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South Africa

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GS1 South Africa
July 2018 Newsletter

What's been happening?

The has first half of 2018 has been a busy one...

GS1 South Africa Activities:

☐ Enriched and Trusted Data Initiatives
☐ Call to Action Traceability Strategy
☐ GS1 Cloud and Activate Initiatives
☐ Launch of INumba Numba SMME workshops
☐ GS1 Standards Adoption in Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia
☐ Healthcare Suppliers and Service Providers Adopt GS1 Standards

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their positive contribution to GS1 South Africa. Many of you are not in regular contact with our team and through this newsletter we aim to inform and update you on our various service offerings and how these can benefit your organisation. 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.

Welcome to Rob Speedy

Rob Speedy, Business Partner on the information Systems Executive team of Pick 'n Pay.
Rob graduated from UCT in 1991 with a Post Graduate degree in Economics.He joined Pick n Pay Butcheries division in 1992 and has spent over 20 years in various systems and process integration roles across the group. He became a part of the IS Executive in 2000, responsible for Group Business Systems and oversaw the Data migration and Business Intelligence streams during Pick n Pay SAP implementation programme.

After a 5 year break from corporate life to explore some personal business interests, Rob re-joined Pick n Pay in his current role in 2013 to focus on cross-functional business process and systems integration. His medium term focus areas include product life-cycle, range and space management within the Commercial team. He has a keen interest in understanding data and its impact both within the organisation and the greater industry..
His knowledge, wisdom and championing of the GS1 standards will be sorely missed.

We wish him well in all his future endeavours.

Enriched and Trusted Data Initiatives

The Enriched Data Platform Initiative will put everyone in the supply chain on the same page – speaking the same language. This will significantly reduce the go-to-market time. GS1 South Africa is actively working with industry to have a single catalogue of high-quality, independently-verified data that enables suppliers, retailers and healtcare providers to use one shared language to describe and share products.

Ensuring that the sharing of trusted data is not only the responsibility of a supplier but a supply chain wide initiative. It is a waste in the system that all stakeholders need to invest in for success.
GS1 South Africa will join other country member organisations 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.

Please contact us should you wish to participate in the Brand Owner Certification Programme.

GS1 South Africa is proud to announce that their Digital Asset Management (DAM) tool has been secured through 1WorldSync. We are currently onboarding suppliers to upload their images through 1WorldSync so that the retailers' on-line catalogues have clean accurate images that relate accurately to the product.

Benefits for brand owners/supplier:

As a brand owner, you'll have a centralized portal for managing all product data, making it easy to update or add new lines. Brand owners can decide which retailers may access their data, giving them more control over how shoppers view their brands.

Benefits for retail and healthcare industry:

The Improved Enriched Data platform will be a simple, flexible and efficient way to access product information. With automatic data updates a, retailers will save time and money. Independent verification builds consumer trust, making for happier shoppers.

To learn more about "DAM" and how to get product images uploaded onto GDSN platform contact Michele Francis Padayachee at GS1 South Africa via email michele.padayachee@gs1za.org

GS1 Traceability Call to Action

Traceability solutions are increasingly in demand across all sectors. Multiple groups and associations are having industry conversations in this space (including the Consumer Goods Forum). Solutions for industry have already become fragmented, increasing costs for all. At the same time, GS1 is working with industry in more applications that require end-to-end visibility, including our work in Fighting Illicit Trade as well as the Transport & Logistics sector i.e. collaborative logistics/platforms.

GS1 has been working to strengthen the elements of our standards-based traceability offering, so that it can enable interoperability across supply chains. We've also been working to ensure that users and other industry associations understand that standards-based system components (Global Trade Item Number, Global Location Number, etc.) are required for interoperability with their own systems and between supply chain partners.

At this point in time, there is a need for a near-term plan to better communicate the value of GS1 standards across industry stakeholders. There is also a need to develop and execute against a 3-year strategy for our Traceability portfolio.

For those members who participated in the traceability survey, thank you for the feedback. A Traceability workshop will be hosted by GS1 Global in Dublin, Ireland on 6 & 7 September 2018. Please contact us for more information.

Join Us

Our workshop will precede the GS1 Industry & Standards event, Dublin 2018 week of 10 July 2018.

Workshop Date: 6 and 7 September 2018

Welcome Cocktail Reception: 5 September 19:00-21:00 Hilton Dublin Kilmainham Broyage Bar & Bistro

Attendee Dinner: 6 September 18:30-21:00 Union8 Restaurant Dublin

Workshop Location: Hilton Dublin Kilmainham

GS1 Cloud
What is it and how will it help your business?

The GS1 Cloud will be the largest source of trusted product information in the world, making it possible for businesses to meet the expectations of today's digital world.
Consumers will be able to get the brand-sourced product data from retailers, e-tailers, marketplaces and apps, leading to increased consumer satisfaction and trust.
Companies across industries- including healthcare- will benefit as the distribution of trusted product data becomes more efficient and seamless.

Did you know?

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 will combine brand-sourced product data from existing GS1 databases (such as GDSN, GEPIR and local product catalogues maintained by individual GS1 Member Organisations) and will also collect data directly for products not currently maintained in an existing source.
This centralised database is intended to house more than 100 million Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs), along with six additional core product attributes that will deliver trusted product information that consumers demand. The 7 core product attributes include:
- GTIN
- Brand

- Label description
- Medium resolution image URL
- Target market
- Company name
- Product classification

The go live date for the service will be Q3 to Q4 in 2018.

The standard governing GTIN reuse is changing on 31 December 2018, here's why and what it means for you:

In the apparel and grocery sectors, reusing a GTIN has previously been allowed after 30 months and 48 months of initial issuance respectively.

However, this has caused confusion in the age of e-commerce, where once a GTIN is assigned to a product, it could be associated with it forever in the online world.

This has created a host of problems, including the population of catalogues with outdated data and complicating GTIN management for brands with products sold across multiple sectors.

Keeping product identification truly "unique" and persistent in both the physical and digital world is needed to support today's omni-channel consumer experiences. Consistency across the physical and digital world is foundational to the future of commerce.

Industry is evolving and has demanded a change in the status quo - that's why if you're reusing your GTINs at the moment, we're asking you to stop.
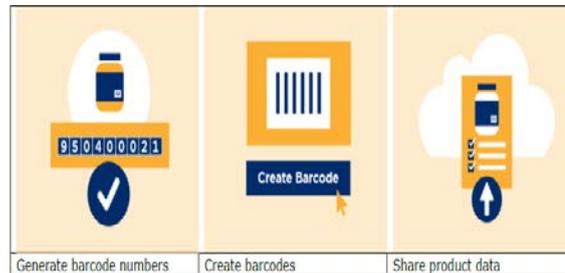
Putting an end to GTIN reuse will mean:

- Reduced consumer confusion in the market and in supply chain data exchange systems
- Increased transparency to the consumer
- Better brand visibility online
- Enhanced product traceability with uniqueness of product history and provenance
- More efficient after-sale consumer uses of GTIN (warranty, maintenance, repair)
- Improved sales analytics
- Enable uniqueness of online data, post-initial offering (collectibles, etc.)

So, if you are reusing your GTINs at the moment,

we'd advise that you take some time to start preparing for the coming deadline. And you don't have to go it alone, we're here to help!

Coming Soon GS1 Activate:

Providing the ability to generate barcode numbers and symbols accurately and effortlessly. Activate is a service offered by GS1 to make it easy for members to put a barcode on their products. Whether selling in retail or in other sectors, we provide all that needed to provide faster product listings. The faster you list your product, the more you can sell.

Introducing SMME Membership and Workshops

CGCSA and GS1 South Africa is proud to announce our new membership category, SMME Inumba Numba.

The SMME iNumba Numba caters for SMME's that require a small range of product barcode numbers. The product code is assigned to the product and brand that the company wishes to identify, capture, share key information for supply chain management and to support sales. This ensures that each individual barcode number is globally unique and local GS1 South African member companies are provided with the correct standards-based implementation support.

We will hold a series of workshops to empower SMME's to adopt the GS1 Standards and be retail ready.

Mr Mphuthi Mphuti – Soweto Business Access Partnership

First SMME Training held at CGCSA

Tarryn Daniels AIDC Manager – Talking about Traceability with SMME's

Partnering with FSI – Matlou Setati

Standards Adoption in Mozambique

GS1 South Africa strives to improve supply chain efficiencies, not only nationally but also regionally. We are supporting members of the SADC region in implementing GS1 standards to improve B2B and B2C supply chain efficiencies. We continue to collaborate with SADC region to serve and assist all members. GS1 Global office motivates regional member orgnisations to provide assistance to neighboring countries.

GS1 South Africa will partner with CTA Mozambique, a non-profit and non–partisan business confederation operating in Mozambique. CTA serves as the main voice for the private sector, with over 131 members representing a total of 14000 companies. CTA is responsible for the sustainability of enterprise development realization in Mozambique and partnering with a global counterpart to reach this goal is commendable.

On the 29th of June 2018, CTA successfully made an online payment to GS1 South Africa for a batch of 10 barcode numbers and began a new era of SMME's possibilities in their country.

Mr. Lucrécio Macuácua representing CTA, visited GS1 South Africa to get first-hand information on the work that GS1 South Africa does for the country and to find ways to better equip companies based in Mozambique.

Mr. Lucrécio Macuácua representing CTA
Press release:

CTA successfully concluded a step by step barcode payment service by web platform virtual terminal of the Visa network.
The first payment of bar codes through an electronic platform was successfully carried out in Maputo on the 29th June 2018 via a computer connected to the virtual terminal of the Visa network.
This development marked the beginning of a new era of possibilities for SMEs in Mozambique, since the bar code services will be accessible nationwide, 24 hours a day simply by the parties concerned having a communications device linked to the internet through a

network and by having a debit card with 3D security technology.

To date, barcode payments, which could be of acceptance or annuity could only be made by SWIFT through a bank transfer order, delaying on average one week in procedures and in some cases, entails amounts in bank charges above the cost of own barcodes.

The CTA partner is GS1 South Africa, an affiliate association of GS1 International with headquarters in Brussels, which is the largest organization worldwide in barcode standards.

As part of CTA's efforts to improve the business environment, the partnership with GS1 South Africa will also condition that briefly the application forms and payment platform be bilingual (Portuguese and English) and the capabilities to implement barcode systems for retail sales, tracking, logistics and institutional development of exporting companies for access to international markets, can be implemented in Mozambique.

For more information, please send an email to or gae@cta.org.mz

Healthcare sector is on the move

GS1 Healthcare continues its successful path towards a harmonised implementation of GS1 standards in the Healthcare sector to improve patient safety and supply chain efficiency. There are now more than 100 global GS1Healthcare members including pharma and medical device suppliers, wholesalers / distributors, logistic providers, hospitals, government agencies and solution providers and 40 local Healthcare user groups.

Historically, the GS1 South Africa 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 GS1 standards.

Netcare Hospital Group

A private healthcare group, Netcare, has commenced with a process to convert to GS1 barcoding system, as per the below extract form a letter from their General Manager Procurement

Services, Anita Hamilton, to all listed pharmacy suppliers:

Netcare has been implementing bar-coding in all our pharmacy transactions….We have now commenced with our conversion to GS1 bar codes and require GS1 compliance. To this effect, all suppliers not yet fully compliant, will be contacted by the GS1 team.

We appreciate your participation and co-operation and wish to re-iterate the importance of this project, and the requirement for you to be compliant, as this will be a pre-requisite in our transactional process.

GS1 South Africa continues to play a proactive role to support Netcare and their vendors.

Healthcare leaders and regulators share track and trace best practices with GS1 standards for access to safe medicines:

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia was the chosen venue for the African GS1 Healthcare Conference, from 8-10 May. More than 310 participants from 25 African countries and 13 countries from outside of Africa, met to discuss how GS1 standards can be used to enable track and trace for access to safe medicines, an important issue worldwide.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 1 in 10 medicinal products circulating in low- and middle-income countries is either substandard or falsified. This means that people are taking medications that either fail to treat or prevent disease or could be harmful. Falsified medical products lead to a loss of lives, negatively impact economic growth and erode overall trust in the healthcare system.

Organised by GS1, hosted by the Ethiopian Food, Medicine and Healthcare Administration and Control Authority (EFMHACA) and supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the African GS1 Healthcare Conference brought together determined and inspired professionals who understand that securing the global healthcare supply chain enabled by GS1 standards is a "marathon, not a sprint."

How traceability benefits healthcare providers and patients—in the hospital and in the home

Caroline Potgieter - Netcare

In 2016, Netcare's South African operation, consisting of 52 hospitals, embarked on a multi-phased project to scan barcodes of both medicines and surgical devices for increased patient safety. In Ethiopia, hospitals are taking initial steps to lay the foundation of product identification for traceability. These healthcare providers are embracing the positive change that comes with adopting GS1 standards for traceability.

How Serialisation is changing the healthcare supply chains

Clinton De Souza – Imperial Logistics

Imperial Logistics moves approximately 400 million patient-packs of medicine annually, 90 percent of these throughout Africa. Clinton De Souza, Director, Public Health, Imperial Health Sciences, U.S., described the key elements associated with the chain of custody when preventing counterfeit medicines from entering the healthcare supply chain: serialisation, authentication and blockchain technology.

Department of Health and USAID initiatives

Ephodia Nyathi – Department of Health

Ephodia Nyathi from the National Department of Health also attended the Conference in Ethiopia to collaborate with various Ministers of Health of to encourage conference participants to take a global approach when addressing counterfeit medicines issue

A Request for Information: National Department of Health Phased Implementation of GTIN-14 DataMatrix Barcodes was published by the Department of Health on 15 September 2017. GS1 South Africa, as well as the experts at the GS1 Office is Brussels submitted comments and are currently engaging with the DoH team.

We will keep our members in the loop with the outcomes, so keep a look out for our communications.

In May 2017 the USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program implemented an initiative that requires full compliance to the GS1 System of standards to:

- Enable end-to-end data visibility
- Identify and implement supply chain efficiencies
- Ensure supply chain security
- Increase patient safety

The project will implement a product identification, labeling and data exchange requirement for commodities procured under this program.

The team at GS1 South Africa are working with pharmaceutical product manufacturers to ensure compliance to requirements and timelines are met.

To do a readiness assessment please contact Martin.Kairu@gs1za.org