

GS1/GTIN Transition:

Global Standards Helping Customers Improve Supply Chain Efficiencies

GS1 are the most widely used supply chain standards in the world. By adopting these standards and implementing Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs) for its packaging, Boston Scientific is helping to better serve its customers and play a part in improving supply chain efficiencies. GTINs adhere to GS1 standards and serve as globally unique identification numbers of an item in the supply chain as it moves from manufacturing through distribution and use. The GTIN numeric code and corresponding bar code identify key product attributes.

**BENEFITS OF STANDARDIZATION**

Having a single common method to identify product is a critical step in helping trade partners better manage their supply chains – ultimately helping to improve efficiencies and thereby reducing costs. As GTIN is adopted and implemented within the medical device industry, a range of potential benefits could be realized, including improved inventory management, product tracking for estimating deliveries and calculating the cost of devices used per procedure.

CUSTOMER IMPACT

Implementation of GTIN product labels began in March of 2014 and all products are expected to be completed by the end 2014. These changes will impact only those customers who are currently scanning product label bar codes as they will need to add the GTIN to their materials management information systems. For customers who do not scan bar codes, the UPN will remain on the label for their continued use. Products may be ordered from Boston Scientific using either number.

A complete list of products transitioning to the GTIN part numbers along with their original HIBC UPN part number may be found at www.bostonscientific.com/gs1. Customers may send questions to GS1CustomerInquiries@bsci.com.

Operational Efficiencies and Cost Savings are Focus of Boston Scientific Optimization Services

To date, Boston Scientific has successfully implemented supply chain improvement solutions at more than 40 locations worldwide. By working with Boston Scientific, health care providers achieved results such as:

Inventory and scrap levels decrease of 10-20%*

Owned inventory decreases by more than \$200,000*

Optimization

System-wide orders decrease from over 4,000 to 250 – saving an estimated \$12,000 annually*

The Supply Chain Essentials program offers a strategic approach and includes a range of services to help health care providers improve operational efficiencies and cost savings measures. Services include inventory optimization, order consolidation, vendor management inventory (VMI), supply chain simplification, and more.

To learn more email SupplyChainEssentials@bsci.com.

*Findings based on current BSC customer results. Actual results may vary.

GPO in Europe Ranks Boston Scientific as Top Supplier

Boston Scientific ranked in the top five best-performing medical device suppliers during a 2013 assessment. The company was among 50 suppliers evaluated by a major group purchasing organization in Germany composed of approximately 400 hospitals. Boston Scientific received high marks in the following evaluation criteria categories: on-time delivery, communication, service and flexibility, quality and environment.

ACCESS Magazine was produced in cooperation with several physicians. The procedures discussed in this document are those of the physicians and do not necessarily reflect the opinion, policies or recommendations of Boston Scientific Corporation or any of its employees.

Results from case studies are not predictive of results in other cases. Results in other cases may vary.

Indications, Contraindications, Warnings and Instructions for Use can be found in the product labeling supplied with each device.

Caution: Federal (U.S.) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.

CAUTION: The law restricts these devices to sale by or on the order of a physician. Information for the use only in countries with applicable health authority product registrations.

WARNING: The safety and effectiveness of the WallFlex Biliary Stent for use in the vascular system has not been established.

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