



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2011

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VICS Board Supports EPC Standards For Item Level RFID Initiative

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ, - The Board of Directors of the Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Solutions Association (VICS) today announced it has endorsed the GS1 EPC standards, which enable companies to identify, capture and share information to deliver real time visibility into inventory and business processes. GS1 EPC standards increase visibility and efficiency throughout the supply chain and improve quality information flow between companies and their key trading partners.

The endorsement of GS1 EPC standards will help advance the work of the VICS Item Level RFID Initiative (VILRI) in defining industry adoption and best practice guidelines of radio frequency identification technology, which promises benefits to consumers and businesses alike.

“The adoption of the GS1 EPC standards marks another milestone for the VICS Item Level RFID Initiative, with many more slated for the next 12 months. Having one standard by which to conduct business will help retailers and suppliers speed up the deployment of RFID and ultimately provide greater service and value to the customer,” said Joe Andraski, President and CEO of VICS.

Andraski added that VICS has already endorsed the use of GS1 Keys, Barcode Data Capture standards and other GS1 technical standards, including VICS EDI.

“The endorsement of EPC standards by the VICS Item Level RFID Initiative is a major step in transforming the way the retail industry does business and how supply chains are run throughout the world,” said Bob Carpenter, president and CEO of GS1 US and a member of the EPCglobal Board of Governors. “We are proud to be part of such a collaborative industry effort.”

About VICS

The Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Standards (VICS) Association has enabled companies in the retail and consumer-focused industries to eliminate billions of dollars of waste and delay. By creating voluntary guidelines, often referred to as “standards,” VICS has created new best practices that ultimately lead to lower costs and better availability of products for consumers. VICS’ volunteer members improve the flow of products and information throughout retailing and the consumer-focused industries that supply retail. The Association provides leadership and an environment in which executives can make a difference in their industry, their company performance—and their personal commitment to make the world work a little bit better. VICS’ members help define the next best practices in the industries and thus anticipate and optimize business processes and costs. Additional information can be found at www.vics.org.

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