GS1net Compliance
Coles Supermarkets

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GS1net- What is it?

Formerly known as EANnet, GS1net is an industry wide Electronic Product Catalogue accessible via the Internet. It is administered through GS1 Australia, the industry recognised standards body. GS1net provides a foundation for Trading Partners, Retailers and Suppliers to exchange standardised information about product, price, terms.

Essentially, GS1net serves to replace the UBF/UPC, or any other paperwork traditionally submitted by a supplier to action new items and item/price changes.

GS1net has the capability to provide a systematic method of data exchange not previously attainable through the manual submission and data entry via the UBF.
GS1net and Data Sync - Objectives

- To provide a central point of reference for all product information
- To facilitate total data synchronisation between trading partners
- Deliver the integrity of information that is required for electronic transactions such as B2B
- Remove paper based transactions (UBF’s) and the re-keying of data
- Suppliers are the sole custodian of the data and are responsible for its maintenance and integrity
Coles Supermarkets Position

- To date Coles Supermarkets has migrated 560 suppliers and is receiving approximately 2,000 transactions weekly via GS1net.
- Coles is committed to receiving all of its item changes, cost changes and new items via GS1net for all of its major suppliers, moving away from the UBF/manual paperwork submission.
- The information received from GS1net is automatically processed into the Coles Merchandise system (RMS) and is then accepted/rejected by the Buyer.
Key Milestones

- Access the following GS1net Checklist to determine the key steps in becoming GS1net compliant [http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/technical/user_guides.asp](http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/technical/user_guides.asp)
- Select ‘GS1net Ready Checklist’
- Understand what fields are required to be populated by Coles by accessing the Data Recipient and Industry Sector Requirements [http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/technical](http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/technical)
Upload Methods & Middleware Solutions

- There are a variety of options for a supplier to utilise to assist in the uploading of their internal data into the GS1net systems
- Middleware and the Browser Upload methods assists in the extraction and translation of the data from a supplier’s internal systems directly into GS1net
- All data uploaded via middleware and the Browser Upload passes through the in-line validation engine of GS1net, ensuring that there are rigorous checks performed on the data prior to the retailer receiving the information
- Each solution needs to be investigated by asking questions such as;
  1. What are the capabilities of the middleware to be able to integrate to a company’s systems, i.e., to perform extraction of data changes and new items automatically?
  2. What are the costs involved? [http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/fees.asp](http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/fees.asp)
  3. What products are other suppliers using?
  4. What support is offered?
- These are all important questions in assisting a company to decide what middleware / upload method to employ
Coles does not support the use of the GS1net on line function for suppliers with five or more products

- With minimal validation, this method is time consuming and does not support our strategy to have reliable and accurate data being populated in our system
- Access the following link to explore your upload options and to arrange a discussion with the Middleware Providers

http://www.gs1au.org/services/gs1net/certification_program/certified_products.asp
What does GS1net Live mean?

- After a supplier has completed the synchronisation process with Coles, they are declared GS1net Live - No more UBF submissions!
- Pricing data is to be populated in GS1net against the level (Consumer / Intermediate / Traded) in which you supply (eg deliver) to Coles. Please note this does not relate to how the item is invoiced
- All item updates, new item and cost change detail needs to be maintained via GS1net
- Data changes need to be submitted with relevant supporting documentation. To clarify the timeframes, please discuss with your Coles Buyer
- New Item data must be made available immediately after it has been presented to the Buyer to review
Key Learning’s

- Employ middleware and ensure adequate training
- Obtain business ownership
- Technology evolves - be prepared to upgrade as required
- Ensure all effected parties are aware of process, particularly the Account/Sales Teams
- More than one person needs to be trained in how to update GS1net - succession plans are essential
- Ensure that written correspondence is sent to the Coles Buyers at least 12 weeks out (cost changes) and in line with the range review schedule (new items). The GS1net data then needs to be made available immediately
- Contact your respective Coles Buyer’s and Buyer Support personnel 24 hours after critical data changes have been loaded, to ensure that the data has been received and is available for viewing
Industry White Papers and Business Cases

• As GS1net is a global initiative, there are several ‘white papers’ being written to support moving from the communication of item changes and price changes via paper to an automated, electronic system of management.

• Please utilise these papers and case studies to support business ownership for GS1net compliancy http://www.gs1au.org/information_library/case_studies.asp
Training & Support

• When a supplier registers for GS1net they are assigned a GS1 Client Service Advisor who can be contacted to assist with any query relating to the uploading of data onto GS1net- 1300 366 033 (Option 3)
• Alternatively a supplier can refer to their Middleware Provider for further information or Support
• Once **GS1net Live** suppliers can contact the Coles GS1net Support team ([colesgs1netsupport@coles.com.au](mailto:colesgs1netsupport@coles.com.au)) to assist in confirming or investigating data sent through from GS1net.