



The Global Language of Business

# EPCIS Certification Programme

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# EPCIS Certification

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- Session Objectives
- EPCIS Certification Programme background
- Participant discussion: the future of EPCIS certification

# Session Objectives

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- Provide overview of GS1's EPCIS Certification Programme
- Obtain participant input on changes to the EPCIS Certification Programme and related offerings

# EPCIS Certification Programme

## Background

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- Originally under EPCglobal Inc., now integrated into GS1 GO
- Component of GS1's EPC Software Certification Programme, which comprises conformance certification to GS1 standards such as EPCIS and Application Level Events (ALE)
- On the basis of standardized conformance requirements
- Assurance that conforming interfaces work as specified
- Conformance against EPCIS Capture & Query interfaces
- Current EPCIS Certification against v 1.1 (published 2014)
- Does not validate EPCIS event data against the CBV

# EPCIS Certification Programme

## Cost & Structure

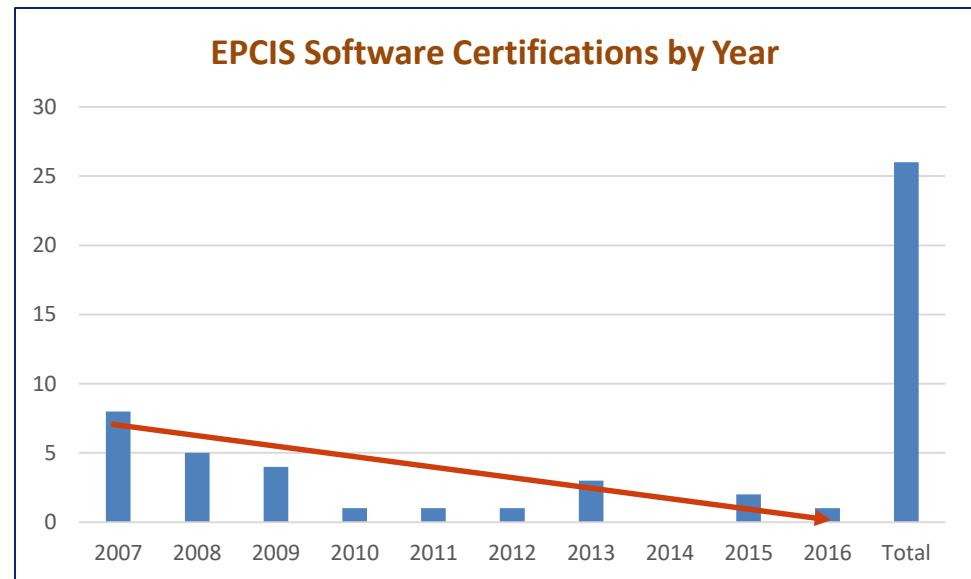
Options	Pre-testing (days)	Number of Certification Test	Customer Fee	Additional Certification Test
Annual Subscription - Basic	10	3	\$19,800	\$8,000
Annual Subscription - Extended	20	8	\$36,400	\$8,000

- Testing executed via remotely connection to test harness
- Duration of testing varies
- Understanding of EPCIS specification & events is crucial
- Knowledge of EPCIS Conformance document is beneficial
- Most EPCIS Certifications are completed in less than 45 days; some have taken up to 3 months and some longer

# EPCIS Certification Programme Trending

- EPCIS v 1.0 added to Certification Programme in 2007
- EPCIS v 1.1 added in 2015 (v 1.0 Certification deprecated)
- Test harness updated to EPCIS v 1.1 at significant cost

year	number of certifications
2007	8
2008	5
2009	4
2010	1
2011	1
2012	1
2013	3
2014	0
2015	2
2016	1
Total	26



# Validation of EPCIS Event Data: EPCIS Validation Portal

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- Owned and operated by MET Laboratories; accessed via the GS1 website (2008-2014)
- Paid, service allowed subscribers to self-test EPCIS event data
- Positioned for GS1 MOs to support user EPCIS deployments
- Intended to promote sharing of EPCIS data between partners
- Supported by EPCglobal and MET Labs staff
- Validation of uploaded EPCIS event data for...
  - Conformance to EPCIS 1.0 (event structure)
  - Compliance & Compatibility with CBV 1.0 (event vocabulary)
- Service retired by MET Labs in 2014, due to lack of revenue

Visibility Data Workbench ([www.vizworkbench.com](http://www.vizworkbench.com)), which has similar aims to the EPCIS Validation Portal but is **\*free\***, is still in operation, and is up-to-date with EPCIS 1.2

# DISCUSSION



# Participant discussion

## Future of EPCIS certification / validation

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### How can GS1 adapt the EPCIS Certification Programme to increase its value to, and use by, EPCIS providers?

- What changes would the community like to see?
- What has to be right/improved for the new certification programme to be adopted?
  - Does it solve the right problem?
  - Does the target audience know about it?
  - Price & Perceived Value: Is the price commensurate with the value received?
    - Is it commensurate with the value **\*perceived\*** at the time of purchase?

# Participant discussion

## Future of EPCIS certification / validation

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- How important is validation of event data against...
  - Core Business Vocabulary (CBV)
  - Sector-specific (non-CBV) vocabularies
  - Application-specific guidelines (e.g. Rail, Pharma)
  - Is data testing something you would do occasionally or frequently?
- How do you currently prioritise the following:
  - Testing & certification for interface compliance to EPCIS
  - Testing & validation of event data against CBV
  - Testing & validation of event data for sector-specific uses

# EPCIS PORTAL

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Would you want a self-service portal or a service that lets you work with experts to understand and correct problems?

- Would you want a portal to be interactive or would you want an API?
- What sort of data volumes would you need: size of each file to be tested, frequency of testing, etc.