

PCN #	PCN Name	Effective Date
08-005	Clarification of process for requests for GS1 Application Identifiers	01-Nov-2008

## Purpose:

Clarification is required on how GS1 Application Identifiers (AI) are requested and assigned. Previous versions of the GS1 AI application process contained rules and recommendations that are not included in the GSMP User Manual (Issue 5.0, June-2008). This Process Change Notification articulates these rules and recommendations.

## Rationale:

Supply Chain partners who require functionality not covered by an existing GS1 Application Identifier follow the GSMP Process to request a new one. The GSMP User Manual (Issue 5.0, June-2008) does not make clear the rules and recommendations around the assignment of AIs. This has the potential to lead two different requestors to request the same AI digits for different functionality and/or have inappropriate expectations about the assignment of AI digits.



**Note:** An actual issue arose in this area leading to major frustration to both separate teams.

This Process Change Notification impacts Section 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 of the GSMP User Manual (Issue 5.0, June-2008) as a request for a new GS1 Application Identifier may be either a simple or a complex BarCodes & Identification CR Process.

## Process:

Any individual or group putting forward a GSMP Change Request for a new or modified GS1 Application Identifier should be aware of the following rules and recommendations around GS1 Application Identifier assignment:

- Any request needs to be fully in line with the GS1 Architecture Principles
- The Maximum length of any AI data field is 30 characters. Permissible characters are defined in the GS1 General Specifications using a sub-set of ISO/IEC 646.
- Each AI is 2, 3 or 4 characters in length. As of 2008 AIs only digits have been used but characters may be used in future.
- The first two characters of each AI define the length of the AI itself. The predefined length indicators table is permanent and will not change
- Requestors may not specify the AI characters to be used nor are AIs allocated in advance of approval any pilot usage or testing of requested AI functionality should be undertaken using 90 series AIs.
- AIs need to apply broadly to multiple industries globally, but be narrowly defined. The exception is the 70 series AIs.

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These rules and recommendations change the following steps of the Simple & Complex Bar Code & Identification Change Request (CR) Process Flows in Sections 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 of the GSMP User Manual (Issue 5.0, June-2008):

**Step 1:** Submitted CRs shall not include a request for the exact AI digits to be used (e.g., 888). However, the CR may state whether a 2, 3 or 4 digit AI is requested with justification.

**Step 3:** The GSMP BarCode & Identification Work Group shall assign GS1 Application Identifier digits – based upon GS1 staff recommendations and articulated by BRG Manager – following a successful eBallot (Complete eBallot & Close CR).

**Step 4 & 5:** Technical Solution Design & Pilot (Note: these steps are optional and are work order dependent). Any pilot usage or testing of requested AI functionality should be undertaken using 90 series AIs.