product attribute requirements

3.3 Deliverables

- Manage attribute maintenance (Global, industry, associations, and regulatory i.e. Global Data Model, SmartLabel)
- Alignment of industry implementation of GDSN standards
- Increase adoption and Implementation of Product Image Standards



Note: While the intent of the joint workgroup is to realize synergies between the two industry segments, the group will also work to evaluate when distinct foodservice or grocery-specific attributes are needed to support industry progress for product information and images.

4 Cross-Industry Blockchain Discussion Group

Through education and collaboration with leaders in various industries, this discussion group aims to enhance an organization's blockchain knowledge and understanding of how to analyze the potential impact of this technology on your company, what business processes will be impacted when evaluating specific blockchain use cases, as well gaining insight on how organizations are leveraging blockchain in its early stages.

4.1 Scope

This discussion group will bring together stakeholders from various industries to discuss blockchain basics, how blockchain can support supply chain imperatives, what needs industries currently have to

address to enable widespread adoption, and the critical role of GS1 Standards to effectively leverage this technology.

4.2 Methodology

- After the initial meeting in November 2018, we expect the discussion group to meet monthly to share insight into various use cases, pilots, best practices and provide recommendations for the adoption and use of GS1 Standards as a foundation for blockchain solutions.
- Through their work, the participants will network and exchange ideas with other GS1 Standards users who are exploring blockchain and reach out to industry experts as necessary to respond to questions and issues.
- Participants will define requirements for effectively leveraging blockchain as well as possible standards based solutions for gaps in current processes impeding adoption.

4.3 Deliverables

- Gain further insight into the problems industries are looking to solve via blockchain
- Align industries on the role of GS1 Standards as a foundation for blockchain
- Provide high level cross-industry education on blockchain technology and develop basic "Getting Started" guidance leveraging GS1 Standards
- Identify process gaps that GS1 Standards and industry can address

5 Joint Foodservice & Retail Grocery Data Quality Workgroup (currently dormant)

GS1 US worked with a cross-industry discussion group to establish the [GS1 US National Data Quality Program](#). While this common approach helps promote a level of trust about product information received or retrieved by trading partners and consumers alike, the Joint Foodservice and Retail Grocery Data Quality Workgroup works in alignment across the two delivery channels to expand on the program's foundational attribute requirements.

5.1 Scope

The Joint Foodservice and Retail Grocery Data Quality Workgroup works to expand the list of product attributes beyond the core GS1 US National Data Quality Program requirements by adding key consumer facing attributes. The workgroup works to assure that new attribute requirements are relevant to both industries and based upon input from all facets of the supply chain.

5.2 Methodology

Similar to the methodology used for the development of the core program, workgroup members define attribute requirements, and discuss their use, relevance, and applications in both foodservice and retail grocery. As additional attributes are identified, workgroup members validate if the accuracy of these attributes can be measured, and develop guidance for industry-wide adoption and use.

5.3 Deliverables

Extend data quality attribute requirements for the foodservice and retail grocery industries beyond the nine core attributes of the GS1 US National Data Quality Program to support consumer confidence and

access to rich product information, enhance trading partner collaboration, and improve efficiencies across various business processes.



Note: While the intent of the joint workgroup is to realize synergies between the two industry segments, the group will also work to evaluate when distinct foodservice or grocery-specific attributes are needed to support industry progress for improved data quality.

6 Workgroup Participation Requirements

- All workgroups aim to have a mix of participants that include manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, industry associations, and technology/service providers
- Participants for workgroups should possess skill sets in one or more of the following areas:
 - Data management
 - Sales/Account management
 - Marketing
 - Category management
 - Packaging
 - Operations
 - Information technology
 - Item administration
 - Product supply
 - Quality assurance/food safety
 - Supply chain
 - Appropriate subject matter experts (SME's) when topics are identified
- Workgroup members:
 - Abide by the workgroup's *Operations Guide and Code of Conduct*
 - Have an Executive Sponsor to support their participation in the workgroup
 - Actively contribute on regularly scheduled conference calls
 - Provide industry insights and guidance based on their areas of expertise
 - Share recommendations and provide input
 - Assist with the creation of workgroup plans and support documents
 - Agree to and abide by GS1 US Intellectual Property Policy requirements (as applicable)

7 Joining a Workgroup

Once your company joins the GS1 US Retail Grocery Initiative, all of the workgroups outlined in this document are available for any company representative to join. The *GS1 US Community Room* is the virtual workspace for initiative progress, workgroup updates and communications. The process for joining the GS1 US Community Room is noted below.

- **Primary Contact:** the primary contact designated on the application will receive login information from admin@community.gs1us.org. [Log in to the GS1 US Community Room](#) to select workgroups.
- **All other company representatives:** [click here to register](#) for an account. (Instructions on how to register for an account can be accessed [here](#).) Once log in information is received, the company representative [can log in to select workgroups](#) that are available to GS1 US Retail Grocery Initiative members.

Email admin@community.gs1us.org with any questions about the GS1 US Community Room or if you need assistance resetting your password.

Not sure who to contact? Send your request/inquiry to retailgrocery@gs1us.org.



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IAPMO

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*If applicable

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