

PSM

September 6, 2005

NOTICE TO THE TRADE – DeCA NOTICE 05-139

SUBJECT: Business Rules for Electronic Data Interchange - (EDI) Version 50-10

The purpose of this Notice to the Trade (NTT) is to announce the change in business rules for the acceptance of EDI pricing using version 50-10 and DeCA's plans for converting to EDI version 50-10.

When industry sends a pricing transaction set to DeCA, very specific criteria (business rules) have been developed to accept or reject the information being sent. Under the current business rules for EDI pricing, items are rejected when the item and case UPC or unit pack (UPK) submitted do not match the item and case UPC or unit pack in DeCA's Interactive Business System (DIBS) Master Catalog. Global Trade Identification Numbers (GTINs) have now been added to DIBS, which require changes to the business rules for accepting EDI pricing data, as well as mandating industry's use of Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12 5010 document sets. The following is an update for industry:

a. **BUSINESS RULES FOR EDI:** In order for pricing information sent to DeCA via EDI to be accepted, it must meet one of the following criteria:

(1) EDI transactions received with a case and item UPC must match the UPCs in DIBS to be accepted as valid

(2) If only item and case GTINs are sent in a transaction, they must match the item and case GTIN in DIBS to be accepted as valid

(3) UPKs must continue to match the DIBS UPK to be accepted into DIBS

b. **DEADLINE FOR CONVERSION TO EDI TRANSACTION VERSION 50-10:**

DeCA currently supports EDI communications with our vendors using the ASC X12 4010 document set. To support the implementation of GTIN item identification information at the product, case and pallet levels, DeCA will migrate to the ASC X12 5010 EDI document set. Based upon information contained within our Trading Partner Agreements, all DeCA trading partners will need to convert to the 5010 document standard no later than November 1, 2005. DeCA will discontinue support for the 4010 document standard no later than February 1, 2006.

Additional information regarding GTINs is available from UCCnet and GS1. The following are some web sites where industry members can find information regarding GTINs:

a. GS1 (GTIN Overview): <http://www.gs1.org/index.php>

b. GS1 (GTIN Allocation Rules) <http://www.ean-int.org/gtinrules>

c. Uniform Code Council (Sunrise 2005):
http://www.uccouncil.org/ean_ucc_system/stnds_and_tech/2005_sunrise.html

d. DeCA 5010 document set information:
<http://www.commissaries.com/business/edi/transactions.cfm>

The conversion to GTIN will require close coordination between DeCA and our EDI trading partners to insure the correct data is being transmitted.

If you have any further questions or comments, my point of contact for business rules is Carol Ricker, Business Systems Manager, at (804) 734-8366. The point of contact for converting to ASC X12 version 50-10 is Derrick Young (804) 734-8838.

/s/
Scott E. Simpson
Chief Operating Officer