



**Supplier
GDSN
Implementation
Guide**



Version 2.0
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OVERVIEW:

Castle Building Centre Group has been using the GDSN (Global Data Synchronization Network), which is supported by other industry competitors in Canada, as our source for receiving all our product data and digital content from all our supply chain partners. We use Commport Communications International, inc., located in Aurora, ON., (Canada's only GDSN data pool) to provide us with GDSN Data Recipient data pool services. Our GDSN supply chain initiative will simplify the exchange of supplier product information by leveraging the GDSN data synchronization model.

The GDSN uses standardized data attributes and communication choreography that enables us to receive clean, current and complete product content from ALL our suppliers through a single network. The GDSN Network employs a data synchronization model, so as suppliers change, add or delete an item, the change is automatically received within 24 hours, keeping both parties on the same page.

Here are your GDSN publication Options:

1. **IN GDSN:** Being in the GDSN today (and many of you are already) you can use your current data pool to publish your GDSN item content to Castle. **You must register your GLN and other info on the Trading Partner Form at <http://www.commport.com/castle/>**
2. **NOT IN GDSN:** Castle recommends you contact Commport and talk with Brian Miles (see page 5 for info) regarding their GDSN data pool service. Commport have operated a GDSN-certified data pool for 14 years, have numerous suppliers across many industry sectors including hardlines/LBM. Commport use a business model that combines data pool onboarding with GDSN data registration and publication services for one low price. Commport provides French language sales, training and support for our Quebec-based suppliers. Commport's GDSN business model provides suppliers with an automated spreadsheet to load and manage data, excellent 1-to-1 training and ongoing support from a dedicated CSR to make it as easy as possible for you to manage your GDSN catalogue files.

To learn about the GDSN and Commport go to:

- <http://www.commport.com/global-data-synchronization/>
- <http://www.gs1.org/gdsn>.

All the information you require to meet the Castle GDSN requirements is included in this guide. All communication related to Castle GDSN implementation options and matters should be directed to Commport.

TIMING:

We require all your GDSN item data for all items we carry to be successfully published to us within 60 days of the initial request.

PRODUCT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

GDSN Data: Castle requires the following data:

1. **Active Products:** Castle requires you to publish to us via the GDSN **ALL of the items our dealers currently stock which, at a minimum, would include all the items we currently purchase from your company today and products we purchased from you over the last 12 months.**

Changes/Deletions: As your products change, continue to send the changes, corrections and any deletion notifications for these products. This will ensure Castle will receive your latest information on a daily basis.

New Items: We want you to publish all your items to us. If you have new items, please publish them to Castle as we plan to use the GDSN as a sourcing tool for potential new items as well.

French Descriptions: Please provide for each GTIN when you publish

2. **GTINS:** For each published item, Castle Wholesale requires **ALL GTINS** that are associated with the items we purchase today including the base-level GTIN (consumer unit) and all other package level GTIN's.

3. **Product Attributes:**

With regards to the specific product attribute information please publish the GTINs you have in your current GDSN catalogue file with all the attributes you have available. If we require additional attributes we will notify you.

4. Digital Content:

Please publish all digital content, including any product images (please provide both high rez and low rez (RGB) images if you can), spec sheets, assembly instructions, MSDS sheets, whatever you have available. Our method for obtaining your images is URL tags for digital content included in your current GTIN records. This method means we do not have to retrieve, handle and match digital content – we know we have the correct image because it is associated with your specific GTIN. If you do not have URL capability please contact Commport who will be able to assist you.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO SYNCHRONIZATION:

1. Review the product content requirements above and using the product attribute link
2. Load your items into your data pool. Contact your data pool support for any assistance needed or contact Commport.
3. Publish your items to Castles GLN **069675600014** as “Initial Load”
4. Castle will review the item data received and send the Catalogue Item Confirmation (CIC) message as follows:
 - a. A CIC with the state of “ACCEPT” will automatically be sent when publication is received and the data passes initial attribute validations
 - b. A CIC with the state of “REVIEW” will be sent if there are missing attributes or data discrepancies with details of the issue(s):
 - i. Review the message, make the corrections and publish the corrections to Castle
 - c. A CIC with the state of “SYNCHRONIZED” will be sent after Castle has processed the item data
 - d. A CIC with the state of “REJECT” will be sent if the published item is not carried by Castle.

PROJECT CONTACTS – Castle

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