

GDSN Implementation Guideline for Additional Label Information

How to use GDSN to exchange additional label information based on GDSN Release 3.1.29.

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1.0	June 2023	Vivian Salim, Cornelia Willutzki, Adel Mounir Achir, Nirusa Naguleswaran	Initial version created, based on GDSN Release 3.1.24.
1.1	November 2024	Cornelia Willutzki	Added minimum requirement 3.3 Certification Agency to identify the group of certification information as additional label information. Added Certification Agency to the examples in chapter 5.

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction	5
2	Structure of the Guideline.....	5
3	Minimum requirements.....	5
3.1	Certification Identification (BMS ID 684)	5
3.2	Certification Value (BMS ID 685).....	5
3.3	Certification Agency (BMS ID 665)	6
4	Additional requirements	6
4.1	Certification Statement on Package (BMS ID 7199)	6
4.2	Subject of Certification Description (BMS ID 7205)	6
4.3	Certification Standard (BMS ID 667).....	6
5	Example.....	7

1 Introduction

GS1 standards, services and solutions can help companies to comply with requirements concerning communication of product data. This guide gives instructions on how to exchange additional information to a label specified in the Third-Party Accreditation Symbol on Product Package Code between trading partners.

This document aims at providing a harmonized way of using GDSN to exchange all required information between trading partners. The objective here is to specify the data to be exchanged between data pools. Each Data pool is responsible for mapping the right message.

2 Structure of the Guideline

The exchange of additional label information is optional. Nevertheless, one trigger attribute is needed to indicate that additional label information is exchanged. Therefore, this guideline is divided into three parts:

- Chapter 3 **Minimum requirements** describes the trigger attribute *certification identification* which is used to link the label information to the label specified in the Third-Party Accreditation Symbol on Product Package Code itself and the specific ID or value assigned to the product, packaging, or process by the certification authority.
- Chapter 4 **Additional requirements** describes how to exchange additional information about a label.
- Chapter 5 **Examples** showcases examples for both minimum and additional requirements using the FSC and MSC label.

It is recommended to use all attributes needed to exchange all additional information shown on the label.

3 Minimum requirements

3.1 Certification Identification (BMS ID 684)

- **GDSN name:** certificationIdentification
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule
- **GDSN definition:** A reference issued to confirm that something has passed certification.
- **Instruction:** Use this attribute to link information from the additional requirements (Chapter 4) to the label by repeating the code value from Third Party Accreditation Symbol on Product Package Code (PackagingMarkedLabelAccreditationCode).¹
- **Example:** FOREST_STEWARDSHIP_COUNCIL_MIX (See example in chapter 5)

3.2 Certification Value (BMS ID 685)

- **GDSN name:** certificationValue
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule
- **ADB definition:** The unique identification (ID) that provides a trade item's certification standard value, official licensing number or identification which proves that a product/process has passed the certification procedure.
- **Instruction:** Use this attribute to exchange the specific ID or value assigned to the product, packaging, or process by the certification authority. The attribute is used by buyers and consumers to verify the authenticity of a certificate.

¹ Austria, Germany and Switzerland use LocalPackagingMarkedLabelAccreditationCode in addition to PackagingMarkedLabelAccreditationCode

- **Remark:** The ID is not necessarily on the product or packaging but should be stated on the certification agreement/contract. In case it is not allowed to exchange the ID, the data provider should state "n/a".
- **Example:** FSC_C000000 (see example in chapter 5).

3.3 Certification Agency (BMS ID 665)

- **GDSN name:** certificationAgency
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule
- **GDSN definition:** Name of the organization issuing the certification standard or other requirement being met. Free text field. Example: European Union.
- **Instruction:** Use this attribute to "identify" this group of certification information as additional label information by indicating "Additional_Label_Information".
- **Example:** Additional_Label_Information

4 Additional requirements

4.1 Certification Statement on Package (BMS ID 7199)

- **GDSN name:** certificationStatementOnPackage
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule
- **ADB definition:** The statement provided from the certification agency that must be displayed on the packaging according to the certification agreement.
- **Instruction:** Used by sellers and buyers to conform to the terms of certification legal agreements that require certification statements to be stated on the product packaging. Used by buyers to provide this information in e-commerce and online stores.
- **Remark:** Official claim, which according to the license agreement with the certification agency, must be displayed on the product packaging. This attribute solely entails information that is found on the product packaging.
- **Example:** FSC Mix (see example in chapter 5).

4.2 Subject of Certification Description (BMS ID 7205)

- **GDSN name:** subjectOfCertificationDescription
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule
- **ADB definition:** The description that provides more information about the type of certification, e.g. the type of product, model, etc. as stated on the certificate.
- **Instruction:** Used by sellers to provide buyers with additional information regarding the trade item's certification. For example, some labels specify the material or product component associated with the certification. Used by sellers to provide this information in e-commerce and online stores.
- **Remark:** This attribute solely entails information that is found on the product packaging.
- **Example:** Supporting responsible forestry (see example in chapter 5).

4.3 Certification Standard (BMS ID 667)

- **GDSN name:** certificationStandard
- **GDSN Module:** certificationInformationModule

- **ADB definition:** The name of the certification standard or the type of certification, e.g. product, process, company, packaging or conformity.
- **Instruction:** Used by the seller to communicate either the standard the certification is based upon or the type of certification that was performed.
- **Example:** Product, Packaging etc. (see example in chapter 5).

5 Example

	Requirements	Attribute	Example
	Minimum	Certification Identification (BMS ID 684)	FOREST_STEWARDSHIP_COUNCIL_MIX
		Certification Value (BMS ID 685)	FSC_C000000 ²
		Certification Agency (BMS ID 665)	Additional_Label_Information
	Additional	Certification Statement on Package (BMS ID 7199)	FSC Mix
		Subject of Certification Description (BMS ID 7205)	Supporting responsible forestry
		Certification Standard (BMS ID 667)	Product

² “n/a” might be indicated where it is not allowed to exchange the ID.

	Requirements	Attribute	Example
	Minimum	Certification Identification (BMS ID 684)	MARINE_STEWARDSHIP_COUNCIL_LABEL
		Certification Value (BMS ID 685)	MSC-C-XXXXX ³
		Certification Agency (BMS ID 665)	Additional_Label_Information
	Additional	Certification Statement on Package (BMS ID 7199)	The tuna on this product comes from a fishery independently certified under the MSC guidelines for exemplary and sustainable fishing. www.msc.org/de
		Subject of Certification Description (BMS ID 7205)	-
		Certification Standard (BMS ID 667)	Product

³ "n/a" might be indicated where it is not allowed to exchange the ID.