

2. Update – Master Data Exchange

Virtualization. Master-Data Efficiency. Lead Time Reduction.



The Pilot Project Data Exchange is running now for almost 9 months and first promising results are available.

Right this moment 31 companies (from the segments IT, Trimmings, Brands and Industry Associations) created this end to end value chain initiative to exchange their knowhow and cumulate manpower following one joint goal:

“Automize future Data-Exchange across company borders in Real-Time - from cotton or wool to recycling”.

Today we would like to present you the first promising results particularly from the areas automatized Data-Generation and Data-Transmission.

It is still possible to join and participate – this is the reason for this short update today.

If you have any questions or are interested to collaborate please contact:

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Why product data exchange?

Actually there do exist 3 ways to exchange product related data between companies:

1. Master Data Pools– mainly used by the food industry – rather difficult for fashion companies.
2. EDIFACT – well known and extensively in use in fashion – the receiver has to wait though to receive the data– getting increasingly difficult with the growing requirements from consumers in terms of transparency and speed.
3. Considering that point 1 and 2 are suboptimal, more and more platforms enter the market offering solutions mostly for a singular problem or field – creating additional costs as well as increased complexities due to interfaces requirements.

All market players joining forces in this project work on the “4th new way“, to “pull” data in an automatized manner.

By joining all our knowledge and talents we create the necessary prerequisites for “pulling data” and intentionally enter totally new territories.

Pilot Project Data Exchange – scope overview

	Virtual Product Development 	Master Data Automation 	Collaborative planning & forecasting
Problem	When communicating colour: - Too many failed attempts at Lab Dips - High manual workload - High costs - Time consuming & inefficient (lead time)	When creating product descriptions B2B / B2C: - Zero automation - High manual work load - High cost / time consuming / error prone - Structured data and basic technology is missing	Current Lead Times: - Way too long - Material delivery takes too long - Supply chains are too inflexible - Sole price focus towards suppliers - At the same time high mark downs
Solution	Cloud application (DMIx): - Digital instead of analogue - Data instead of physical samples - Exact spectral value instead of reference to colour systems (e.g. Pantone) - Virtual Showrooms (supplier) - Virtual workspaces (customer)	Master Data & Technology: - Gathering + harmonization of all relevant master data as a basis for automation - Evaluation of new real-time technology	Collaborative planning and forecast: - Collaboration as a new basis - Development of simple & inexpensive best practice recommendation with defined structures & rules based on GUSI (The Global Upstream Initiative) by Consumer Good Forum
Goal	Reduction of manual processes: - Less lab dips due to better hit rate - About 30% less sample costs - 22% lead time improvement - Creating a technical basis for virtual product development	Reduction of manual processes: - Automation of data generation - Automated creation of product descriptions - Retrieval of certificates, such as bank statements	Reduction of lead time + costs: - Reduce discounted sales through more flexible supply chains - Faster material availability - Create basis for "Consumer driven value chains "

The work is based on a holistic cross-sector approach - consciously without a functional sector separation of the textile value chain.



Who are the participants?

When (good quality!) data are the oil of the 21st century, we shouldn't exchange them in the style of the nineties.

Product describing attributes for web shops , laboratory or audit result data → data are getting more and more important and generating such data creates increasing manual workloads while at the same time, often for this exact reason, data quality decreases.

Even the best IT system can not provide process quality and efficiency if the foundation or base is of low quality.

In the field of CSR and Sustainability there do exist requirements today to present elementary and critical data that cannot be obtained without a common data and technology standard covering the entire value chain.

More and more companies especially in our textile/fashion/sport sectors realize, that we have to face the challenges and engage ourselves.

Pilot project Data-Base-Exchange– actual participants

- Ahlers Group
- Alterfil Nähfaden GmbH
- Amann & Soehne GmbH & Co. KG
- CK Kreativ Knopf GmbH
- Création Gross GmbH & Co. KG
- Color Digital GmbH
- Cortec GmbH
- Chargeurs PCC
- Devetex GmbH
- Digel AG
- ENEA
- Franz Schäfer Etiketten GmbH
- Freudenberg Performance Materials Apparel SE & Co. KG
- GCS Consulting GmbH
- GermanFashion Modeverband e.V.

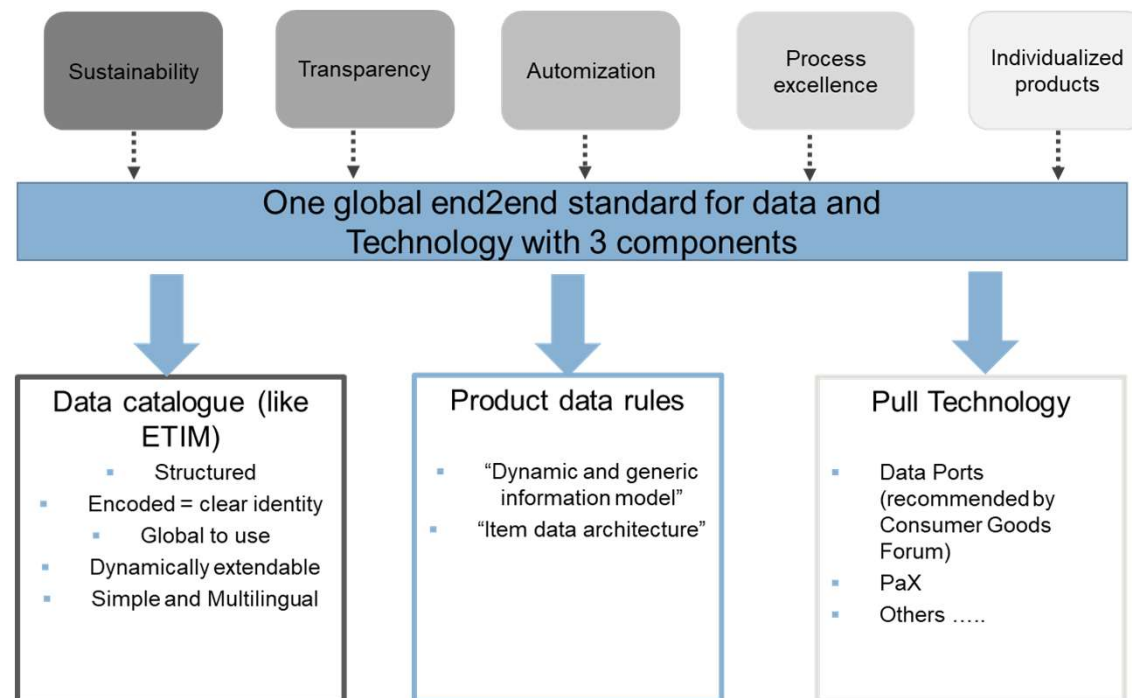
- GS1 Germany GmbH
- Hugo Boss AG
- Impuls AG
- INTEX EDV-Software GmbH
- Kufner Holding GmbH
- Marc Cain GmbH
- Olymp Bezner KG
- Peter Buedel GmbH
- Ploucquet GmbH
- Pranke GmbH
- Roy Robson Fashion GmbH & Co. KG
- Schaeffer Productique S.A.S
- Schöffel Sportbekleidung GmbH
- sedApta concept GmbH
- SMF/Dedagroup (Stealth)
- SML (Central Europe) GmbH



What are the value propositions driving this new approach?

- **Scope** : end to end - starting at cotton or sheep farms and ending with recycling processes/data- exclusive pull orientation.
- **Automation**: manual processes are reduced to a minimum to reach maximum efficiency and speed to market
- **User friendly**: high-due to automatization.
- **Migration**: All PDM-/PLM-/ERP-providers could easily adapt this new standard
- **Onboarding**: Companies, capable (ERP/PLM/PIM) to use this new standard can use it easily and on a low cost base.
- **Managing this standard**: Development and maintenance will be simple and inexpensive (first steps to build the necessary infrastructure are on the way).
- **Technology**: Currently 2 technologies (Data Ports – PaX → piloting) - but open for further use cases and technologies (we work technology agnostic).

Elements of our “4th way of data transmission” in detail



The project is developing so well, a) because it builds on processes and b) because we simultaneously work on all the 3 elements listed above in a synchronized way.



Solution: coded data repository

If you want to pull any data, you need to identify exactly what you want to pull and do so in a machine-readable way.

To execute this in a multilingual way requires a precise code for each individual data you want to address.

One core element of the new concept is therefore a catalog in which all existing product descriptive master data and transaction data are structured following a clear and simple logic that other industries have been using for a long time.

The project follows exactly this proven logic and therefore all important data are taken in the catalog, including selected transaction data (something other industries don't do so far but we found out creates additional efficiency).

The details of this new systems are in the beginning of being deeper evaluated.

Example of a product descriptive attribute: hanger

Sector: Material function

Group: Production material

Class Code: 1C340100 Hangers

Code	Description	Type	Unit	Unit (imp.)	Value code - Description
1	1F139125	Market segment	A		1 1V012548 HAKA
					2 1V012549 DOB
					3 1V012550 KIKO
					4 1V012551 Others
2	1F139001	Shape	A		1 1V012548 U-shaped molded hangers
					2 1V012549 A-shaped molded hangers
					3 1V012550
					4 1V012551 Others
3	1F139005	Product	A		1 1V012553 Shirt/Blouse
					2 1V012554 Blazer/Jacket
					3 1V012555 Jacket/Sakko
					4 1V012556 Pants
4	1F139006	Bridge (Steg)	A		1 1V012553 Flat with bridge
					2 1V012554 Flat - without/no bridge
					3 1V012555 Arched (gewölbt) with bridge
					4 1V012556 Arched (gewölbt) without/no bridge
5	1F139015	Color	A		1 1V011547 Silver PMS 877-C
					2 1V000138 Black
					3 1V000149 White
					4 1V011547 Others
6	1F139024	Span	N		1 1V011549 38 cm
					2 1V000139 50 cm
					3 1V000151 ...
					4 1V011544 Others
7	1F139024	Width	N		1 1V011549 8 mm
					2 1V000139 40 mm
					3 1V000151
					4 1V011544 d
8	1F139009	Options - Vignette	L		



Solution approach: Encoded data catalog

Such a practicable cross-sector solution approach is currently missing particularly in the fields of CSR and Sustainability. As a result even with a high degree of manual work most critical data like e.g. water consumption cannot be generated because the prerequisites within IT-systems are simply missing.

Our cross-sector approach by establishing an integrated “catalog-rule-technology” schema will make it possible to generate such data and doing so even automated.

All our business environment is demanding end to end value chain transparency in order to use valuable resources more in a more responsible = sustainable way.

Without an automated generation of the data which is elementary for this transparency, we will remain saying “we should...”.

Samples for Certificate-Datas: GOTS

Sector: Manufacturing function

Group: 1G00002 Core material

Class Code: 1C234613 GOTS (ERP relevant Score & Transaction certificate data)

	Code	Description	Type	Unit	Unit (imp.)		Value code - Description
1	1F133001	Certificate type	A			1	1V017001 General certificate (Score)
						2	1V017002 Transaction certificate
2	1F133004	Name of certificate	A			1	1V017004 GOTS
3	1F133005	Issuing party	A			1	1V017006 Issuing party
4	1F133007	Licensing code of the certification body	A			1	1V017008 2a) licensing code of the certification body
5	1F133009	Number of certificate	N			1	1V017010 certificate
6	1F133011	Validation date	R	from/to		1	1V017012 Validation date
7	1F133012	Seller name	A			1	1V017014 3.) Seller of the product(s) (name and address)
8	1F133013	Inspection body name	A			1	1V017016 4.) Inspection body (name and address)
9	1F133014	Reference information	A			1	1V017018 10b) Reference information,
10	1F133015	Place of issue	A			1	1V017020 16a.) Place of issue
11	1F133016	Date of issue	A			1	1V017022 16b.) Date of issue



Next steps:

The big picture is clear so we will continue working on additional details with highest urgency.

In a number of areas, we operate in completely new territory, which, due to the pooling of the knowledge of the participants, is very productive and fun and it is "innovative" in the best sense of the word.

In this group, committed companies work together very openly and in a division of labor on essential future developments in our end to end industries.

If you are curious about the topics presented, please do not hesitate to contact us.

What remains being important?

Type of project:

Across Industries initiative with participants from the following hemispheres:

IT, companies and associations

Organization and Financing:

- Central project organization
- External moderation
- Crowdfunding (one time payment)
- Use of existing tools and resources based on earlier workshops – no double work

Timeframe:

Start: May, 1st 2019

End: September, 30th 2020

Results of this project:

Version 1.0 of a gratis, freely available best practice whitepaper with valid recommendations at least on the 3 subject areas.

CONTACT

... looking forward to get in contact with you:



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