Securing data quality in the German GDSN® target market

What you need to know as a data pool provider

From 20 May 2023, the provision of quality-assured product master data via the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN®) will be mandatory in the German target market. This applies to all new visual-inspection-relevant consumer units that will be published after 1st May 2023 without being tested and sealed in accordance with the requirements of GS1 DQX. On the cut-off date, a new validation rule will take effect to ensure this. A data set that has not been quality-checked should therefore no longer be forwarded to the data recipients.

Objective of the validation rule:
All **new GTINs** (1) of a GLN, regardless of whether for target-market publication or non-public and independent of the data pool, that do not follow the **GS1 DQX validation specifications** (2) and are within the **scope of GS1 DQX** (3) should no longer be forwarded as of the GDSN May 2023 release. This means that recipient data pools are requested to no longer forward the Catalogue Item Notifications (CINs) to the recipients, but to send a Catalogue Item Confirmation (CIC REVIEW) to the data sender with a corresponding error message.

1 How is a **new GTIN** defined? A new GTIN refers to items that are published for the first time on 2 May 2023 or later and are therefore not part of the so called allowlist. (explanation allowlist see further below)

2 The **GS1 DQX validation specifications** are based on a two-step process. In the first step, the automated validation takes place, and in the second step, the data is subjected to a manual visual inspection. More information about the validation process can be found *here*.

3 How is the **scope of GS1 DQX** defined? Scope:
- Consumer units
- Food/near-food products (corresponding to *GS1 DQX testing matrix*)
- Expiry date empty or >7 days in the future
- Base units
- No own-brand mark/trademark
- Non-variable unit
- Pre-packaged

GS1 DQX obligation rule (Error)

If

- Combination of "Information provider GLN [M365]" "Trade item identification: GTIN [M017]" is not included in allowlist* and

- "Is trade item a consumer unit [M247]" = "(true) – True" and

New Asset

- "GPC Brick [M317]" corresponds to GS1 DQX testing matrix and

- "Discontinued date time [M004]" = empty or >7 days after current date and

- "Is trade item a base unit [M243]" = "(true) – True" and

- "Brand distribution trade item type code [M333]" not equal "(PRIVATE_LABEL) – Private Label" and

- "Is trade item a variable unit [M236]" = "(false) – False" and

- "Packaging type code [M286]" not equal "(NE) – Not packed"

Scope of GS1 DQX

Then

- Combination of "Information provider GLN [M365]" and "Trade item identification: GTIN [M017]" must be included in GS1 DQX database

GS1 DQX-database

* Reference list collected up to 1 May 2023 with GLN-GTIN combinations from the German GDSN® target market (Targetmarket Country Code = 276)

Allowlist

The term **allowlist** refers to a cut-off-date-related collection of all GLN/GTIN/(276) combinations (excluding retailer portals) available in the German GDSN® target market. The GTINs present in this allowlist – i.e. the already published or 'old' GTINs of consumer units – are exempt from the DQ obligation in combination with the respective GLNs.

Content:
GLN data supplier/GTIN all hierarchies/276/ GLN data pool

Format:
CSV file

Cut-off date:
all GTINS that have been published until 1 May 2023 (inclusive) for one or more recipients in the German target market (=276).

Provision of data pool to GS1:
by 5 May 2023 via email to gdsn@gs1.de (all GTINs published via the data pool for recipients in the German GDSN® target market)

Provision of GS1 master allowlist to data pools:
by 15 May 2023 via API

Retailers/industry have the option of requesting information as to whether one of their own GTINs is part of the allowlist or not via the responsible data pool.

Updates (in case of mergers & acquisitions):
data pool sends CSV file (old + new GLN/GTIN all hierarchies/276/GLN data pool) to gdsn@gs1.de on behalf of the supplier

GS1 DQX database

The **GS1 DQX database** contains all GLNs and GLN-GTIN combinations from data suppliers who have their product master data validated on the basis of the GS1 DQX validation specifications or validated it themselves.

GLN information

Content:

- GLN: GLN of the data supplier

- Status: GS1 DQX ComfortCheck / GS1 DQX SelfCheck / not active

Format: json*

Cut-off date:
all current GS1 DQX ComfortCheck/SelfCheck customers included in the GS1 DQX database

Provision to DPs:
via API* and daily download file

Updates:
data retrieval via API* in real time

* Details TBD, conception phase ongoing

GLN-GTIN-information

Content:

- TM: target market of data publication

- GLN: GLN of the data supplier

- GTIN: GTIN of the data set

Format: json*

Cut-off date:
all current GLN-GTIN combinations included in the GS1 DQX database
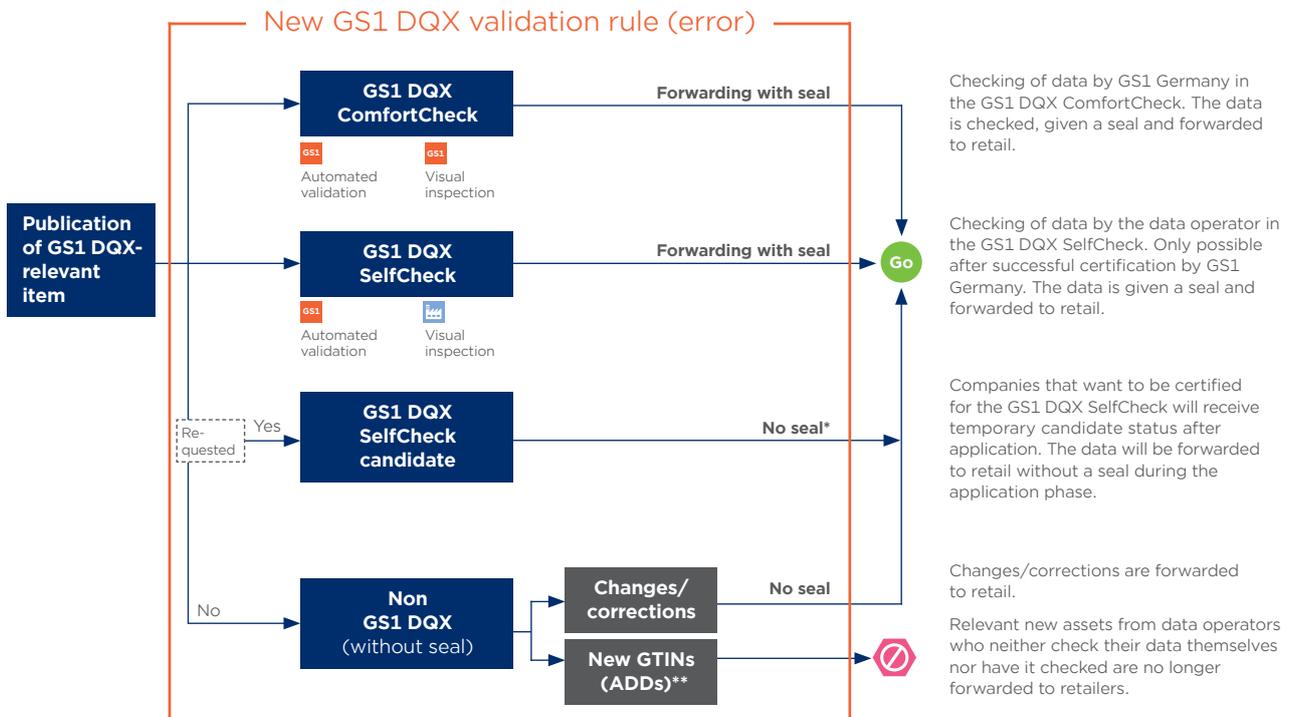
Provision to DPs:
via API* and daily download file

Updates:
data retrieval via API* in real time

Methods of data and seal provision

New GS1 DQX validation rule (error)

Publication of GS1 DQX-relevant item

GS1 DQX ComfortCheck
- GS1 — Automated validation
- GS1 — Visual inspection

Forwarding with seal

Checking of data by GS1 Germany in the GS1 DQX ComfortCheck. The data is checked, given a seal and forwarded to retail.

GS1 DQX SelfCheck
- GS1 — Automated validation
- Visual inspection (By data operator)

Forwarding with seal

Checking of data by the data operator in the GS1 DQX SelfCheck. Only possible after successful certification by GS1 Germany. The data is given a seal and forwarded to retail.

Re-quested — Yes

GS1 DQX SelfCheck candidate

No seal*

Companies that want to be certified for the GS1 DQX SelfCheck will receive temporary candidate status after application. The data will be forwarded to retail without a seal during the application phase.

No

Non GS1 DQX (without seal)

Changes/corrections — **No seal**

Changes/corrections are forwarded to retail.

New GTINs (ADDs)**

Relevant new assets from data operators who neither check their data themselves nor have it checked are no longer forwarded to retailers.

Go

* Candidate status, but no quality check yet
** Every new item that is published after a cut-off date (error introduction) is considered a new GTIN

GS1 — By GS1 Germany   — By data operator   Go — Forwarding   — No forwarding

DQ seal database (optional use)

Via the **seal database,** you have the option to request information about the seal status of individual GTINs directly. This gives you the opportunity to deliver the seal status directly to the data recipients connected to you together with the data.

Content:
TM: target market of data publication

- GLN: GLN of the data supplier
- GTIN: GTIN of the data set
- TICS: hash relating to attributes of the data set for identification of the item version
- Error code VV: attribute-specific error from visual inspection
- Status AV + date: testing result from automated testing and date
- Status VV + date: testing result from visual inspection and date
- Status GS1 DQX seal + date: result from automated testing and visual inspection and date

* Details TBD, conception phase ongoing

Format:
json*

Cut-off date:
seal information for GLN-GTIN combinations included in the GS1 DQX database.

Provision to DPs:
via API*

Updates:
data retrieval via API* in real time

What happens now?

1 Inform your customers about the changes from 20 January 2023 onwards

2 Provide your input for the allowlist by 5 May 2023

3 Download the allowlist from 15 May 2023

4 Connect APIs (allowlist customer and seal list)

5 GS1 DQX validation rule (error) with GDSN® release 20 May 2023

Would you like to know more about the background to the decision to make it mandatory to ensure product master data quality? We have put together all the relevant information for you *here*

Our team of experts is available to answer any questions about the validation rule Email: gdsn@gs1.de

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