



Is my participation mandatory?

- Yes. Costco is asking all suppliers to have items sold to Costco loaded in their data pool by the dates listed on the landing page.
- Suppliers who choose to opt out will cause delays in getting new items set up when we launch our new system in early 2018.

Why has Costco chosen to synchronize data through the GDSN?

- The GDSN process demands enriched data and enhances merchandising and promotional strategies.

What information is Costco asking for?

- Costco needs the information that is currently in the Costco Item Agreement you complete today. Please publish only items you currently sell to Costco.

How is the data I provide being used?

- Costco uses item data for product listing, ordering, and supply chain. GDSN publications are also used for Costco's new item setup process.

Are there costs?

- Yes. If you choose FSEnet+ as your certified data-pool, an FSEnet+ representative can walk you through the implementation options including publication through the GDSN.

Why did Costco choose FSEnet+ as their certified GDSN data pool?

- FSEnet+ is implementing Costco's data recipient toolset, which allows Costco to fully integrate and validate product information from suppliers, through the GDSN, and to Costco's back-end systems.

My company subscribes to another GDSN data pool. Are we able to publish our information through our current data pool?

- Yes. Any information that can be sent through the GDSN can be published to Costco. Please notify and request a GDSN subscription from FSEnet+ if you will be publishing data through the network.

How do you recommend that we proceed?

- If you are unfamiliar with the GDSN and want to get started, contact FSEnet+ at sales@fsenet.com or your preferred certified data-pool
- If your company currently works with FSEnet+, contact your assigned FSEnet+ account manager. If you are unsure who your account manager is, please contact sales@fsenet.com.
- If your company already subscribes to a GDSN certified data pool, please visit <http://www.fsenet.com/costco> to get started.
 - Costco US' GLN is **0096619000005**
 - Costco Canada's GLN is **0096619000012**

We see several "Optional" fields turned on. Which fields should we attempt to populate?

- We are in the process of defining more specific guidelines that apply to different product types. While those are being developed, please attempt to provide the data that is appropriate for your publication.

What are your attribute requirements?

- Costco lists our attribute requirements in the Implementation Guides located on our landing page [here](#).

What attributes will you be integrating to your internal systems. When will it start affecting EDI orders?

- We will begin integrating attributes in early 2018. We are asking our suppliers to pre-publish the data so that our new item setup and ordering processes are not impacted come early 2018.

How will GDS effect the new item agreement for Supplier sales team and the Costco buyers/merchandising department?

- Initially, there will be no impact for the new item setup form. Our plan is to automate the majority of the new item agreement via GDSN publications. However, pricing/costing and supply chain attributes will still be required on a separate item agreement form.

How will the GDSN data be used? Is it exploratory only?

- The data will be used to update and cleanse our master data. It will also be used to prepare our systems for the integration and automation happening in early 2018. Eventually, it will be used to enrich our online content for e-Commerce.

What is the Costco process for managing item changes? Will Costco be actively processing item changes sent via GDS?

- For now, please communicate item changes the way you normally communicate them today in addition to publishing them via GDSN. We will inform you with any process changes prior to early 2018 cutover.

Can Costco accept test publications prior to publishing the full catalog of Costco items?

- Please contact gdsn@costco.com with the specifics on your needs and we will address your request.

What CICs will Costco send? If there is a perceived data issue, will Costco use the CICs to include comments?

- Please refer to our [Implementation Guides](#) for questions on CICs. We will use the CICs to include comments on any questions or discrepancies with data.

When publishing the item information, should suppliers publish it at the Case level or Pallet?

- Suppliers should publish item data at all levels if available. This includes Each, Inner, Case, and Pallet.

For Kirkland Signature branded items without a GTIN currently assigned, will Costco be assigning these GTINs or should the supplier provide their own GTINs?

- Costco will provide GTINs for all Kirkland Signature items. All non-KS items will have GTINs created by the supplier. Please email gdsn@costco.com with any additional questions.

Should Suppliers publish Kirkland Signature branded items to Costco US & Canada?

- Yes. Suppliers should publish Kirkland Signature items.