



# DOT FOODS GDSN IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

GLN: 0684476000001

Dot Foods requires all product data to be published via the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN). This data is used in our internal systems as well as displayed on our customer facing Expressway website. Our company goal is to have complete and accurate data to provide for both internal and external users.

This GDSN guide provides instructions on how to setup a connection with Dot Foods in GDSN so our company can receive your item data. Please reach out to our GDSN team at [masterdata@dotfoods.com](mailto:masterdata@dotfoods.com) with any questions. They will connect you with your Master Data Analyst (MDA), who will be happy to assist you throughout the process.

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## HOW TO GET STARTED

1. If you are a new supplier or have a new GLN, complete the Supplier GDSN Registration Form at <http://www.aligntrac.com/dotfoods/registrations/>. Existing suppliers, with items setup in Dot's system, do not need to register again.
2. Once your MDA confirms the setup is complete in Dot's system, please work with your data pool provider to publish all available items via GDSN. Inform your MDA once that is completed.
3. Your MDA will review the items published and provide feedback on non-compliant items or incomplete publications.
4. All necessary changes and corrections will need to be updated in your data pool and published via GDSN. \*Notify your MDA if a GTIN change has been made.
5. Once all item data has been corrected, Dot Foods will synchronize the item data. All future item changes and corrections must be published via GDSN.

## DATA POOLS

GS1 Certified data pools are a vital tool that enable sending and receiving product information. Data pools allow you to setup and manage your product content all in one place to be able to synchronize with your trading partners. If you do not already have a data pool, please use the link below to determine which data pool works best for your company. Dot utilizes 1WorldSync as its data pool but receives data from all GS1 Certified data pools.

### [GS1 Certified Data Pools](#)

**\*\*Please Note:** You may notice communication from Aligntrac Solutions, Inc. when working with Dot Foods. Our team partners with Aligntrac Solutions, a third-party data sync solutions provider, to streamline the data sync process as well as provide reporting and score carding to our trading partners.

## DOT FOODS DATA REQUIREMENTS

Quality data is an integral part of operating our business effectively and efficiently. We utilize data syndicated from your company in all internal areas of our business as well as on our front facing customer platform. In order to obtain the information needed for our internal and external users, Dot Foods has a specific set of required Core data as well as Marketing and Nutritional data sets.

## CORE DATA ATTRIBUTES

Dot Foods currently requires the following mandatory set of attributes:

- Alternate Item Number – Manufacturer's Product Code
- Brand Name
- Country of Origin
- Data Carrier Type Code
- Dimensions – Height, Width, Depth and Unit of Measure
- Functional Name
- Global Product Classification Code
- Gross Weight
- GS1 Trade Item Key
- GTIN

- Information Provider GLN
- Kosher
- Net Content on the lowest level of the hierarchy
- Net Weight
- Order Sizing Factor and Unit of Measure (only for suppliers using Cube Adjusted Weight)
- Pack Size Information
  - Assign and publish GTIN's to all levels of packaging. The net content at the lowest level of the hierarchy will be the size. The number of units at the higher levels will determine the pack.
    - Example: Consumer unit GTIN published net content is "4 ounces". Inner pack GTIN published is "6" units (the number of consumer unit items within one inner pack). Case GTIN published is "2" units (the number of inner pack items within one case). In this example, the pack size is 2-6-4 OZ.
  - If the cases contain inner packs that are not barcoded, use the following GDSN fields to send the unmarked "contents" of the GTIN:
    - Inner Pack Quantity (No GTIN Assigned)
    - Item in Inner Pack Quantity (No GTIN Assigned)
    - Individual Unit Measures – Min/Max and Unit of Measure
      - Example: A bulk pack item that is a 4-5lb case. Inner pack quantity published is "4". Individual unit min/max published is "5 pounds".
      - Example: A case of 4 steaks where the size of the individual item is a range (12-14oz). Inner pack quantity published is "4". Individual unit min published is "12 ounces", and individual unit max published is "14 ounces".
- Pallet Ti/Hi OR Non-Pallet Ti/Hi – Pallet Ti/Hi should be provided at the Pallet level if this is the highest level of the hierarchy. If Case is the highest level of the hierarchy, use Non-Pallet Ti/Hi.
- Product Descriptions
- Product Type (e.g. case, inner pack, each, etc...)
- Shelf Life from Production - Product Lifespan from Production **in Days**
- Storage Temperature Min/Max
 

Storage Temp Min	Storage Temp Max	Storage Code
≤27	≤70	Frozen
>27	≤70	Refrigerated
≤70	>70	Dry/Shelf Stable
- Target Market
  - Unit Indicators: Base Unit, Consumer Unit, Orderable Unit, Shipping Unit, Invoice Unit, Variable Weight Unit

## CATALOG ITEM CONFIRMATIONS (CIC)

Catalog Item Confirmations (CICs) are sent when the recipient has received a publication. Dot Foods makes use of the CIC messages as follows:

- RECEIVED – Item has been received and passed initial validations.
- REVIEW – Supplier needs to review data provided. The confirmation message will include the error code and message from Dot Foods.
  - \*Review messages may be generated after the initial Received message should later validations detect errors.
- SYNCHRONIZED – Item is synchronized with Dot Foods' internal systems.

## MARKETING & NUTRITIONAL (M&N) ATTRIBUTES

Dot Foods also utilizes marketing and nutritional product data for our customer-facing platform, the Dot Expressway. This data is vital to answer product questions customers are faced with when making purchasing decisions. Dot Foods expects to receive quality M&N data from our trading partners in order to showcase their unique product! \*\*Please note that there is an attribute name cross reference at the end of this document.

Dot Foods requires the following M&N attributes for **food items**:

- Marketing Message
  - A trade item must specify the GDSN attribute: tradeItemMarketingMessage in English within the item hierarchy
- Images (case, open case, inner pack if applicable, individual item)
  - A trade item must specify the following GDSN attributes for at least one level within the item hierarchy: typeOfInformation = PRODUCT\_IMAGE, fileFormatName, uniformResourceIdentifier, fileName
- Storage instructions
  - A trade item must specify the GDSN attribute: consumerStorageInstructions in English within the item hierarchy
- Nutrition
  - A trade item must specify the following GDSN attributes for at least one level within the item hierarchy: servingSize & UOM, servingSizeDescription, numberOfServingsPerPackage, preparationState as well as nutrientTypeCode, measurementPrecision, quantityContained & UOM and/or percentageOfDailyValueIntake for all applicable nutrients (\*\*Please note, if you are unsure which UOM is applicable for a specific nutrient, please utilize the table on page 8)
- Ingredients
  - A trade item must specify the GDSN attribute: ingredientStatement in English within the item hierarchy
- Allergens
  - A trade item must specify the following GDSN attributes for at least one level within the item hierarchy: allergenSpecificationAgency & allergenSpecificationName as well as allergenTypeCode & levelOfContainment for each of the “Big 8” allergens. The “Big 8” includes: Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Eggs, Milk, Fish, Crustacean or Molluscs, Soy, and Wheat. If a claim is not made for all eight allergens, the isAllergenRelevantDataProvided attribute must be published
- Preparation & Cooking Instructions
  - A trade item must specify the following GDSN attributes for at least one level within the item hierarchy: preparationType and preparationInstruction

Dot Foods requires the following M&N attributes for **non-food items**:

- Marketing Message
  - A trade item must specify the GDSN attribute: tradeItemMarketingMessage in English within the item hierarchy
- Images (case if applicable, inner pack if applicable, individual item)
  - A trade item must specify the following GDSN attributes for at least one level within the item hierarchy: typeOfInformation = PRODUCT\_IMAGE, fileFormatName, uniformResourceIdentifier, fileName

\*Items will be classified as food or non-food based on the published Global Product Classification (GPC) Code. Items with a GPC brick code of “Food/Beverage and Tobacco” will be identified as a food item. Items with GPC Temporary Classification Code (99999999) are assumed to be a food item and require all M&N attributes. It is the supplier’s responsibility to publish a GPC code that accurately identifies the item.

## IMAGES

Images are among the top customer-requested Marketing & Nutritional attributes. Providing quality images can drive customer interest in your item offering and set your products apart from competitors. Please review the Dot Foods Image Requirements document for additional information. This document can be found via the link below.

[Dot Foods Image Requirements](#)

## PHYSICAL ITEM AUDIT

Inaccurate item data impacts every level of the supply chain. Dot Foods conducts physical audits of case information to verify and improve the quality of information received via GDSN. The attributes that are being verified are:

- GTIN/Barcode – Mismatch, Will not scan, and No GTIN
- Case Dimensions – Height, Width, and Depth
- Case Gross Weight

The audit results are integrated with the GDSN data to report and manage discrepancies using both CIC (Catalogue Item Confirmation) messages and reports/scorecards. The case dimension and gross weight audit data is obtained from the CubiScan® equipment. The scanned audit values are then checked against the corresponding GDSN values. The tolerances being used by Dot Foods are the GS1 US recommended tolerance values for shelf stable, refrigerated, and frozen items.

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>GS1 Industry Tolerance</b>	<b>Attribute</b>	<b>GS1 Industry Tolerance</b>
<b>Dimensions (Height, Width, Depth)</b>		<b>Gross Weight</b>	
Frozen Goods	5%	Frozen Goods	6%
Refrigerated Goods	4%	Refrigerated Goods	4%
Dry/Shelf Stable Goods	4%	Dry/Shelf Stable Goods	4%

## MONTHLY EMAIL – GDSN PROGRESS REPORT

Aligntrac Solutions sends a summary scorecard on the first Tuesday of each month to all previously specified contacts. If you do not currently receive the monthly email but need to, please contact your MDA or [masterdata@dotfoods.com](mailto:masterdata@dotfoods.com) if you are unsure who your MDA is.

SUMMARY BY PRODUCT LINE							
Product Line	Active Items	Published	Non Compliant	Core	Core %	M&N	M&N %
( 224) SUPPLIER ABC DRY	189	168	0	167	88.4%	168	88.9%
(1159) SUPPLIER ABC FROZEN	55	55	0	55	100%	53	96.4%
<b>Totals</b>	244	223	0	222	91%	221	90.6%
MARKETING & NUTRITION SCORE FOR ALL PRODUCT LINE ITEMS (FOOD/NON-FOOD)							
Product Line	Published	Marketing	Images				
( 224) SUPPLIER ABC DRY	168	100%	100%				
(1159) SUPPLIER ABC FROZEN	55	96%	100%				
<b>Totals</b>	223	99%	100%				
MARKETING & NUTRITION SCORE FOR PRODUCT LINE FOOD ITEMS ONLY							
Product Line	Published	Storage	Nutrition	Ingredients	Preparation	Allergens	
( 224) SUPPLIER ABC DRY	167	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
(1159) SUPPLIER ABC FROZEN	55	96%	96%	96%	96%	96%	
<b>Totals</b>	222	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	
PHYSICAL AUDIT BY PRODUCT LINE							
Product Line	Scanned	Length	Width	Height	Weight	GTIN	
( 224) SUPPLIER ABC DRY	28	100%	100%	96%	71%	96%	
(1159) SUPPLIER ABC FROZEN	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

## EXPLANATION OF GDSN PROGRESS REPORT ATTRIBUTES

Column Header	Description
<b>Summary by Product Line</b>	
Product Line	The name and number of the product line in Dot's system
Active Items	The number of active items in the product line
Published	The number of items received via GDSN
Non-compliant	The number of items that have issues (e.g. missing data) that need to be corrected
Core	The number of items that have been synchronized by Dot Foods
Core %	The percentage of active items that have been synchronized by Dot Foods
M&N	The number of items that have all required M&N attributes completed
M&N %	The percentage of active items that have all required M&N attributes completed
<b>M&amp;N Score for All Items</b>	
Published	The number of items received via GDSN
Marketing	The percentage of published items that have the marketing message published
Images	The percentage of published items that have images published
<b>M&amp;N Score for Food Items</b>	
Published	The number of food items received via GDSN
Storage	The percentage of published food items that have the storage information published
Nutrition	The percentage of published food items that have the nutritional information published
Ingredients	The percentage of published food items that have the ingredients information published
Preparation	The percentage of published food items that have the preparation information published
Allergens	The percentage of published food items that have the allergen information published
<b>Physical Audit by Product Line</b>	
Scanned	The number of items that have been scanned/audited
Length	The percentage of scanned items where the case length(depth) falls within tolerance
Width	The percentage of scanned items where the case width falls within tolerance
Height	The percentage of scanned items where the case height falls within tolerance
Weight	The percentage of scanned items where the case weight falls within tolerance
GTIN	The percentage of scanned items where the GTIN/Barcode passes audit checks

## SUPPLIER SELF-SERVICE REPORT ACCESS

Recipients of the Dot Foods monthly emailed progress report can access detailed item reports themselves using the Dot Foods Services portal (<http://services.syncpdi.com>). The reports provide detailed information about the status of your items to help you provide complete and accurate information.

There are three reports available:

- Item Summary Report – Provides a summary of a supplier’s active items. This report lists missing, non-compliant, and withdrawn items, as well as M&N details.
- Supplier Score Summary (Image Format) - Provides an image outlining scoring completeness
- Foodservice Scorecard – Provides detailed data accuracy audit results (e.g. CubiScan® data) and a graphical presentation of accuracy scores by tolerance category (e.g. dry/shelf stable, refrigerated and frozen).

To run the reports, please follow these steps:

1. Click on the “Request Reports” link in the monthly email or go to <http://services.syncpdi.com>.
2. Enter your email address and click Enter.  
**\*Note: You must be listed as a recipient of the monthly email in order to access. Please contact [masterdata@dotfoods.com](mailto:masterdata@dotfoods.com) if you are not able to view the reports.**
3. Click on the Request Report option. Choose which report you want to receive. Click Submit.
4. You will receive an email to let you know the report is complete. Click the link in the email to retrieve the report.
5. Click on the Retrieve Report option and enter the access code emailed to you. Click Enter.
6. Click the Download link next to the report. This will download the report in an Excel file.

## REFERENCE CHARTS

GDSN is the home of endless amounts of attributes, and we understand this can be a confusing process! We hope that the charts below can provide some clarity and specifics as to what we are looking for.

## NUTRITION NOTES

The data attribute “nutrientTypeCode” is a coded value that Dot Foods will validate. Some of the more common codes, their descriptions, and standard units-of-measure are shown below.

Label	Code	UOM
Alcohol	ALC	GRM
Ash (g)	ASH	GRM
Biotin (mcg)	BIOT	MCG
Calcium (mg)	CA	MGM
Caffeine (mg)	CAFFN	MGM
Calories (cal)	ENER- or ENERC	E14 or KJO
Calories from Fat (cal)	ENERPF	E14 or KJO
A-Beta Carotene (mg)	CARTB	MGM
Carbohydrates (g)	CHO-	GRM
Cholesterol (mg)	CHOL-	MGM
Copper (mg)	CU	MGM
Monounsaturated Fat (g)	FAMS	GRM
Polyunsaturated Fat (g)	FAPU	GRM
Omega 3 Fatty Acids	FAPUN3	GRM
Omega 6 Fatty Acids	FAPUN6	GRM
Saturated Fat (g)	FASAT	GRM
Total Fat (g)	FAT or FATNLEA	GRM
Trans fatty Acids (g)	FATRAN	GRM
Insoluble Fiber (g)	FIBINS	GRM
Soluble Fiber (g)	FIBSOL	GRM
Total Dietary Fiber (g)	FIBTSW	GRM
Folate (mcg)	FOL- or FOL	MCG
Iron (mg)	FE or HAEM	MGM
Iodine (mcg)	ID	MCG

Label	Code	UOM
Potassium (mg)	K	MGM
Magnesium (mg)	MG	MGM
Sodium (mg)	NA	MGM
Niacin-B3	NIA	MGM
Niacin Equiv. (mg NE)	NIAEQ	MGM
Organic Acid	OA	GRM
Phosphorous (mg)	P	MGM
Pantothenic Acid (mg)	PANTAC	MGM
Protein (g)	PRO-	GRM
Riboflavin-B2 (mg)	RIBF	MGM
Starch (g)	STARCH- or STARCH	GRM
Sugar Alcohol	POLYL	GRM
Total Sugar (g)	SUGAR- or SUGAR	GRM
Thiamin-B1 (mg)	THIA	MGM
Vitamin A (IU)	VITA-	MCG
Vitamin A (mcg)	VITA	MCG
Vitamin B6 (mg)	VITB6-	MGM
Vitamin B12 (mcg)	VITB12	MCG
Vitamin C (mg)	VITC- or VITC	MGM
Vitamin D (mcg)	VITD-	MCG
Vitamin E (mg)	VITE-	MGM
Vitamin K (mcg)	VITK	MCG
Water (g)	WATER	GRM
Zinc (mg)	ZN	MGM

## CORE ATTRIBUTES: ATTRIBUTE NAME CROSS REFERENCE

Please use the below chart to reference specific Dot requested core attribute names, and their corresponding XML name.

Attribute	XML Name
Alternate Item Number - Manufacturer Product Code	alternateItemIdentification/agency alternateItemIdentification/id
Brand	brandName
Country of Origin	tradeItemCountryOfOrigin
Data Carrier Type	dataCarrierTypeCode
Dimensions	height, height/uom width, width/uom depth, depth/uom
Functional Name	functionalName
Global Product Classification Code	globalClassificationCategory/code

Gross Weight	grossWeight, grossWeight/uom
GS1 Trade Item Key Code	gs1TradeItemIdentificationKeyCode
GS1 Trade Item Key Value	gs1TradeItemIdentificationKey/value
GTIN Code	GTIN
GTIN Name	gtinName
Manufacturer GLN	manufacturer/gln
Brand Owner GLN	brandOwnerGLN
Suitable for Diet Information	foodAndBevDietTypeInfo/dietTypeCode
Net Content	netContent, netContent/uom
Net Weight	netWeight, netWeight/uom
*Order Sizing Factor/UOM	orderSizingFactor orderSizingFactor/uom
Non-Pallet TI/Hi	nonGTINPalletTi nonGTINPalletHi
*Pallet TI/Hi	ti hi
Product Descriptions	shortDescription productDescription
Product Type	productType
Lifespan From Production	minimumTradeItemLifespanFromProduction
Lifespan from Arrival	minimumTradeItemLifespanFromArrival
Storage Temperature	tradeItemTemperatureInformation/maximumTemperature storageHandlingTempMax/uom tradeItemTemperatureInformation/minimumTemperature storageHandlingTempMin/uom
Target Market	targetMarket
Unit Indicators	isBaseUnit isConsumerUnit isDispatchUnit isInvoiceUnit isOrderableUnit isVariableWeightItem
*Unmarked Inners	InnerPack quantityOfNextLevelTradeItemWithinInnerPack individualUnitMax individualUnitMaxUOM individualUnitMin individualUnitMinUOM

\*Publish only if applicable.

**For a full list of attributes, please refer to the GS1 Foodservice GDSN Attribute Guide.**

[GS1 Foodservice GDSN Attribute Guide](#)

## M&N ATTRIBUTES: ATTRIBUTE NAME CROSS REFERENCE

Please use the below chart to reference specific Dot requested core attribute names, and their corresponding XML name.

Attribute	GS1 Name	Comments
<b>Marketing</b>		
Marketing Message/Benefits	tradeItemMarketingMessage	Required
<b>Images</b>		
Information Type	typeOfInformation	*Required (at least 1 PRODUCT_IMAGE)

File Format	fileFormatName	*Required (e.g. JPG, GIF, BMP, or PNG)
URL	uniformResourceIdentifier	*Required
File Name	fileName	*Required
		*Required IF uploading images as a URL.
<b>Storage</b>		
Storage	consumerStorageInstructions	Required for food items
<b>Ingredients Summary</b>		
Ingredients	ingredientStatement	Required for food items
<b>Preparation</b>		
Preparation & Cooking Instructions	preparationType & preparationInstructions	Required for food items
<b>Nutritional Information</b>		
Serving Size & UOM	servingSize & servingSizeUoM	Required for food items
Serving Size Description	servingSizeDescription	Required for food items
Servings per Container	numberOfServingsPerPackage	Required for food items
Nutrition Facts	preparationState measurementPrecision nutrientTypeCode percentageOfDailyValueIntake quantityContained quantityContainedUoM	Required for food items
<b>**Allergens</b>		
	allergenSpecificationAgency & allergenSpecificationName allergenTypeCode & levelOfContainment	"Big 8" allergens required for food items.
<b>Additional Information</b>		
Child Nutrition Label	doesTradeItemCarryUSDACHildNutritionLabel	Publish if applicable
Diet Type	dietTypeCode	Publish if applicable
Organic	organicClaimAgency & organicTradeItemCode	Publish if applicable
Genetically Modified	geneticallyModifiedDeclarationCode	Publish if applicable
Non-GMO Project Verified	packagingMarkedLabelAccreditationCode	Publish if applicable

\*\*The "Big 8" allergens include: Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Eggs, Milk, Fish, Molluscs or Crustacean, Soy, and Wheat. If a claim is not made for all eight allergens, the *isAllergenRelevantDataProvided* attribute must be published and set to true.

**For a full list of attributes, please refer to the [GS1 Foodservice GDSN Attribute Guide](#)**

[GS1 Foodservice GDSN Attribute Guide](#)