Assigning a non-retail GTIN

Fact Sheet

There are two available options for generating a GTIN (Global Trade Item Number) for a non-retail trade item not being sold in North America. If the non-retail trade item contains identical retail trade items, both **Option 1** and **Option 2** are available. If the non-retail trade item contains a mixture (more than one different type) of retail trade items, only **Option 2** assigning a GTIN-13 (with a filler zero when generating an ITF-14, GS1 DataBar(*) or GS1-128 barcode) can be used.

(*) In 2014 GS1 DataBar became an open symbology and all scanning environments must be able to read these symbols, however, please check the readiness and scan ability with your trading partner before using GS1 DataBar.

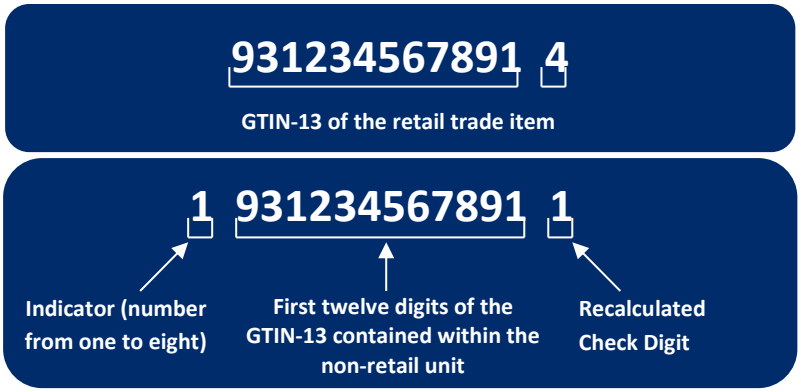
Option 1: GTIN-14

This option is only available for homogenous (same) groupings of standard trade items, where all units contained in the group are identical. It involves using an Indicator with the GTIN and recalculating the Check Digit.

The indicator can be any number from **one to eight** for trade items with a fixed measure. When the non-retail trade item is a variable measure indicator **nine** needs to be used. Indicators are used to create up to eight unique GTIN-14s to distinguish between different packaging levels or pack quantities of the same trade item. They are chosen at the discretion of the company assigning the number.

Retail Trade Item carries a GTIN-13

Choose the GTIN-13 on the retail unit that is the lowest level of packaging within the non-retail trade item. To form the GTIN-14, put an Indicator in front of the first twelve digits of this GTIN-13 then recalculate the Check Digit. A Check Digit Calculator Program is available on our website – https://www.gs1au.org/services/tools/check-digit-calculator



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1.1 Retail Trade Item carries a GTIN-8

Choose the GTIN-8 on the retail unit that is the lowest level of packaging within the non-retail trade item. To form the GTIN-14, put an Indicator followed by five filler zeroes in front of the first seven digits of the GTIN-8 then recalculate the Check Digit. A Check Digit Calculator Program is available on our website – www.gs1au.org.

Barcode

The GTIN-14 can be represented in either an ITF-14, GS1-128 barcode or GS1 DataBar barcode (*). Refer to the *ITF-14 barcode fact sheet* and *GS1-128 barcode fact sheet*. The ITF-14 Symbology is better suited for printing onto corrugated fibreboard, but a GS1-128 barcode must be chosen if information in addition to the GTIN is being encoded.

Note: A GS1 DataBar barcode shall not be used to encode a GTIN-14 constructed from an ISBN.

(*) In 2014 GS1 DataBar became an open symbology and all scanning environments must be able to read these symbols, however, please check the readiness and scan ability with your trading partner before using GS1 DataBar.

Option 2: GTIN-13

The method used to assign a GTIN-13 to a non-retail trade item is the same as for assigning a GTIN-13 to a retail trade item. See *Assigning a GTIN-13 Fact Sheet*. Ensure that a non-retail trade item is not assigned the same GTIN as a retail trade item; it should be a new and unique GTIN from your number allocation.

A GTIN-13 can be assigned to any non-retail trade item but there are two situations in which a GTIN-13 MUST be assigned:

1. **There is a possibility of the non-retail trade item being sold at retail Point-of-Sale (POS) and therefore scanned in both environments.**

   The GTIN-13 must be represented in an EAN-13 barcode. Refer to *EAN-13 barcode Fact Sheet* and note that the barcode dimensions must be those for General Distribution.

2. **The non-retail trade item is scanned in a General Distribution (warehouse) environment not sold at POS and contains a mixture (different types) of retail trade items.**

   The GTIN-13 should be encoded in an EAN-13 barcode only if printing conditions permit successful printing.

   If the GTIN-13 is to be encoded in an ITF-14, GS1 DataBar (*) or GS1-128 barcode, a filler zero must be added in front of the GTIN-13. Refer to the *ITF-14 barcode Fact Sheet* and *GS1-128 barcode Fact Sheet*. ITF-14 Symbology is better suited for printing onto corrugated fibreboard and a GS1-128 barcode must be used if information in addition to the GTIN is being encoded.

(*) In 2014 GS1 DataBar became an open symbology, and all scanning environments must be able to read these symbols, however, please check the readiness and scan ability with your trading partner before using GS1 DataBar.

Who assigns GTIN?

Allocation of a GTIN to a trade item is the responsibility of the party that warrants the trade item declarations, known as the GTIN allocator. For branded items, the brand owner is the GTIN allocator.