



## BEST PRACTICE GUIDE

# Using GLNs for FSMA Rule 204

A Global Location Number (GLN) is a 13-digit number used to uniquely identify locations in the supply chain. This helps physical location owners of farms, plants, warehouses, distribution centers, restaurants, stores, etc. quickly track the location of a product as it moves along the supply chain. This information can be shared with trading partners, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA), through GS1 US Data Hub® or other master data systems as needed.

## 01 Create GLNs to Identify Your Legal Entity/Company and Physical Locations

If you are a GS1 Company Prefix holder, you already have a Legal Entity GLN that identifies your company. You can use it to create additional GLNs to identify other locations you own. Review our [GLN Allocation Rules](#) to learn more.

If you do not have a GS1 Company Prefix, you can [license one](#) or purchase an individual GLN. An [individual GLN license](#) is best for those looking to identify a few locations or products along the supply chain, while a GS1 Company Prefix is best for those looking to identify multiple locations, products, or cases/pallets.

While not mandated, the *recommended* industry best practice is to upload all GLNs to GS1 US Data Hub to avoid duplication and allow trading partners or the U.S. FDA to access and view GLNs. With a [GS1 US Data Hub | Create/Manage subscription](#), you can add attributes to GLNs, map internal identifiers, and share the information with appropriate parties. With a [GS1 US Data Hub | View/Use subscription](#), you can access and validate GLNs from your suppliers and other third parties.

**Already have access to GS1 US Data Hub? [Login here](#). If not, continue to step 02.**

## 02 Utilize GS1 US Data Hub to Manage GLNs



### To Add GLNs

With a GS1 Company Prefix or individual GLN, your company has access to GS1 US Data Hub | Create/Manage at no charge. With a GS1 Company Prefix, your Legal Entity GLN is preloaded and can serve as the top level of your GLN hierarchy.

[How to Add and Manage GLNs in GS1 US Data Hub](#) ▶

[How to Update Multiple Locations Already in GS1 US Data Hub](#) ▶



### To Publish and Share GLNs

Once added, ensure your GLNs are published. Once published, GLNs are available to any trading partner with a GS1 US Data Hub View/Use subscription. You can restrict certain parties from viewing your data as needed.

[How to Share Your GLNs in GS1 US Data Hub](#) ▶



### To View GLNs

If you need access to trading partner location information, a subscription to GS1 US Data Hub | View/Use will allow you to search and verify your trading partners' GLNs. Annual fees may apply based on your chosen options and number of users.

[How to View/Use GLNs in GS1 US Data Hub](#) ▶

**For details, visit: [GS1 US GLN Recommendations for FSMA 204](#) ▶**