

What's been happening . . .

2017 has been a year of enormous movement for GS1 South Africa. We've embarked on a journey towards trusted data between retailers and suppliers, undergone an internal international master data service audit and piloted globally with the GS1 Global cloud solution. Not to mention the penetration into a new sector.

We also said farewell to a GS1 Council member and a stalwart champion of the GS1 standards.

But before we delve into the success stories we would like to take this opportunity of thanking each and every one of you for your positive contribution to GS1 South Africa. Many of you are not in regular contact with our team so we're reaching out through this newsletter to keep you well informed about what the organisation is doing and where you can benefit from our expanding service offerings. Keep in mind that your organisation is a licensed member of one of the most powerful system of standards in the world, GS1®. If you thought it's only barcoding, then read our newsletter and become part of the initiatives and new service offerings.

Farewell to a GS1 Champion



Bob Keevers, Head of Merchandise Administration / Information Systems Business Partner at Pick n Pay retired towards the end of 2017.

Bob was part of the GS1 South Africa Council for a significant number of years, giving support and strategic advise and counsel as the organisation moved through several transition phases.

We wish to thank Bob for his dedicated service over the past number of years. His varied and indepth expertise coupled with his business acumen, that he contributed to council discussions over the years, has been invaluable. As a long-serving council member, his participation in various projects, meetings and events has been greatly appreciated.

His knowledge, wisdom and championing of the GS1 standards will be sorely missed.

We wish him well in all his future endeavours.

Trusted Data Initiative pilot

In the FMCG sector the biggest bone of contention between retailers and their suppliers is the quality of the product data synchronized through the GS1 South Africa DATAnet.za GDSN platform.

Today, weights and dimensions of a product play a pivotal role in logistics, distribution center for rack stacking and shelf planograms in the stores.



The value of these attributes does not exclude the importance of the correct consumer statements on the packaging, the label information or the high quality required for the barcode symbol for Point of Sale (POS) scanning.

With two companies stepping forward initially to take on the trusted data challenge, the GS1 South Africa laboratory received 103 products from a major

international supplier and 57 products from a local (and proudly) South African manufacturer. The success of the first stage saw another xx suppliers getting on board. The race was on. Five retailers stood ready at the gates to offer their product data for a comparison for the additional suppliers.

The GS1 South Africa Master Data team applied the methodology that was devised and completed a full master data verification that included weights, dimensions and barcode print quality.

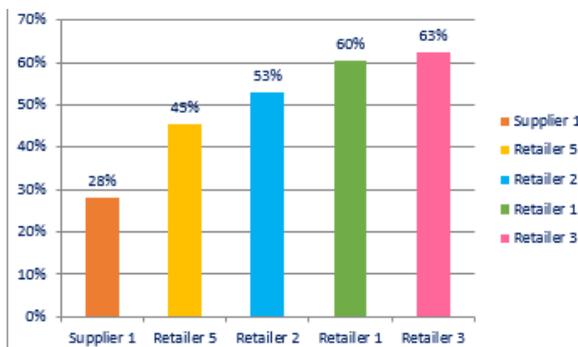
The first set of results

The results from the tests were as follows:

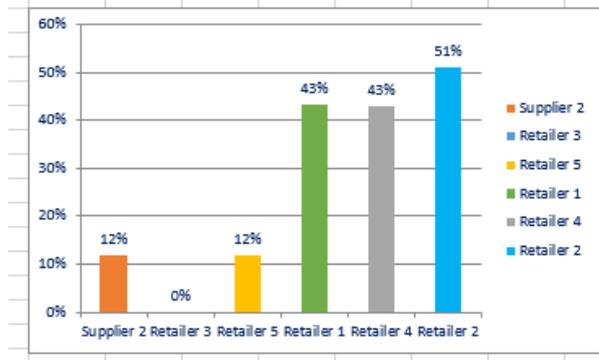
'Each' Dimensions

The 'Each' dimensions (height, width and depth) for the first pilot clearly indicated that of the Supplier averages, only 28% of dimension data were correct.

Retailers fared way better in this sphere with up to 63% more accurate dimensions. This could be because of the duplication of verifications done in the retailer DCs where weights are verified.

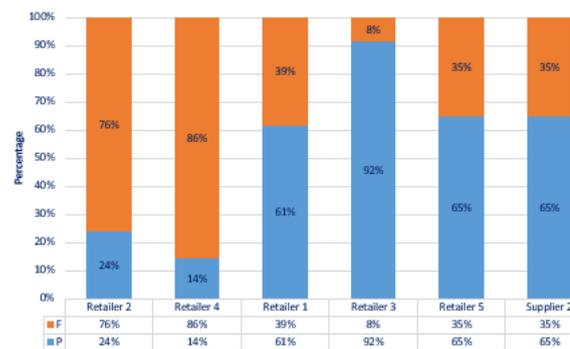


In the second pilot phase (with different suppliers) the results were staggering. The suppliers only had a 12% accuracy on dimensions whereas Retailer 2 had 0% accuracy across all product ranges.

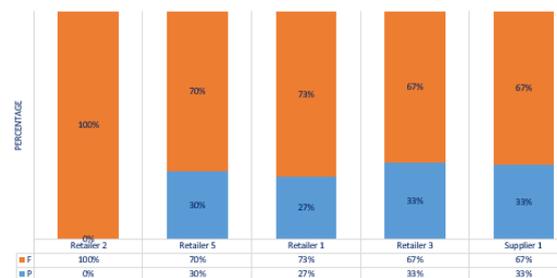


Gross weight

The results of gross weight painted a totally different picture for suppliers. For this parameter the suppliers had a 65% pass rate with the highest for retailers being at 92%. One retailer had a failure of accurate gross weight for products in their supply chain of 86%. This has a massive impact on their DC stack packing as well as shelf planograms.



The next pilot showed that 1 retailer had a 100% failure on gross weight data. The suppliers averaged an accuracy of 67%.



Pilot assumption

“Trust in shared data is becoming a necessity and not a nice to have”.

GS1 CEO Michele Francis Padayachee

The Trusted Data pilot has shown conclusively that item data does not get much thought in most companies. There is an assumption that the item information shared is right, but this could not be further from the truth. Inaccurate data elements drive up supply chain cost and interrupt the flow of product to the shelf. By ensuring that item data is correct, we (GS1 South Africa) can guarantee better availability of product for the customer.

Ensuring trusted data is not only a supplier's problem or in distribution. It is a waste in the system that all stakeholders need to invest in for success.

The next steps

GS1 South Africa will follow the rest of the world by offering a Brand Owner (BO) Certification programme. This will demonstrate to all trading partners, as a brand owner and industry leader, you have met the highest standards of data quality stewardship.

And which Brand Owner in today's difficult times, would not want this. We will communicate more about this in the Q3 of 2018. Watch this space.

GS1 Cloud

What is it and how will it help your business?

The GS1 Cloud will be the largest source of trusted, accurate product data in the world. It leverages modern IT-architecture to enable value creating services for all GS1's stakeholders.

Did you know?

The GS1 Cloud will complement, not replace, the GS1 Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN). Today, GDSN provides trusted B2B data to more than 40,000 large companies through 37 GS1-certified data pools.

The GS1 Cloud will improve availability of B2C data in a world where consumers' accelerated use of online shopping is transforming retail irreversibly.

It is designed for near-real time delivery of a variety of product information that can enable and enhance B2C applications.

The GS1 Cloud and the GS1 GDSN will work in tandem, and B2C product data loaded into existing GDSN Data Pools can feed the GS1 Cloud.

In 10 years, the GS1 Cloud will be the heart of GS1 data services including product, party (GEPIR) and location information – (Global Location Number) or the GLN Network

How does it work?

Below is a graphic of the GS1 Cloud clearly showing which stakeholders will benefit:



Current status

GS1 South Africa has uploaded 137 000 products into the GS1 Cloud. Of the 112 registered GS1 Member Organisations, 88 have already started loading GTINs into the GS1 Cloud.



The go live date for the service will be Q2 to Q3 in 2018.

Contact GS1 South Africa to get an overview of the value proposition for your company. Email services@gs1za.org.

DAM – SA is ready!

After several years of requests from industry GS1 South Africa is proud to announce that their Digital Asset Management (DAM) tool has been secured through 1WorldSync. Suppliers can now upload their images through 1WorldSync so that the retailers' on-line catalogues have clean accurate images that relate accurately to the product.

This is critical as today's consumers use on-line

'30% of South African respondents indicated they were likely to engage in "showrooming", where they visit a store to pick out an item, but then search for the best price and make the purchase online'

Deloitte SA holiday shopping 2016

catalogues quite extensively and need to know that they are getting what they are ordering.

Images loaded through 1WorldSync will also be a

key attribute loaded into the GS1 Cloud Service.

To see how you can get your images uploaded contact Michele Francis Padayachee at GS1 South Africa on michele.padayachee@gs1za.org

GS1 South Africa MDS Audit

The 21st to 23rd November 2017 was a moment in history for GS1 South Africa. The Organisation went through an extensive audit by GS1 Global Office Master Data auditors.

GS1 South Africa needed the Master Data Service Certification to ensure that our people, process and procedures conform to the required GS1 standards for data quality, management and verification.

The GS1 South Africa laboratory and the Barcode Verification and Item Measurement laboratory was at the foundation of the audit. All documentation, procedures, standard operating procedures, organizational structure, strategic business plan and the knowledge and skills of the team met with the stringent and highest levels of the MDS Audit.

GS1 South Africa has successfully achieved their MDS Accreditation. You will see our Certification Seal on our emails:



Contact us to see how we can help you get Master Data implemented in your business.

New Industry sector?

Historically, the GS1 system of standards focused primarily on the FMCG sector. This was because retailers immediately understood the value proposition of moving from a manual pricing structure on products to using technology and a barcode symbol for quick, efficient and accurate point of sale processes.

Today there are many industries that have adopted the GS1 System of standards. In South Africa and, for our members, we need to

highlight the Healthcare sector, the biggest industry sector with the most committed and dedicated focus on using the standards.

Put in the stats here for the growth.