Questions to ask of traceability technology service providers
For use by Retailers, Wholesalers and Product Suppliers

Questions

1. Company Name, URL, contact person

2. Please describe your food traceability solution for the food industry.

3. How does your technology solution address the requirements in FDA's Food Traceability Final Rule?

4. Which of the following components does your solution offer? (Check all that apply)
   - Formatting, storing GS1 Identification Numbers (e.g., Global Trade Item Numbers, Global Location Numbers, Serial Shipping Container Codes, Electronic Product Codes)
   - Printing/encoding barcodes or RFID tags
   - Reading barcodes or RFID tags
   - Storing / exchanging product master data
   - Storing / exchanging location master data
   - Sending & receiving EDI messages (e.g., Advance Ship Notices)
   - Recording, storing, sending Critical Tracking Events (CTEs) and Key Data Elements (KDEs)

5. What segments of the food supply chain does your solution support?
   a. Food production / growing
   b. Harvesting/Packing
   c. Manufacturing / processing
   d. Retailers
   e. Wholesalers / distributors
   f. Foodservice Operators

6. What is your operating platform for your technology solution?

7. How does your solution integrate / work with product information management (PIM) systems?

8. How familiar are you / your company with the GS1 Standards? (choose one)
   a. New to GS1 Standards
   b. Somewhat familiar
   c. Very familiar
   d. Long-time experts

9. What business processes and activities (critical tracking events) does your solution have the ability capture?

10. What key data elements does your solution have the ability to capture?

11. How do you capture data that adheres to GS1 standards?

12. How do you capture data that is not defined by global standards such as GS1 standards?

13. How do you capture location data? Do you use the Global Location Numbers (GLN)? Proprietary numbering assignments? D&B? other?

14. How do you capture lot code / batch tracking data?

15. How is information shared across data platforms and between supply chain partners?

16. How is information managed when it is required to be captured but not shared?

17. What data carriers are required for your system?

18. How will the data that is captured be stored (e.g., cloud, server)?

19. What is the data capacity for your technology solution?

20. How long can data be stored?

21. Who can access to the data?

22. When can data be retrieved?

23. How long will it take to retrieve and provide the requested data?

24. Is there a cost associated with querying the data?

25. How are supporting documents managed such as reference documents, traceability plans, etc.?

26. Has your solution been successfully piloted to scale?

27. Is there any other information you would like to share regarding your traceability technology solution?