



**Embellished Activewear  
Standards Initiatives**

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(EASI)**

**EASI  
Item Cross Reference  
Maintenance Guidelines  
Version 1.0B-1**

**Working Draft as of  
03-24-2009**



## **Embellished Activewear Standards Initiatives (EASI)**

### **Item Cross Reference Maintenance Guidelines Version 1.0B-1**

**Working Draft as of March 24, 2009**

Each EASI Standard document utilizes the globally unique 14-digit GTIN (Global Trade Identification Number) as the common item/SKU reference. These GTIN numbers are typically assigned and maintained by the Mill/Seller/Manufacturer to their own products. For the Wholesaler/Buyer to generate EASI EDI documents containing the Mill's GTIN numbers they must be imported or manually entered as alternate Item/SKU references in the Wholesaler's system.

Historically, there has been little control or guidance for the methods used to link a Wholesaler's SKU to a Mill's GTIN.

Common methods in use:

- Mill's transmit an 832 PDD file. (This file may be converted to a spreadsheet prior to transmission.) The Wholesaler inputs their SKU references in the file for automated import or they may manually enter the GTINs from the PDD into their system.
- Wholesalers may send a list of items from their system requesting the Mill input the associated GTIN numbers and return it to them.

Both of these methods are prone to error and inefficiencies. The document may not contain sufficient information to link a SKU to the associated GTIN. This can cause delays or an incorrect GTIN may be assigned. In addition, the document may not be a type that is easily processed – word processing/text document, PDF, fax, etc.

This document and associated spreadsheet example has been designed to facilitate this Item Number Cross Referencing between the Wholesaler/Buyer and Mill/Seller. It is not a standard. It is a guide and a clarification of the necessary information that should be exchanged to save time and reduce errors.



The EASI Item Number Cross Reference file can be generated by either the Mill or the Wholesaler when they wish to add or update links between the Wholesaler SKU numbers and the Mill GTIN numbers.

The minimum information which should be provided if the **Mill/Seller** generates the file includes:

- GTIN Reference (examples: 00707738006556, 00846503021780)
- Master Style Code (examples: T101, 1202, 6000)
- Detail Style Code (examples: T101, 1202D, 6000W)
- Color Code (examples: WHT, BLA, 01, 00)
- Color Description (examples: White, Black, Red)
- Size Description (examples: S, M, L)

The minimum information which should be provided if the **Wholesaler/Buyer** generates the file includes:

- Buyer's SKU/Item Number (examples: B87040000, 62333303)
- Style Code (examples: T101, 6000)
- Color Code (examples: WHT, BLA, 01, 00)
- Color Description (examples: White, Black, Red)
- Size Description (examples: S, M, L)

(It is desirable for the Wholesaler/Buyer to either include all Item Numbers related to the Mill/Seller and include currently present GTIN numbers OR restrict the contents of the file to just those SKUs which you require GTIN references be associated. This will ensure no unnecessary linking is done by the Mill for references that already exist.)

In addition to the minimum information being requested, there are six columns named Data 1 through Data 6. These columns are user defined and determined between the trading partners as to what they may contain. Examples of additional information which can be included in these columns to facilitate identification of the product or automate data import include:

- Style Description or SKU Description
- Case Pack Qty
- Mill/Seller's SKU Number

The File should be generated in a spreadsheet application (excel .xls, openoffice .ods or similar spreadsheet file type). It should contain the company name of the sender, the word "item\_xref" and the date.

Example: abc\_clothing\_item\_xref\_03262009



Once the file has been transmitted the actions taken could be as follows:

**Mill/Seller** generated file - The Wholesaler plugs in their own SKU numbers and imports the GTIN numbers into their system (or inputs the needed GTINs into their system using a manual method). The completed file can be returned to the Mill/Seller for import into their item cross reference table.

**Wholesaler/Buyer** generated file – The Mill inputs the requested GTINs and returns the file to the Wholesaler. In cases where the Mill maintains an item cross reference table in their system, the Mill may input the requested GTINs into the file and import the Wholesaler’s SKU numbers into their system.

### Spreadsheet Layout

Provider SKU	GTIN	Master Style	Detail Style	Color	Color Desc	Size Desc	Data 1	Data 2	Data 3	Data 4	Data 5	Data 6
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Example (Mill/Manufacturer Generated):

Mill SKU	GTIN	Master Style	Detail Style	Color	Color Desc	Size Desc	Pack Qty	Data 2	Data 3	Data 4	Data 5	Data 6
T101WHT1	00707738006556	T101	T101	WHT	WHITE	One	36					
T101WHT2	00707738007621	1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	S	48					
T101WHT3	00707738007638	1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	M	48					
T101WHT4	00707738007645	1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	L	48					
T101WHT5	00707738007652	1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	XL	48					

Example (Wholesaler/Buyer Generated):

Buyer SKU	GTIN	Master Style	Detail Style	Color	Color Desc	Size Desc	Data 1	Data 2	Data 3	Data 4	Data 5	Data 6
BT101001		T101	T101	WHT	WHITE	One						
B1202D012		1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	S						
B1202D013		1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	M						
B1202D014		1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	L						
B1202D015		1202	1202D	BLA	BLACK	XL						