



Supplier
GDSN Implementation Guide
For
Kent's Supply Chain
"Project Clarity"



Version 1.0; Jan., 2019

OVERVIEW:

Kent Building Supplies has made the decision to leverage the GDSN (Global Data Synchronization Network) as our source for receiving all our product data and digital content from each of our supply chain partners. **We are implementing a new ERP system and have a very tight deadline for receiving your data.** The GDSN is widely supported by other industry competitors in Canada and the US. For suppliers, the GDSN is a 1-to-many service meaning you can automate the loading and daily updating of all your product content to each of your customers who use the GDSN.

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

We are partnering with Commport Communications International, inc., located in Aurora, ON., as our GDSN-certified 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 with Kent, and all other GDSN customers of yours, by leveraging the GDSN data synchronization model.

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 Kent. **You must register your GLN and other info on the Trading Partner Form at <http://www.commport.com/Kent/>**
2. **NOT IN GDSN:** Kent recommends you contact Commport and talk with Commport staff (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 at 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 who you get to know which makes it as easy 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 Kent GDSN requirements is included in this guide. All communications related to Kent 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 our initial request – we have a very tight deadline.**

PRODUCT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

GDSN Data: Kent requires the following data:

1. **Active Products:** At a minimum, Kent requires you to publish to us via the GDSN **ALL of the items we currently stock and buy which include all the items we currently purchase from your company today and products we purchased from you over the last 12 months.** We would prefer that you publish your complete product listing to Kent as we continue to expand our eComm catalogue.

Changes/Deletions: As your products change, continue to send the changes, corrections and any deletion notifications for these products via the GDSN. This will ensure Kent 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 Kent as we plan to use the GDSN as a sourcing tool for potential new items as well.

French Descriptions: French descriptions are a **MANDATORY REQUIREMENT** for each Item in your publication.

2. **GTINS:** For each published item, Kent 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 and digital content you have available. If we require additional attributes we will notify you.

4. **Digital Content:**

Product images and other digital assets are a **MANDATORY REQUIREMENT**. 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 consumer level GTIN records. This method means we do not have to retrieve, handle and match digital content. This also means 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 **Kent's GLN 0628168000054** as "Initial Load"
4. Kent 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 you're your 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 Kent
 - c. A CIC with the state of **"SYNCHRONIZED"** will be sent after Kent has processed the item data
 - d. A CIC with the state of **"REJECT"** will be sent if the published item is not carried by Kent.

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