



Premier Healthcare Alliance Chooses 1SYNC as Its Data Pool for Access to GS1 Global Data Synchronization Network

- **Move Will Help Alliance Assist its 2,200 Hospital Members to Further Enhance Patient Safety, Reduce Costs**

LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J. – (Aug. 11, 2009) – The [Premier](#) healthcare alliance, a cost and quality improvement alliance of 2,200 not-for-profit hospitals, has selected [1SYNC™](#) as its data pool for accessing product information in the Global Data Synchronization Network® (GDSN®).

The healthcare industry is moving toward widespread use of GS1 standards for identification of products and locations in order to improve patient safety and reduce costs in their supply chains. The GDSN facilitates the sharing of the resulting data among supply-chain partners in an automated, standards-based, electronic environment. In order to access the GDSN, organizations must first select a data pool.

1SYNC is the leading data pool for the GDSN, which is a standard developed and maintained by the global, not-for-profit GS1 organization. More than 19,000 companies, primarily in the retail, hardware and consumer packaged goods sectors, use it to access information for more than 3 million products; healthcare is a growing portion of the GDSN, with 1SYNC connecting the largest number of healthcare suppliers.

“We selected 1SYNC for its proven implementation track record, and for the leadership its people have shown in supporting the adoption of GS1 standards in the healthcare industry,” said Joe Pleasant, chief information officer and senior vice president of Premier. “Working with 1SYNC will help us better collaborate with our suppliers to create significant value for our alliance members and the patients they serve.”

1SYNC, a subsidiary of GS1 US, will also help Premier “onboard” its suppliers for the GDSN, providing technology, implementation support, education, training, and unlimited customer service.

In 2008, Premier was the first GPO to announce its endorsement of GS1 supply-chain standards, which will be required in Premier contracts with manufacturers. Use of the standards allows for definitive identification of all items purchased by healthcare providers and the efficient exchange and updating of this information among supply chain stakeholders.

“Premier has taken another huge step of leadership for the healthcare community,” said Bob Carpenter, CEO of GS1 US. “Its embrace of GS1 standards for identifying products and locations was a great first step, and its participation in the GDSN will further drive efficiencies across the healthcare supply chain.”

Global data synchronization is the third “leg” of GS1 standards recommended by the GS1 Healthcare US workgroups to form the foundation of patient safety and supply-chain excellence, as it enables the sharing of standardized product information and ensures that all supply-chain partners are using identical, up-to-date, reliable data. The three standards are:

- Global Trade Item Number® (GTIN®): a standardized number used to uniquely identify manufactured products, at each packaging level;
- Global Location Number (GLN): a standardized number used to uniquely identify healthcare provider and supplier locations; and
- Global Data Synchronization Network: stores GTIN and GLN data, allowing users to access information regarding products, including changes and updates; used by more than 19,000 companies for nearly 4 million products.

Premier has been actively supporting its members to meet the industry-accepted “sunrise” adoption dates of 2010 for the GLN standard and 2012 for the GTIN standard.

About Premier Inc., 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recipient

The [Premier healthcare alliance](#) is more than 2,200 U.S. hospitals and 58,000-plus other healthcare sites working together to improve healthcare quality and affordability. Premier maintains the nation's most comprehensive repository of clinical, financial and outcomes information and operates a leading healthcare purchasing network. A world leader in helping deliver measurable improvements in care, Premier works with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the United Kingdom's National Health Service North West to improve hospital performance. Premier has offices in San Diego, Charlotte, N.C., Philadelphia and Washington. Follow Premier on [Twitter](#).

About 1SYNC™

1SYNC, a not-for-profit subsidiary of GS1 US, is the largest certified data pool in the Global Data Synchronization Network® (GDSN®). The 1SYNC community currently consists of 50 leading retailers and more than 5,000 suppliers worldwide. These implementations comprise data for more than 2 million items synchronized in the GDSN. 1SYNC is dedicated to the implementation of standards-based, global supply-chain solutions, and offers a robust, easy-to-use solution that can reduce costly data errors and increase supply-chain efficiencies for companies of all sizes. For more information, visit www.1SYNC.org

About GS1 US

GS1 US is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the adoption and implementation of standards-based, global supply-chain solutions. More than 200,000 businesses in 25 industries rely on GS1 US for trading-partner collaboration and for maximizing the cost effectiveness, speed, visibility, and traceability of their goods moving around the world. They achieve these benefits through GS1 US solutions based on GS1 global unique-numbering and identification systems, bar codes, Electronic Product Code-based RFID, data synchronization, and electronic information exchange. GS1 US operates the subsidiaries and brands 1SYNC™; BarCodes and eCom™; EPCglobal US™; GS1 Healthcare US; and RosettaNet. It also manages the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC®) for the UNDP. www.GS1US.org

CONTACT:

Jon Mellor, GS1 US and 1SYNC

(609) 620-4656

jmellor@gs1us.org