NATIONAL
LOCATION REGISTRY
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NATIONAL
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Freight & Logistics
Executive Brief

Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

AN INITIATIVE OF THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

What is the National Location Registry?

A digital registry where attribute information about physical pickup and delivery locations is digitally stored and accessible to authorised users.

The registry will host detailed, consistent, and verified information (master data) that location owners/occupiers publish about the physical locations relevant to their operations providing critical data about physical locations to industry and Government. It is considered a critical piece of soft infrastructure that will be leveraged to improve a range of transport related processes to benefit Australian supply chains.

Why does the Transport & Logistics industry need a National Location Registry?

Understanding the specific parameters of a location where physical transport processes take place has been identified as a critical component to achieving effective supply chain visibility. In keeping with the supply chain efficiency pillar of the National Freight & Supply Chain strategy[1], the Registry will provide essential data to drive productivity improvements in the Transport & Logistics industry.

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[1] https://www.freightaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-freight-and-supply-chain-strategy.pdf

What is the operational value to the freight and logistics industry?

The current situation of collecting and exchanging information about physical locations is an entirely manual process, right across the country. Every organisation in the supply chain that needs to record external pickup and delivery location information, does so as a distinct curated version of their understanding of that location. Creating and keeping this information up to date is a costly process and subject to errors as optimal data maintenance processes are often lacking.

Having a common and consistent way of capturing and disseminating accurate location data to supply chain partners will bring industry wide benefits by providing the opportunity to digitise this important aspect of the supply chain management process.

How does it work?

The registry enables the electronic publication, storage, retrieval, and exchange of location master data between location owners and their stakeholder partners. The registry leverages the ISO certified GS1 GLN[2] (Global Location Number – ISO/IEC 6523) already widely used by more than 21,000 companies across a range of industries in Australia including FMCG, Consumer Goods, Healthcare, Steel, Retail, Hardware [and more] to uniquely identify physical locations such as a specific Woolworths retail store or a specific ward within a hospital.

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[2] GLN is a foundational element of the GS1 system of standards enabling unambiguous identification of locations and is the key used to access master data information about a specific location
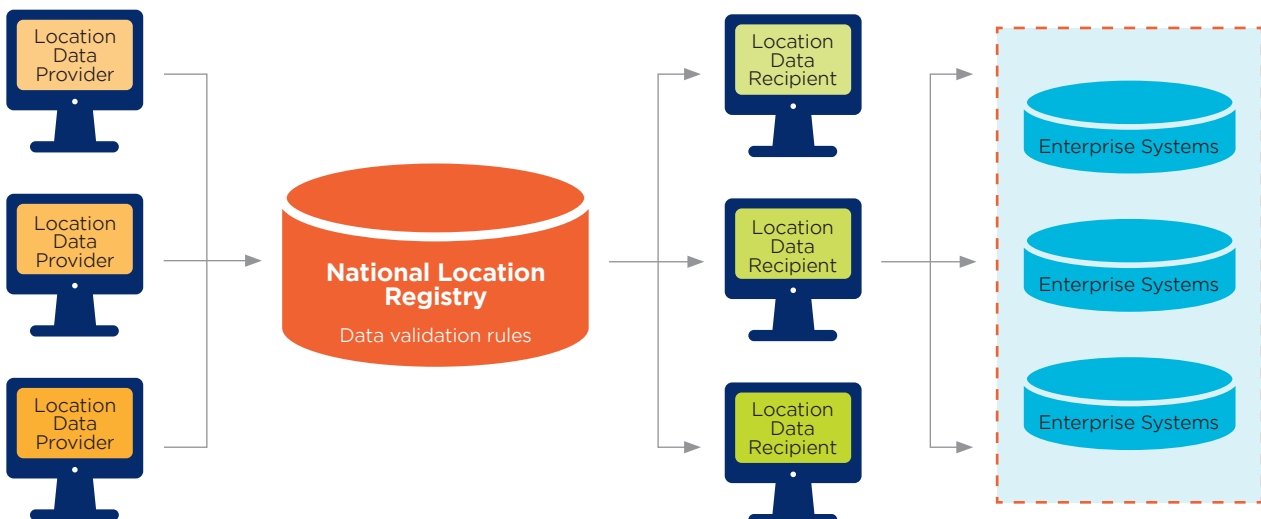

Figure 1: National Location Registry data flow

The entity that owns/occupies a location "owns" the data about that location and is the party best placed to provide information to the registry; this ensures location information is coming directly from the source, and not re-invented or re-worked by a third party. The data owner has full control over who has access to their data and can decide how open or closed they wish their data to be. Data is published once by the location owner and then made available simultaneously to all parties who have been granted permission. As a closed domain with appropriate security protocols in place, only registered users will have access to the registry.

Inbuilt data validation rules and data quality feedback processes are in place to ensure optimal data integrity so that data recipients or data consumers can build trust in the data they are retrieving from the registry.

What location data can be expected from the registry?

Specific parameters included in the Location Registry include:

- Operating hours
- Driver amenity facilities
- Height and/or weight restrictions
- Details of truck entry points
- Safety requirements
- Other random site requirements, eg. "Drivers must wear hard hats" or "All personnel entering this site must wear a mask"
- Contact details
- Street address
- Lat/lon coordinates
- Specific lat/lon for heavy vehicle entry
- And more

Key Benefits

- Accurate records about location parameters provides confidence that deliveries will be carried out as planned and not adversely impacted by unforeseen or unknown site restrictions.
- Industry will have access to reliable and accurate location master data; the absence of which currently results in a variety of operational delays and/or failures in the process of physical deliveries of goods.
- Streamlines the flow of location information between supply chain partners.
- All stakeholders working from the same data – no manual creation or duplication by multiple parties.
- Easy notification of changes to all who need to know, e.g. change of operating hours.
- Will aid better planning decisions.
- De-stress the work environment for improved driver wellbeing.
- The removal of duplicated effort for each organisation to maintain one or more sets of location information - eg every transport company delivering to a DC has a record of that location and information about it.

Call to Action

For the benefit of all Australian supply chains, a call to action is in place for location owners across all industry sectors to publish their location data to the registry – assistance is available to help you do so.

Find out more contact:

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Endorsed by:

About GS1 Australia in Freight and Logistics

GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit organisation that develops and maintains the most widely used global standards for efficient business communication. We are best known for the barcode, named by the BBC as one of "the 50 things that made the world economy". GS1 standards and services improve supply chain visibility, efficiency, security and productivity across physical and digital channels in the trade and transport sector. With local Member Organisations in 114 countries, 2 million user companies and 6 billion transactions every day, GS1 standards create a common language that supports systems and processes in 25 sectors across the globe.

For more information visit the GS1 Australia website;
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